

Tidy Towns Competition 2013

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cloneen** Ref: **557**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **279**
Category: **A** Date(s):

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2012	Mark Awarded 2013
Overall Development Approach	50	42	42
The Built Environment	50	35	36
Landscaping	50	36	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	26	27
Litter Control	50	38	39
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	9	10
Tidiness	30	19	19
Residential Areas	40	28	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33	33
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	400	274	279

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the filled up entry form, excellent map and nice photographs that give us proof of all the wonderful work that has been done in the area. These pictures will be enjoyed for many a year to come in Cloneen. I note you have 12 committee members and there is tremendous local interest with people attending all those meetings. You are working well with all the agencies and bodies. The local people are well informed of your activities. There is great interaction between the committee and the school. We are pleased to find that the local people take more pride in their place from being in the competition. All of this means you have a great approach to the competition, and this is reflected in the high marks you have achieved in this category.

The Built Environment:

There is a good built environment in this village from start to finish. I was most impressed with the lovely store across from the Post Office – well done. The church and school are splendid and a credit to the people that look after them, and I loved the railing outside the church. The recess near the church is wonderful with the Jubilee plaque AD 2000. Cloneen Post Office was crisp and fresh and further up I admired Anglim's great bar with lovely seats outside and it was adorned with colourful hanging baskets and window boxes of flowers. The GAA pitch and clubhouse are great local sporting facilities and added to by the impressive sports and social pavilion and playing area. The Community Centre is a great local facility.

Landscaping:

Landscaping is very picturesque in many areas. The Fethard road is great at the signpost and at the bridge with the good quality seat. The presentation of the roadsides on Kilusty road is great with grass strips and copper beech trees. Other roads are well presented. There are splendid flowers at the corner on arrival in the village from Fethard and at the turn for Drangan. There are splendid mature and young trees in many areas.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The flora and fauna notice boards are splendid and stood out with colourful hanging baskets of flowers attached to them. The singing of the birds at the school was a joy to hear, and this was also experienced at the bridge near the seat on the Fethard road. It is very positive to find that you are involving the schools and arranging lectures on wildlife for them. I am looking forward to hearing more about your barn owl. Now that you have the

information from the survey you can continue to maintain the wildlife in the area and encourage more. I note you installed bat boxes.

Litter Control:

It is good to read that you take part in the national spring clean up and this is a wonderful event in parishes nowadays. Sometimes in these exercises illegal dumps are found and these should be immediately reported to the environment section of the county council who have powers to press charges against people where they can find proof, and they often do find proof of who dumped the material. You are doing great work in this category

Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:

Promoting use of your compost heap, working with the local shop and bar to recycle material, encouraging the usage of water butts, and the successful sale of water collection units are all very positive ways to treat waste. With the children doing so well in the green flag programmes they with their parents and teachers now have a better understanding of how to look after the local environment in a responsible fashion

Tidiness:

From all the items listed we now find that this is a tidy location. Be careful with work in the old graveyard especially with the old headstones. We are told that old headstones should never be straightened up as the stones can easily break and cause serious injury, and they have their own particular historic character when in a slanted position. Humps and bumps are a feature of old graveyards and should never be levelled. We must never try to convert the appearance of an old cemetery to that of a new one.

Residential Areas:

There are splendid houses all around the village and some had impressive displays of shrubs, lawns, trees and flowers. Mountain View estate was in great shape with nice hanging baskets of flowers at the entrance. There are some great stone walls around the village that integrate so well with the local environment and they harbour vast quantities of insects for the wildlife. There was great work done on the wall on the Fethard road.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Hedge cutting up to the first of March, verge cutting, cleaning of road signs and the filling of potholes keeps the roads in good condition. I admired the bilingual signs for the village. Some rural field gates are nicely presented.

General Impression:

Your actions make Cloneen a safer and better place to live in. You love your native place and I look forward to visiting again soon. The "Tidy Village Community" letter is splendid.