

Tidy Towns Competition 2010

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cloneen** Ref: **557**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **261**
Category: **A** Date(s): **08/07/2010**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009	Mark Awarded 2010
Overall Development Approach	50	40	41
The Built Environment	50	33	33
Landscaping	50	32	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23	25
Litter Control	50	35	36
Waste Minimisation	20	8	8
Tidiness	30	17	18
Residential Areas	40	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30	32
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	400	252	261

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the excellent submission and entry form together with the most helpful map. It has been a number of years since this adjudicator visited Cloneen and it is certainly transformed beyond all recognition. Congratulations to all those who have been involved in the presentation this year, which is of a very high order. The new buildings opposite Kiely's will be a valuable addition to the housing stock. We admired the fine stone walls to their fronts. Walsh's thatched Pub is a landmark building and continues to be very well presented. The house and gardens between it and the Old Cemetery and Church are positively delightful and presented in a manner which reflects well on the attention they are receiving. The coordinated and orchestrated floral displays, be they window boxes, ground planting or hanging baskets collectively are a delight.

The Built Environment:

The school looked splendid, embellished by many hanging baskets on wall mounted brackets. We admire particularly the weeping willow which has matured wonderfully. The grass and the iron work generally were maintained to a high standard. Anglim's Bar looked very well, again featuring superb, hanging baskets and three fine flags. The Catholic Church was very finely presented and was a delight. Rosemount is a well presented private house and the commercial premises of Kiely's looked well. The detached house at the junction on the Mullinahone Road was a delight.

Landscaping:

The multicoloured roses outside the Old Cemetery, purple, red, pink and white were outstanding. The very fine copper beech on the Killusty Road was equally a strong contender. The Grotto with its link to the Shanakyle Ogham Stone was presented in an exemplary fashion. The splendid displays of roses were quite a

feature of Cloneen and the ones by the wall opposite the school were particularly eye catching. The GAA Grounds were very well presented. Particularly meritorious was the treatment of the blank block wall along the Killusty Road. The planting here as it matures will add considerable to this approach. Further out the dry fill stone wall surmounted by the privet hedging which in turn is backed by white hawthorns will be a most impressive addition when it is fully mature.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The bat boxes beyond the Old Church will be a continuing source of interest over the years. The significant planting of trees along the Fethard Road will again be an important attribute in the task of increasing birdlife around Cloneen. Particularly meritorious is the section along the north wall of the Old Cemetery which has been specifically designed and set aside to provide the all important food chain to enhance birdlife. The addition of a log pile here would further enhance its usefulness to birdlife,

Litter Control:

Only very minor amounts of litter were observed on the day of adjudication and what was seen was clearly of very recent vintage. We noted the litter bins in various locations around the junction while the approach roads were entirely free of litter.

Waste Minimisation:

This element of the TidyTowns competition seeks to effect a change of mindset in respect of individuals and the community at large relating to the elimination of waste. It is focussed initially on reducing utilisation of energy and other materials whose creation and subsequent disposal impacts adversely on the environment. The Recycling Unit at Mountain View Estate was very well positioned and presented. It was surrounded by pleasant flowers and there was a total absence of any abuse, weeds or dumping.

Tidiness:

There was a most agreeable absence of weeds at the base of walls or between the road and curb stones. There seemed a tendency on the Drangan Road to use chemicals to control grassed verges. Where possible from an environmental point of view, mechanical methods are to be preferred.

Residential Areas:

Excellent individual houses are sprinkled throughout Cloneen. They are making a fine contribution as a number have excellent individual gardens. The Mountain View Estate, still becoming established, has pleasant communal grassed areas but additional tree planting would be welcomed.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

In a small village the approach roads are in effect your shop window. The approach roads to Cloneen are uniformly very well presented. Village name plates are freshly painted and totally visible, are located in raised flowerbeds. The new development beyond the small, well painted bridge on the Fethard Road was noted and this garden in turn will increase the attractiveness of this approach road when mature. On the Drangan Road again there was a raised flowerbed, the verges were suitable cut back and the village name plate well presented. The Killusty Road was also equipped with a well presented village name plate in a raised flowerbed.

General Impression:

Cloneen has been transformed over the last number of years and is now a fine example for others to seek to emulate. Clearly there is a pride of place in Cloneen which finds expression in the creative and imaginative enhancing of all aspects of the community. To all involved in this splendid presentation we send our best thanks and applause for a job well done and look forward with confidence to the onward march of this now splendid location.