

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clonmany**

Ref: **350**

County: **Donegal**

Mark: **186**

Category: **B**

Date: **22/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	32	30
Landscaping	40	22	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	10
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	15	13
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>175</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

As recommended last year, you should prepare a three- to five-year plan, which should set out the objectives you hope to achieve on a coordinated basis. This will demonstrate your commitment to Clonmany and will enable you to draw on the support of the whole community, including the business sector and voluntary groups, as well as the public sector. You should break down the objectives over the life of the plan, which will enable you to easily monitor the targets set on a year-by-year basis.

### The Built Environment:

The renovations of the Market House appear to be complete. An excellent job has been done in tastefully restoring this old historic building and it now forms the focal point of the Square. Business premises and private housing around the town centre were neatly painted and well presented. There were some nice flowerbox and window box displays, which added a delightful and colourful touch throughout the town. The placing of cables underground contributed to a neat and tidy effect. However, the derelict building in the Market Square was noted. The churches and the school were neatly maintained. The village post office looked very well, with some nice colourful flowerpots and hanging baskets. Houses on approach roads were well maintained, with gardens neatly landscaped. All in all, they presented a nice approach to the town.

## **Landscaping:**

You have taken on board the recommendations contained in last year's report. The colourful flowerboxes, which have been distributed throughout the village, were very impressive. There was a nice display of window boxes on a building opposite the post office. Open areas were neatly landscaped. Private gardens on the Bunrana approach road were well maintained and there was one lovely example of a shrubbery. Again private houses on the Carndonagh Road looked well cared for, with some very nice displays of flowers and shrubs.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The village offers potential for the conservation and preservation of wildlife and this should form part of your three- to five-year plan. In particular, the riverside walk and amenity area offers the opportunity to view some of the natural habitats. You should consider carrying out a survey of the wildlife of the area, possibly using the schoolchildren and engaging the help of a local wildlife expert. The well developed riverside walk to the waterfall and the adjoining amenity area offers the opportunity to view some of the natural habitats. You should have these wildlife habitats identified and signposted, which would offer both locals and visitors the opportunity to learn more about them.

## **Litter Control:**

There was very little litter in evidence on the day of inspection. There was a small amount of litter adjacent to the recycling banks, including one bag that appeared to have been just dumped there.

## **Tidiness:**

The village looked neat and tidy. The placing of the overhead cables underground, as recommended in last year's report, has helped to create a very tidy appearance.

## **Residential Areas:**

Residential areas were well presented and maintained. Houses were nicely painted, and gardens were neat and tidy. Private houses in the village centre combined well with business premises to preserve the village atmosphere. The new housing estate also looked very well.

## **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The approach road, with its mature trees, looked well. The stone wall at the graveyard was well maintained, and the flower boxes added colour. It is important that verges are neatly trimmed. Signs should be provided to indicate where facilities are provided. For example, an advance car park warning sign would be very helpful on the approach along what is a narrow road from Clonmany towards the riverside walk to the waterfall.

## **General Impression:**

You have made good progress and have been prompt in acting on the recommendations from last year's report. As stated above, a simple three- to five-year plan, which will give you a focused approach, and will help you co-ordinate public, business and voluntary organisations. This in turn will give you added impetus in your work to improve the village.

