

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cloone Village**

Ref: **81**

County: **Leitrim**

Mark: **227**

Category: **A**

Date: **01/08/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	32	31
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	35	35
Tidiness	20	16	17
Residential Areas	30	27	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	227	225

Overall Developmental Approach:

Another excellent effort by Cloone Tidy Towns Committee and the residents of the village this year. The committee and residents are trying very hard each year to improve the ranking of their very attractive village in the competition. Great pride is taken in the presentation of their village and the excellent stonework throughout is a credit to all concerned. Thanks are due to the Tidy Towns Committee for the return of the entry form which contained a lot of information on their work throughout the year and your excellent map which was most helpful.

The Built Environment:

Cloone was very presentable on adjudication day. Many of the commercial premises were neat and tidy, particularly the commercial premises on the Mohill Road. The forecourt at the entrance to one of these premises needs resurfacing. The Catholic church was extremely well presented as was the national school on the left. Nice gardens, tree planting and walls. Creegans Bar was very presentable. The post office was still maintaining its high standards. Doherty's shop looked well and McKeon's and Tiernans looked bright and cheerful. Nice hanging baskets and flower tubs. The old national school was nicely maintained, however, the grounds are beginning to need attention.

Landscaping:

This is a feature here. St. James Tower and its graveyard looked well and the Fr. Conefrey monument was as charming as ever. The community centre looked well, nice stone wall and tree planting. The screening on the opposite side of the road is excellent as are the trees which are maturing nicely. The area at the top of the village is most colourful, lovely display of hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs. Cunniffe's Public House was lovely, as are the hanging baskets in the back yard of the house near the church. Lake View Estate is extremely well presented with its nice wooden seating, stone flower tubs and lovely floral displays. The gate at the entrance to the graveyard behind McKenna's needs to be painted. The garda station grounds looked well.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The wildlife sanctuary to the north west of the village looked lovely on adjudication day. Your local gun club deserve great credit. Perhaps in the summer, some wooden sign posting could be used to highlight this area.

Litter Control:

Very little litter was visible on the main street on adjudication day. Fly posting was visible on the Mohill approach. Some residual litter visible on the Ballinamore approach, but in general very good. Litter bins are very noticeable throughout the village.

Tidiness:

The village was very presentable under this heading. Most areas looked nice and tidy. The whitewashed buildings on the Ballinamore Road with its tin/corrugated roof is jarring as one enters the village. Some of the houses on the Garvagh approach need attention. There is some dumping near the graveyard as you pass McKenna's side entrance. Incidentally, the roof of the building in this area needs to be freshened up. The entrance gates to the cemetery and St. James Tower from the Ballinamore Road needs repainting. The iron gate at the old school also needs attention. There is also some rubble dumped at the entrance to the graveyard at McKenna's. The old school house building should be put to some use as some slates are beginning to disappear from the roof. Possible opening for a youth hostel springs to mind.

Residential Areas:

Many of the houses in the village and on the approach roads are extremely well presented. Houses on the left on the Mohill approach are lovely, brightly painted houses, lovely gardens and fine boundary walls abound. There is a nice new wooden fence on the right. Nice new red brick house in this area. Many of the houses in the village abound with colour, hanging baskets, flower tubs, window boxes catch the eye. Lake View Estate looks lovely. Well done to all concerned.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads in general were reasonably well presented. Verges nicely trimmed and obviously receiving attention. The Ballinamore Road is rather spoilt by the buildings on this approach as already mentioned. Mohill approach looks well and the church gates are lovely. Conditions in the back areas are just O.K. but do not forget dumping and painting. These are ongoing and please keep them under scrutiny. Well done.

General Impression:

Cloone Village has an extremely attractive appearance. The Tidy Towns Committee are to be congratulated on an excellent effort. There are a lot of positive things happening here. Build on this and your future looks bright.

Second Round Adjudication:

Your request to include Cloone as an 'Urban Village' could not be met because Cloone is a rural village. (An urban village is one that has become part of a larger urban area, in the way that Dalkey is contained within Dun Laoghaire, or Douglas within Cork City.)

The central village area of Cloone was looking really superb on second adjudication day. Unfortunately there was significant untidiness elsewhere: on the left hand side as you approach the gate to the Tower there was a considerable amount of weed growth, rubble and an abandoned car. It was surprising that this escaped the notice of the committee. Weeds were also starting to grow in the open space on the right as you climb the hill from the main road. There was little litter in the main street. It is a pity that the shop at the foot of the hill is not well kept, and the GAA premises across the road not very prepossessing. These are not marked in the competition as they are outside the village area, but they give a poor impression of the approach to Cloone. Otherwise, this is a very fine entry, and the people of Cloone are to be congratulated.