

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clogheen**

Ref: **662**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **207**

Category: **B**

Date: **20/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	29
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	17
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	207	198

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for all the information sent with the entry form and for the map which was most useful on adjudication day. Your comments regarding present and future planning are noted and, in spite of the difficulties you may experience, it is still felt that you should endeavour to produce a three year plan broken down annually on the basis of your knowledge of what environmental problems exist in Clogheen and which could be rectified within your physical and financial resources. While success does not depend on it, nevertheless, planning and attention to detail is what is required if progress is too made in the competition. Study the headings on the entry form and try to decide what projects you could undertake under those headings on a year to year without over extending yourselves. On the basis of such a plan you will no doubt continue to have the support South Tipperary, FAS, your local school children, ICA, Community Council and indeed local sponsors who have been very much there to your assistance this year. In the event do send a copy of the plan with your entry form for next year so that the Adjudicator can have sight of it.

The Built Environment:

Clogheen is particularly well endowed with public buildings all of which were listed in last years report. Again this year they were very well presented and those involved are to be congratulated. The Church walls and stone walls generally throughout the village and the bridges also looked very nice. Commercial premises throughout the town looked well but, as mentioned last year, many others are in need of refurbishment. As part of your future planning perhaps this is an area where

your Community Council could get involved if they have representation on their Council from local shopkeepers.

Landscaping:

Landscaping in general throughout the town is being very well maintained and great credit is due to all concerned. In many cases this has been very nicely augmented with hanging baskets, window boxes, containerised planting etc which again, reflects great credit on your local community. The landscaping and the wildlife area on the bridge at the junction of the Vee Road is lovely and all involved in its presentation are to be congratulated. Again, as part of your future planning try to identify other areas of the town where additional flowerbeds and the planting of trees and shrubs could be carried out to advantage. In this case this years additional tree planting was noted. Do continue on in this vein. Trees are for the future and posterity will thank you for them.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The new bird boxes were seen on adjudication day and, as already mentioned, the area at the Vee Road Bridge is wonderful. If you have not already done so do try to get your school involved in a wildlife project. It will add further to your efforts under this heading and, in the process, hopefully will create in them an interest in this subject. Perhaps there is someone knowledgeable on this in the locality who would be of assistance or alternatively talk to Duchas.

Litter Control:

There was some minor littering in Clogheen on adjudication day which took away slightly from what was otherwise a litter free environment. However, in spite of this, it was obvious that a major effort has been undertaken to solve any litter problem which may exist in Clogheen and in this respect your Committee and your helpers are to be commended.

Tidiness:

The town was again presented in a very neat and tidy manner – further proof if it were necessary, of the interest which obviously your commercial operators and your residents have in the preservation of their environment. Well done to all concerned.

Residential Areas:

Fr Sheehy Terrace and Lios Mhuire were again visited this year. They are being very well maintained and for this great credit is due to their residents. New houses were also admired as indeed were individual houses of the older stock all of which looked extremely well and, in many cases, had lovely gardens in full bloom which added further to the overall ambience of the village. These collective and individual efforts are very important in terms of the competition. It is noted that new Residence Associations are being formed and this will undoubtedly lead to even further improvements under this heading.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approach roads from Ardfinnan, Lismore and Ballyporeen are being well maintained with, in many cases, grass verges having being cut. Your County Council are doing an excellent job in maintaining road surfaces and pathways and are to be congratulated for it. The appearance of approach roads is very important as they tend to set the tone for the rest of the village.

General Impression:

Clogheen is a very nice village and has a lot going for it in terms of its public buildings, its

landscaping, its open spaces and its very nice houses. Collectively all these can make a big impression in the competition and indeed are doing so. However further progress can be obtained through planning and careful attention to detail, hence the continued suggestion that you develop a three year plan based on perceived needs and work to it with the intention of achieving a certain amount each year. Success in the competition does not come overnight but the hope is that, three years down the road Clogheen will be vieing with other centres in South Tipperary for the county award.