

Tidy Towns Competition 2016

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Timolin** Ref: **387**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **272**
Category: **A** Date(s): **11/06/2001**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2015	Mark Awarded 2016
Community Involvement & Planning	60	42	42
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	31	32
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	35	35
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	28	28
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	12	13
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	61	61
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	26	27
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	34	34
TOTAL MARK	450	269	272

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

We welcome Timolin to Tidy Towns 2016. We enjoyed our first ever visit to your lovely village. Thank you for a clearly laid-out entry form, which makes our job at hand easier. Your map was helpful. Your wonderful photos show how hard you have been working to improve your village in recent times. It was wonderful to see the colourful spring blooms also.

You have had your challenges regarding the commitment required – it is heartening to read that two newcomers are eager to help. You have good links with Kildare County Council? You also mentioned a Tus worker elsewhere in your application. Do briefly mention how the local businesses support your efforts (e.g. sponsorship, meeting venue, donation etc.).

You have a range of ways to communicate your message. Your newsletter is both encouraging and informative. We are sorry to hear that your primary school closed – the building is now occupied by a pre-school. You can therefore include green school activities of Moone N.S. if that is where most children attend. Is Timolin working to a 3 or 5 year plan? You are asked to submit your plan, under this category.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

We admired the lovely Church of Ireland, set back from the road, where we also observed the pre-school and scout den which is still awaiting completion. We look forward to seeing the completed renovation next time. The car sales outlet looks very busy but nothing was out of order. The Sportsman's Inn was nicely presented with colourful flowers at its entrance.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

One leaves Moone and immediately comes to a lovely bed of permanent planting that welcomes visitors to Timolin. The other approach from the N9 is attractive with its line of trees and neatly maintained grass verges. The flower containers at Bagnell's corner work well in this corner of hard landscaping. Colourful planting outside private residences further enhances the overall appearance.

Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:

The sign denoting the 'Nature Area' was observed – you have put some good effort into this area. You might start thinking about the entire village and how your biodiversity and habitats can be helped along. E.g. can any section of mown grass area be left 'wild' to see if wildflowers will emerge? The process of researching and developing information signage is not to be underestimated. Could the local children or a local flora/fauna enthusiast help you to survey what you have before you design signage to tell people about it? Have you been in contact with any

appropriate groups to run an awareness event, e.g. batwatch, birdwatch ireland, etc. Children in Moone N.S. will be carrying out surveys when they are going for their 'Biodiversity' green flag, links could also be made here.

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:

You have included some good initiatives here and show a good understanding of the category. Food waste is indeed a huge concern has the average household throws out €700 worth of food each year! We would like if you would tell us how you have passed on the main lessons learned at your seminar. Do take photos of your upcoming information day during Heritage Week- this is a great way of raising awareness of these issues as well as letting the community know. We laud your efforts to try and conserve water usage by reducing the number of flower barrels in the village.

Visit www.localprevention.ie/tidytowns to see what other initiatives are happening around the country. We look forward to hearing of further progress next year.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Timolin was neat and tidy on the day of our visit. We observed no litter – well done for your 'walking groups' initiative. It really is making a difference. You are engaging with the relevant people in the community in order to combat litter. We are glad to hear that the litter collected is segregated and recycled where possible. Do remember to include items under the 'Tidiness' heading here also so that marks can be awarded (the text under the category heading will remind you of key items being looked at). If O' Brien's pub is closed, can the sign and bunting across the road be removed? Bagnell's corner isn't great, mainly due to the poor quality sign and weedy surfaces. The new sign should be erected as soon as possible.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:

The quality of presentation was high among both individual homes and housing developments in Timolin. A few individual homes stood out – the house and garden opposite the car sales outlet and the house/garden beside the Sportsman's Inn. Both enhance the village streetscape. We are delighted to observe the derelict cottage on approach from the N9 is being renovated in a style sympathetic to its original design. We look forward to seeing it when landscaping has been completed, hopefully with planting to blend in well with the surroundings. The Crescent was nicely presented, however we didn't notice a name sign. Millbrook also looked tidy. Uphill on the side road, the renovated stone building was admired. The Alms House we think? Well done for organising the 'best presented' competition – it really does help get residents motivated and ready to take action.

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:

Approach roads give a good first impression as does your carefully constructed 'welcome bed'. The N9 village entrance is simply landscaped but looks well.

Concluding Remarks:

Well done Timolin – you are continuing to improve your village throughout hard work and strong community spirit where everyone is encouraged to play some small part. Keep up the good work.