

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clonmellon**

Ref: **305**

County: **Westmeath**

Mark: **213**

Category: **B**

Date: **17/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	34	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	30
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	213	210

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your application form and map. While the short term initiatives are detailed in the application, the adjudicator looks forward to receiving a longer term strategic plan. At this level of the competition a five year plan would really help to focus the committee and would be a useful communication tool for informing the wider community and public bodies what Clonmellon Tidy Towns Committee is working towards and hopefully gaining more support.

The Built Environment:

Overall the built environment in Clonmellon is very good. There are some extremely well presented premises; Mulvaney's, Londis, Frierys Garage and Ledwiths are clearly fine examples. The derelict building beside Esso as you approach from Delvin/Mullingar side is a pity as it detracts from this approach. The Community Centre looks very well and the Take Away is a credit to it's owners. The Cemetery is excellent; the colourful flowering plants on almost all of the graves are refreshing and shows what can be done with a little effort.-well done to all involved! The courtyard of the market square, needs some attention and the piles of gravel will hopefully be used or removed soon. The yard had obviously been recently sprayed and overall was not at it's best.

Landscaping:

Planters continue to mature nicely and look very well. The commitment of many residents and business people was noted in the form of lovely healthy looking hanging baskets throughout the village-very nice! The pump area could perhaps be enhanced and made more of a feature. Good weed control throughout. The base of trees need a little attention - perhaps the use of mulch would help with weed control here. The increasing use of red geraniums is noted and looks very well. High Street could do with a little more colour in parts to help link the village. Overall a good category for Clonmellon.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

No details present. Valuable marks could be gained in this area. Try & involve the school children here. An Taisce's Green Flag programme is an excellent way of getting children involved.

Litter Control:

Some litter evident on day of inspection - in particular old uncovered items - possibly due to verge cutting which had clearly taken place recently. The Recycling area was poorly kept - cardboard boxes surrounding it and dumped bags. In a generally well presented village this is a pity. Are local residents and children involved in the litter patrols? Try to involve more people in your battle against litter. More attractive bins would enhance the streetscape and could perhaps form part of the longer term plan.

Tidiness:

Overall Clonmellon is quite tidy and is certainly improving each year. A little attention on the few troublespots should help the committee gain some additional marks in this area. The old petrol pump outside Fitzsimmons could do with a tidy up- it could be a nice feature.

Residential Areas:

Overall residential areas were are well maintained particularly the newer developments. The housing estates opposite Mulvaney's is extremely well kept. Cluain Mhor is another fine example. The Killallon road also has some finely presented examples of what can be done. Well done to all involved-keep up the good work!

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Kells road has very nice trees and good verge cutting. On the Killallon road, however, verge cutting is needed and the flowerbed at the welcome sign is overgrown and unattractive. 30 mile zone signs need attention and are almost covered by overgrowth. The derelict building on this road needs attention. Kilskyre road also needs some attention - the farm machinery storage area with the grey metal fencing could be screened by suitable planting. While the newly painted machines look well some old machinery in fields is unattractive. Some signs need upgrading/replacing, e.g. a parking one on High street is in very poor condition.

General Impression:

Overall quite a tidy and well presented village despite issues such as traffic volumes and speed. Try to gain more support and work on developing a Tidy Towns Plan for Clonmellon. Well done to all involved and keep up the good work!