

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glencolmcille**

Ref: **377**

County: **Donegal**

Mark: **193**

Category: **B**

Date: **28/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	26
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	18	18
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	193	188

Overall Developmental Approach:

Glencolmcille is welcome to the Tidy Towns competition again in 2005. As of last year your map was most helpful. in rural villages it is very satisfying to know where you have worked and the items you want to be judged on. The adjudicator received your further notes in time for the visit...many thanks. It was lovely to descend in to the valley which was surrounded by neat fields and a lovely sense of rural order. This was the first time in four years that this adjudicator visited and I was impressed with the progress in that time. there is a definite sense of 'things being done' and that is excellent

The Built Environment:

On a dull day the buildings largely presented very well. The usual champions stood out...the Folk Village , Oideas Gael , the Health Centre etc. Unfortunately the derelict building at the Fire Station remains a problem It was also observed that the John Molloy shop and parking area is becoming an issue. It is also a pity that the OPW have not being persuaded to improve the Garda Barracks...this sort of repeat problem over yearly reports does not help the community effort. The newly built walls however at the Fire Station and Marian Ave. are to be commended and one would hope to see more of them undertaken at this high standard ...especially by private houses etc. Byrnes Petrol Station was much improved

The derelict corrugated roofed sheds opp Teach Bidy really need to be dealt with!

Landscaping:

Almost without exception the tourist accommodation providers are setting the standard for landscaping and planting. Many have lovely gardens, hanging baskets etc. and all are very well presented.

It was good to see on the day of adjudication a local meithal at work on the grounds of the Halla Mhuire...they never even looked up from their work as I passed!

There was a lot of well undertaken but sensitive verge tidying and strimming in evidence on the day. This adjudicator feels that a natural rural village such as Glen only requires so much strimming etc.

Some lovely Arums were noted in a green opposite the Folk Village

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The meandering roads around by the Church of Ireland and leading to Tobar Colmcille were a mass of June flowers and fuschia. It was absolutely delightful and made for a lovely natural experience. Perhaps a small amount of 'nature signs' along this way, identifying flora and fauna etc. would make for an easy and most useful National School project. it would certainly add enormously to the visitors experience and to the marks available under this heading.

Litter Control:

Overall Glencolmcille was very tidy on the day of adjudication. However a neglected area to the front of the car park to the right of John Molloys was very littered and jarring to the eye. Some untidiness was noted to the rear of Marian Ave.

The continued upkeep of the community bins was noted. After a very hot week end the beach area and car park appeared in excellent condition.

Tidiness:

The removal of old cars was noted and none were in evidence. Generally a very tidy attitude was apparent. The extended nature of the village will always make this category difficult for you. The Pik Teo building was noted for its very untidy appearance and air of neglect.

Residential Areas:

The Fr. McDwyer Terrace was again beautifully presented with a wonderful display demonstrating the individuality of each owner and yet the community spirit of the terrace...the Father would be very proud!

Marian Tce. has the same potential. Obviously a younger community your intention to help them form a residents committee is to be commended.

The terrace opposite the Church of Ireland is becoming parable. It was also noted that the Coastguard houses (?) were not as well kept as some years ago...that lovely array of colourful front doors needs doing again!

There was a lovely thatched cottage with flowering window boxes noted opp the Barracks.

Private houses were well maintained especially on the Ardara Road.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

As already noted the extended nature of the village is problematic. that said you are doing very well with most areas appropriately maintained. The problems noted in last years report remain however in art and should be revisited.

The new Play Area was delightful...I quite understood why the cock was crowing...well done!

General Impression:

Glencolmcille is doing well and it is clear that the Committee is slowly but surely succeeding. Last years call for a three to five year Plan remains and this adjudicator believes it would be very useful. Keep up the good work.