

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clondra**

Ref: **166**

County: **Longford**

Mark: **193**

Category: **B**

Date: **07/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	27
The Built Environment	40	23	22
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	193	185

Overall Developmental Approach:

Clondra is welcome to the 2004 National Tidy Towns Competition. The village is situated off a national primary route on the banks of the river and forming the terminus of the Grand Canal. With its old Abbey and Mill and stretches of old natural stone wall Clondra has a rich cultural heritage in addition to enjoying a superb location. Well done on the support you receive from the local community and statutory bodies.

The Built Environment:

An extension to a terrace of residential properties in the village centre located near the first bridge coming in from the Longford end of the village features a corrugated roof which is in need of repairs; a second corrugated roof of an outhouse located across from the "Richmond Inn" has been noted also. Both school premises on the Killashee road are nicely presented. While the church and its graveyard look well, the boundary wall here is weather stained and in need of improvement. Might it be possible to board up the window and door apertures of the vacant Mill premises and to keep these brightly painted as an interim measure pending redevelopment? Are there plans for the large vacant looking premises located at the narrow bridge? It seems to have some nice architectural features. The plastic neon sign on the "Camlin Bar" should be replaced.

Landscaping:

The entrance to the village at the Longford end is beautifully landscaped and entrances on both the Killashee and Tarmonbarry roads are nicely maintained as well. The Millennium Garden on the riverbank is a fine development in its simplicity and elegance. Stands of mature trees and hedgerow are stately.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We note with interest the proposed research on the wildlife status of the island and the commitment by Longford County Council to remove inappropriate plants; this a commendable initiative. Ensure that the results of the survey are circulated to the wider community and do let us have a copy with next years application. Some interpretative panels might be featured at the river bank and woodland areas. At some stage in the future, perhaps a habitat survey might be undertaken for the entire village and its immediate environs.

Litter Control:

New litter bins were noted stored by the bridge at the canal. No doubt these will be located throughout the village at appropriate points. Your activities regarding school children and residents appear to have been fruitful as litter control was good during our visit.

Tidiness:

The recycling point was noted and its surrounds were tidy, well done! Building materials behind the stone wall across from the telephone kiosk should be removed upon the completion of work. An untidy curtilage area to the rear of the "Camline Bar" was noted and should be enclosed or tidied. Some stretches of kerb along the Longford entrance to the village were weedy.

Residential Areas:

The handsome two storey white house with the handpainted quoins at the Longford entrance to Clondra was admired; it forms an excellent introduction to the village. A large cement finished house located across from the "Richmond Inn" could be cleaned and/or painted to its roadside facade and gable as it appears to be quite weather stained. Work in progress was noted on a new dwelling on the Killashee road. Stone boundary walls to residential property at the Longford end of the village were noted and admired. Other boundary walls were in need of attention.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Yellow and black kerbs at the Longford entrance need to be repainted as well as those at the narrow bridge. Some road signs were in need of attention also. A grass verge coming in the Killashee road needs to be redefined and grassed. Some roadside edges were badly eroded on the Killashee entrance and the nameplate here is in need of refurbishment. Namestones are nicely designed and are a nice touch.

General Impression:

Clondra is an attractive village which forms an 'oasis' off a busy national primary route. Well done!