

# Tidy Towns Competition 2016

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cloneen** Ref: **557**  
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **294**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **08/07/2016**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2015</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2016</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	50	50
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	37	38
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	40	40
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	28	29
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	11	12
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	61	62
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	29	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	33	33
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>294</b>

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

Cloneen is very welcome to the SuperValu TidyTowns competition and thank you for the completed Entry Form, good map, lovely and indeed quite interesting photographs plus other back-up material. You have a big committee of 14 people with plenty assistance also coming from the 30 or so volunteers. Regular committee meetings are important and you are doing this well to monitor progress and plan ahead. This is a lovely village, and like last year's adjudicator, this is my first time in Cloneen. Your efforts are rewarded by convincing all those agencies and bodies to support your endeavours. We applaud the use of your new website and this method of communication is widely used by locals and we also know that some people from overseas like to keep in touch with what is happening at home, it is also wise to use the traditional methods of local newspapers and parish newsletters, plus the public information nights. Adjudicators do not have facilities to look up web sites when out doing field work.

The Junior Tidy Village Committee is welcomed at the school, and congratulations for the close contacts with the school and the running of competitions for the children which is excellent training for the younger people. You have a great attitude to the competition with the hard work with other local groups to enhance the natural beauty of Cloneen.

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

There is a very interesting built environment the most of which was festooned with beautiful flowers by the householders and business people where Anglim's Bar sets a high standard with beautiful floral decorations. The Millennium Monument is beautiful in every way and a credit to the people of Cloneen. The church and school, proudly displaying its green flag, are well presented and you have a lovely sports and social club. The post office was crisp and fresh. St Patrick's GAA is a great facility for the local people and there were nice arrangements of flowers adding freshness and colour to that area. A second well-kept and attractive bar is secluded from the main road and nestles nicely there. The old and new graveyards are very well kept and we congratulate the people responsible for their upkeep. There is a lot of ivy in the old ruin which in my view should be removed as it will eventually destabilise the old stone walls and you could get professional advice on this. I noticed some nice work was done on the capping of a wall and we are reminded that this type of work should be done using a lime mortar with little or no cement used. If further works are envisaged I advise you to contact the office of public works or the conservation officer at the Tipperary County Council for professional advice.

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

The floral arrangements around the village are most impressive making this a scenic location. I admired some block walls that have nice creepers on them which bring life and colour to the surroundings. Nice stretches of grass open

spaces containing young and mature trees are very nice. I admired your traditional water pump and it is a matter of preference for which colour to paint it but it is my preference to have it black. There is lovely landscaping on the Fethard road with good quality native hedging and the little path cutting through the green area. You have a row of young trees on the left going out which are attractive and growing vigorously but they are planted under the ESB wires and at some stage will need to have their tops cut off before they reach the cables. My advice is that the tops should not be cut off trees as the trees can be damaged and thereafter in my view do not look well. You could again get professional advice on the trees. Suitable tall shrubs could be put in a place like this such as Dogwood which has distinctive green foliage in the summer and attractive red branches in the winter. We loved some stone surround flowerbeds in the village. On the Killusty road we admired a splendid green space with a lovely stone boundary wall at the back with two beautiful Copper Beech trees.

### **Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fia dhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Ná dúrtha:**

You are very fortunate to have the services of Mr. Clancy to monitor any changes to the local flora and fauna and identify new wildlife in the area. We note you have a wildlife sanctuary in Mountain View estate. You have exciting plans for more tree planting and perhaps you could include some Napata and Buddleia shrubs but Mr Clancy will be able to advise you on this. I did not see your bird boxes or bat boxes and maybe you could let us know next year where they are situated. You are paying important attention to bees through the national school and have good relationships with local farmer Mr. Barton. It could be nice to put up a notice board telling us of the flora and fauna of Cloneen and what to look for on our travels around. There are lots of lovely colourful wildflowers in Cloneen reminding us that they have a role to play. We are reminded that under no circumstances should the hedgerows be cut during the months, March-August.

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

Good to find that information relating to responsible waste prevention is included in your website, which as you state, provides a means for locals to obtain information. It is profitable to concentrate on the use of water and the installation of water containers is a useful exercise. The children are taken into account where you are getting EPA starter packs for the schoolchildren to promote more energy efficient habits.

This category was changed recently with the new Name Sustainable Waste and Resource Management and it is now more about prevention where entrants are encouraged to move beyond recycling and take steps to reduce the amount of waste being produced in the community in the first place and thereby reduce the environmental impact of waste created. Some communities have now set up sub-committees to concentrate solely on the waste category which now has 50 marks and it gives the entrants an opportunity to gain valuable extra marks. You can get further information at [www.tidytowns.ie](http://www.tidytowns.ie)

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

The recycling centre is very clean and orderly but I felt there is something lacking here such as a bit of landscaping. The village is clean and tidy and I know that this did not happen overnight and long hours are spent on cleaning and tidying, but the rewards are there for all to see.

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

There are some beautiful houses in the village core with one lovely one with nice window boxes near the Jubilee monument and a beauty across the road plus the small house next door. Mountain View Estate is very well kept showing great spirit from the residents and I was delighted with the creepers on the walls. Lovely landscaping and young trees are colourful with well-kept green open spaces.

A beautiful house stands out in your village and I was told by a local person that Mary Ward is the proud owner of this house.

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

I was particularly disappointed with the condition of the roads and a few footpaths that detracts from the overall presentation of your lovely village and perhaps you could have a meeting with the local county council engineer about this. A small parking area near the GAA club needs to be upgraded.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

It was a delight to visit Cloneen and spend a few hours amongst your people. Congratulations for a great effort.