

# Tidy Towns Competition 2015

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Termonfeckin** Ref: **1767**  
County: **Louth** Mark: **237**  
Category: **C** Date(s): **26/06/2015**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2014</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2015</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	34	34
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	31	32
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	30	30
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	15	16
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	6	7
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	54	55
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	30	31
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	31	32
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>237</b>

### **Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:**

Termonfeckin is welcome to the 2015 Tidy Towns Competition

Thank you for the completed entry form and the sketch map of the village.

Its important for the development of the village that you try to put together a simple 2/3 year plan that has achievable work objectives.

Also if you develop a plan then it can be put to the local community in order get support from other local organisations and residents

The committee of 8 needs to develop links with Louth County Council, TUS and other agencies who may be in a position to offer you resources.

The adjudicator would suggest getting in touch with the Co Coordinator of Louth Tidy Towns Together to get advice as to progress further in the competition and to share ideas with other centres.

It also important that you involve the local National School which has its green flag status.

The school is also involved in a number of projects that would fit into any future plan for the village.

Methods of communication could be added to by the use of modern methods of social media such as face book, twitter and what's app.

Also if you get in touch with Louth Tidy Towns Together you can have your web presence hosted on its county site.

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

The adjudicator notes that there are no new projects since last year and this is where a 3 year plan could be useful because various possible mini projects in all categories could be identified and a time scale with starting and estimated finish times assigned.

You are wished well with the erection of the new memorial stone and hopefully it will be in place prior to next year's competition period.

The following are some observations of the adjudicator during his walkabout of the village.

The RC Church of the Immaculate Conception is probably the most focal building in the village primarily because of its elevated site and the grounds are kept in good condition.

Termonfeckin National School is also very well maintained and the adjudicator noted a recent memorial stone to either a pupil or teacher who must have been held in high esteem.

The foot bridge which was built to alleviate the traffic problem was well maintained but the adjudicator noticed that it was made by an non Irish company which is rather strange give the skilled companies that we have in the country.

The Waterside signage was commented upon on last year's report, this year the premises and car park were well maintained and also one realises that the premises suffered serious flood damage during November 2014 and it is good to see re opened for business.

The Grotto in the Church Grounds was clean and tidy but in need of a little floral colour that one associates with

grottos.

The Forge Field Farm Shop is a fine establishment with ample parking for customers of which there were many on that particular evening which is testament to the quality of products and service.

Maddens Centra Centre is certainly a busy service station cum shop, well presented but the parking is a little haphazard.

Some very fine private residences were viewed on the evening in question.

Road surfaces were good and the traffic which can be a bit chaotic was controlled well by the traffic measures in place.

### **Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:**

You are adhering to the basics of good landscaping by continuing to maintain the existing arrangements to good effect and well done on this.

The adjudicator would advise that you get in touch with the horticultural/landscaping section of Louth County Council to see what further plans are on the cards for the village and to become involved in the process and have some input as to where you feel added work can be done.

Some nice arrangements were viewed in the National School grounds and the bridge near the stone that marks the opening of that foot bridge.

It was noted that trees on the road to Drogheda were being lopped on the day as they were becoming a safety hazard.

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

The area around Termonfeckin has always been recognised as an area of exceptional arable land quality and it's good to note that all farmers are involved in the REPs programme which involves modules of the conservation of wild life in an agricultural setting.

The Committee need to get either a local wildlife enthusiast or the county wildlife ranger to give them advice on how to go about some akin to a local biodiversity survey of the immediate area.

Its important to the School children involved as well as it will be mutually beneficial in terms of education and contributing to the work of Tidy Towns.

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

The emphasis in this category is on the prevention of waste as a contribution to the need to reduce the waste mountain nationally.

The following web site [www.localprevention.ie](http://www.localprevention.ie) is a good source of ideas for waste prevention, also consult the EPA website for an update on the status of the National Strategy for Waste Prevention.

It would also be worthwhile to contact the County Environmental Officer to find out if there are any information nights being planned for the winter ahead.

### **Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:**

The adjudicator notes your comments and concerns re the excess litter and the added negative of people dumping house hold waste which of course is offence that can see people up in court for such transgressions.

This no different to many other villages and towns but as a committee you need to get the message out to the local population that the Village wants to become litter free and tidy.

Organised litter picks need to be put in place in conjunction with a possible CE Scheme involvement.

To be honest on the day in question that level of litter seen was not that excessive and the bins that were examined were in good condition.

Traffic is a problem but this is something outside the control of any voluntary committee.

There are a few derelict properties and also a few untidy side areas that the committee need to be aware of.

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

The fact that all housing developments have organised their own residents associations should be the catalyst for the committee to become more involved with their representatives.

It might be a good way to expand the committee and get more people both involved and also to take ownership of specific work projects.

Rath View which was opened in 2007 is very nice estate and has matured well in the intervening eight years.

It has a nice green area with a lovely entrance feature and the area obviously has a strong residents association.

Priory Lodge which is a fairly large development at the other side of the village was well maintained but a few properties were in need of a little revitalisation.

Some fine detached single storey properties were to be seen in the very attractive area of Seaview.

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

The entrance in from the Drogheda end of the R166 was very good with name sign clean and very visible the stone shrub bed just needs to be refilled with all year round shrubs.

Verges on this road were cut in accordance with good practice for the preservation of wild life.

The road out to Dulleek was also in good condition with name and directional signs visible and verges well maintained.

The Baltray Road has a nice view of the village as one enters.

Overall the standard was very good and the village looked very vibrant on what was a summer day of clear skies

and sunshine.

**Concluding Remarks:**

It was this adjudicator's second visit to Termonfeckin the last time was to bring my late mother to An Grianan. It was a pleasure to return on such a lovely day that showed the village at its best. You are wished well for the future.