

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clogh**

Ref: **281**

County: **Kilkenny**

Mark: **229**

Category: **A**

Date: **11/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	37
The Built Environment	40	32	28
Landscaping	40	30	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	34	33
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	33
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>224</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator was disappointed to note that you still have no work programme in place. This is essential at this stage in the competition. This document need only be two or three pages long outlining your plans for the village's future and setting a timeframe against their implementation. It was reassuring to note that you have established a good relationship with FÁS, Kilkenny County Council, locals schools and local Green group, all of which will be of benefit in your work.

### The Built Environment:

The magnificent entrance to the church was greatly admired, with its fantastic lime tree lined avenue, leading to the simple church, with beautifully maintained grounds and graveyard. The village is fortunate in its wealth of traditional vernacular shop fronts such as Somer's and Joyce's. The Community Centre looked well in pink. McCarthy's Clogh Store looked well. Do discourage curved plastic canopies and encourage their replacement with ones of a more traditional awning type variety. Ryan's Bar looked fresh and the main buildings of the village were generally well presented. The Post Office looked well but the Health Centre and ball - court will need painting before next year's competition. The Phoenix Inn and Mahon's Grocery Store looked charming - the latter has its original metal bar to the front of the large plate glass window. The modern school looked well with its well maintained grounds.

## **Landscaping:**

The public buildings of the village such as the School and Church have been mentioned elsewhere in this report and contribute well to this aspect of the competition. Rose bushes to an open space at the entrance to the village were admired. The attractive open space opposite the Phoenix Inn with its pretty yellow rose beds was greatly admired. The permanent planting at Collier Close was greatly admired. The lime tree - lined avenue to the church has been previously mentioned. And the daisies opposite the school give a jaunty appearance to this location.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

You mention that you have herons in the river and that the plovers returned to spend a winter in the village after thirty years. However, as commented upon in last year's report, it is essential, at this stage in the competition, that you formulate a wildlife programme. It would be interesting to show people what is visible in terms of the wildlife habitats in the locality. Get the local school children involved and get them to draw up a map indicating areas of wildlife interest in the locality.

## **Litter Control:**

The standard of litter control on the day was extremely good.

## **Tidiness:**

An overgrown weedy entrance area to a yard gave an unfortunate impression approaching the village. Building materials should be removed once building work has taken place. Abandoned building materials in the vicinity of the Health Centre, with weeds growing in them - which gave the impression that they had been there for quite a while - looked most unfortunate. The curved tin roof opposite the Phoenix Inn should be painted up before next year's competition. A quite dilapidated shed adjacent to a house gave a bad impression. Weeds to the kerbside near the Health Centre were unfortunate. There was quite an overgrown space opposite this building also. Weed control was also a problem to pavements on the Carlow Road. On the other hand, the recycling bins and their general area were well maintained in the vicinity of the school.

## **Residential Areas:**

The charming thatched cottage at the top of the street with the junction was greatly admired. Colliers Close also looked quite charming with its abundance of hanging baskets and window boxes. Another charming cottage with roses growing around the door looked quite charming. Cois na hAbhann had a very badly maintained and overgrown open space and its sign was virtually unreadable, as the timber had deteriorated - this needs a sign of a more permanent variety that will stand the test of time! An attractive whitewashed wall to a well maintained cottage created a good contribution in this category of the competition.

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

The standard within the village and along approach roads was generally reasonable on the day. However, approach roads appeared quite overgrown. On the Castlecomer Road verges were slightly overgrown - this gives an attractive view to the church across the fields, on this approach. Hedgerows obscured the village nameplate sign on the Carlow Road and should be trimmed back in this location, in order that the visitor realizes that they have arrived in the village.

## **General Impression:**

The Clogh Tidy Towns Committee is certainly an extremely busy one, which has a great deal of ground to cover. Good luck with your future endeavours.

