

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Loughglynn**

Ref: **34**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **154**

Category: **B**

Date: **09/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23	
The Built Environment	40	23	
Landscaping	40	20	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	
Litter Control	40	23	
Tidiness	20	10	
Residential Areas	30	15	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	
General Impression	10	6	
TOTAL MARK	300	154	

Overall Developmental Approach:

Loughglynn is welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition. It is great to have you on board as a new entrant and we wish you every success in your endeavours in the future. If you have not already received a Tidy Towns Handbook do make sure to get one as it contains a plethora of ideas and a lot of very good advice on how to get the Tidy Towns Committee up and going. The village enjoys a beautiful setting in gentle scenic countryside and is located on a relatively busy road. We note with interest your reference to a lake at the back of the village and also to the social history of Loch Glynn. Try to feature both of these aspects of your heritage in the built environment. There are many ways that this can be achieved and as mentioned above an important first step would be to read through the Tidy Towns Handbook. Congratulations on your fund raising activities, it is good to note the support you are already receiving from the community and congratulations also on having a FAS worker. We look forward to many repeat visits to your lovely village.

The Built Environment:

Both the church and its grounds together with the school are nicely presented however, the attractive gates to the church would benefit from refurbishment. Ganleys Funeral Home needs to be painted. Other commercial premises look quite well. Well done on the refurbishment / erection of stone walls where these are a natural feature of the village they can be most appropriate.

Landscaping:

The flower beds were admired, however these are usually to ephemeral. In your landscaping plan should feature more trees and shrubs which are a permanent visual feature of the landscape. The stand of mature trees on entering Loch Glynn from the Castlereas road is quite magnificent. Verges of approach roads and within the village were a little overgrown, more attention will need to be paid to these. In choosing trees and shrubs for your landscaping activities it is important to choose ones that are native to the area other than ornamental varieties. Again, this advice can be found in your Tidy Towns Handbook.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

As noted above the choice of trees and shrubs is important, particularly for wildlife. Choosing trees and shrubs that are local to the area supports wildlife that is indigenous. We note with interest your intention to develop a walk and would like more details of this, we wish you every success in this endeavour. The lake located at the back of the village should be sign posted from the main street of the village and amenity seating and other features provided. Congratulations on the development of the soccer pitch. Eventually a wildlife survey should be undertaken of the area to establish what wildlife is present and whether there are any potential threats from future development.

Litter Control:

Litter control was quite good on the day of adjudication and we note your litter control activities with the local children in this regard. We wish you every success in acquiring litter bins. It is important that these are not badly presented. They should be kept clean and well painted and of course they need frequent emptying to stop them from becoming a source of litter in themselves. Do send in any details of your litter control activities with your submission each year.

Tidiness:

The large site located opposite Creatons is most untidy. Some derelict looking buildings have been noted also. Weed growth was quite prevalent around the village which is unacceptable as this looks untidy, It was particularly noted along stretches upon which seating is located. The recycling point was tidy. Congratulations on acquiring seating for the village.

Residential Areas:

The majority of residential properties are presented to an excellent standard and not too many are in need of painting. Weedy curbs were a feature of the small estates and as noted previously this is unacceptable. The new housing developments will add a new life to the social fabric of the village as well as to the built environment. Encourage new residents to take responsibility for green areas within their own estates and of course encourage all householders to pay attention to their roadside boundary walls and road side areas to boundary walls.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Well done on the new nameplates, these are attractive and the car park was nicely presented also. It is important that all street furniture is presented to a high standard. This includes road signs and their posts, seating, lamp standards, water pumps, litter bins etc. Encourage all property owners to pay attention to side and back areas also particularly those which can be seen from the public domain. Try to keep roadside verges of approach roads trimmed back during the growing season or adopt a cutting regime which will encourage the growth of local wild flowers along roadside verges.

General Impression:

The village has an overall pleasant ambience and enjoys a peaceful rural setting. More could be

achieved for Loch Glynn's recreation amenity development. We look forward to many repeat visits to your village and to charting your progress over the next few years. Once again welcome aboard the Tidy Towns competition.