

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clonmore** Ref: **38**
County: **Carlow** Mark: **238**
Category: **A** Date(s): **13/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	38
The Built Environment	50	31
Landscaping	50	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	238

Overall Development Approach:

Clonmore is welcome to the 2006 Tidy Towns Competition. We note the absence of a planned work program and encourage you to prepare one as it is difficult to make serious progress in the competition without one. We also note from your submission that you use a Newsletter as a vehicle to communicate Tidy Towns ideas and tasks with local residence and this is an excellent idea. Clonmore is a tiny hamlet in beautiful gentle rolling countryside against the back drop of wooded hill and features many stately mature trees of which no doubt you are proud.

The Built Environment:

The existing church together with the public house is neatly presented and nicely landscaped and we wish you well in your plans for the renovation of the old church. No doubt the old school is in the community also, perhaps it could be made to look a little more attractive particularly in its curtilage area. The weather stained wall of the outbuildings beside the public house could be cleaned or painted. Hanging baskets on buildings were colourful.

Landscaping:

As stated above there are many stately mature trees and these are complemented by semi mature trees and younger trees all of which are nicely presented. Flower displays are excellent as are shrubs and permanent planting. The planters at the base of the mature trees across from the school were bare: if these are in too much shade for planting perhaps they could be hard surfaced and used as seats.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done on the nesting boxes initiative. Perhaps now a survey could undertaken involving the young people of the area to identify wildlife habitat present and to communicate the results of the survey in a nature trail and wildlife interpretive panel. Perhaps the small stream could feature an amenity area or a little walk.

Litter Control:

The town was litter free on the day of our visit, well done. We note from your submission that you participated in the litter league and commend you for this as well as participation in The Pride of Place. Do keep us informed of your other litter management activities so that you may earn additional marks on your ???361 we can also use your experiences to guide other communities.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done on your recycling initiative. The bring banks are well situated at the old national school and the site was kept tidy. To compete under this heading it will be necessary to look for every opportunity possible to minimise waste as well as recycling. The Race Against Waste booklet included in this year's Tidy Towns pack contains a number of good ideas on this.

Tidiness:

The overall appearance of Clonmore is one of tidiness and we note from your submission that you engage in weed control activities, well done. A number of verges were in need of rehabilitation; notable was that at the southern entrance to the village and a few incidental areas could have been a little tidier, however there were no major problems under this heading.

Residential Areas:

Some individual properties are presented to an excellent standard and gardens were admired. Some boundary walls could have been improved on a little, however no major problems were noted.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Road surfaces were quite good in the village centre and there are no obvious problems in this respect. The name plates were almost hidden by overgrown verges on the approach roads which is a pity and is also unsafe. The provision of attractive lampstandards would be encouraged. Stone walls throughout are nicely presented and some of these appear to have been refurbished in recent years. Some stretches of footpath need resurfacing or weeding and a number of gates need to be painted. The telephone kiosk looks well.

General Impression:

The overall impression of Clonmore is one of a charming little hamlet in an idyllic rural location and one that has been untouched by development to date. The village has obviously a rich cultural history and we would encourage you to provide some interpretive panels for your heritage.