

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Tynagh** Ref: **307**
County: **Galway** Mark: **198**
Category: **A** Date(s): **06/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	28
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	14
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	0
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	198

Overall Development Approach:

Your submission was helpful in getting an understanding of the work on hand and projects planned for the future. You did not submit a plan with your application this year and we wonder if you are still working to a five-year plan. However, we notice you are busy and your projects planned augur well for the future. The village is in need of a coordinated effort over a phased period. This will only come in time and with the full support of the community.

The Built Environment:

You have many old buildings in the village and many with attractive traditional features worthy of proper preservation and maintenance. Public buildings looked well again this year and the church is distinctive in style. It would benefit from improved landscaping. The interior is really attractive and has some attractive stained glass windows. The single thatched cottage is a gem on this focal site: is it the only one in the area? You do have a problem with dereliction throughout and this will need to be tackled in time. Ideally, you need more infill building and preferably buildings appropriate in design that respect the rural ethos of the village. We note the new two storey house in the village which replaced a former building. The school is quite a good distance from the village centre. The Garda Station is well presented and the area opposite is very attractive.

Landscaping:

Well presented approach roads are vital to the raising of marks in Tynagh. You have a lengthy approach from the Portumna side that is in need of improvement. We acknowledge the work on the footpath supported by Tynagh Energy. You have potential for much improvement in this section and you should concentrate on the approach roads and bring greater colour to the village. Landscaping should be sustainable and try and plant perennial shrubs that will give colour for lengthy periods. We liked the rose beds on the Killimor approach and these should be extended to other parts of the village. The flower beds at the Sportsfield wall is

commendable: could the GAA be encouraged to intensify such planting.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Wildlife is not confined to lakes and rivers. Through tree and shrub planting you can promote wildlife and ideally you should contact the school principal and try and get the pupils involved: contact national school in Abbey for advise. A survey of the area's wildlife would benefit the community and this might lead to display boards highlighting the local popular birdlife of the area.

Litter Control:

We appreciate your problems at the Bring Bank Units and you are not alone in tackling this problem. On adjudication day there were two plastic bags of litter beside the units. Such units are of great value to most centres but many are abused and need constant vigilance. Perhaps a more suitable location might be considered. In general litter is not a problem in the village and the streets were reasonably clean on adjudication day.

Waste Minimisation:

This new category offers opportunity for extra marks and should be considered in your submission from now on. The slogan of reduce, reuse, and recycle is now well established and proving successful in most centres. However, this new category relates to minimisation and differs from waste disposal.

Tidiness:

Due to the many derelict sites in and around the village there is an air of untidiness about. Unfinished developments are also the cause of untidiness and we notice road verges are poor in presentation on the Portumna approach. The yard at Connaught Timber is very untidy and needs attention. However, we acknowledge the value of a Recycling Centre here. We also commend the landscaping fronting the entrance to the site. Village signs need cleaning, especially on the approach roads. Rusty corrugated sheds also create an image of untidiness.

Residential Areas:

We liked the new housing sign at Cré na Cille 2006: does this name commemorate the 100 anniversary of the birth of writer Máirtín O Cadhain? This estate is well kept and has some excellent individual effort. The housing estate on the village entrance offers potential for improved activity from the residents and they should be canvassed for their support. Once again we emphasise infill development within the village as a priority over ribbon development.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

You have a good deal of work to do on the Portumna approach to raise your standards. Approach roads give first impressions and need committed attention. The great amount of stone wall building offers opportunity for improvement and for the most part they are well presented. They are an integral part of the village and should be treated accordingly. Back and side entrances now form a core part of the adjudication process and we urge you to pay attention to these areas. Many have attractive traditional features worthy of support.

General Impression:

The village has much to offer but needs improved community effort. Concentrate on the approach roads and work towards the village centre. New housing estates should be of help to you in your efforts to recruit more volunteers. The village has potential for much improvement but you need to work to an agreed plan.