

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clogheen** Ref: **637**
County: **Tipperary (South)** Mark: **226**
Category: **B** Date(s): **25/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	31
The Built Environment	50	31
Landscaping	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23
Litter Control	50	31
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	226

Overall Development Approach:

Clogheen is welcome to the 2006 National Tidy Towns Competition.

It enjoys a beautiful setting on the foothills of the Knockmealdown Mountains lying within the Tipperary Plain uniquely surrounded by the Galtees, the Comeraghs and Slievenamon and is situated on two rivers, the river Duag and the river Tar.

The Clogheen committee are to be congratulated in engaging the help of other agencies. It is noted that the net is widening in relation to applications for development assistance and no doubt this approach will pay dividends in time. Well done on your achievement in the Tipperary Environmental Campaign in the Modern Tidy Burial Grounds Award 2006. Your continued liaison with the local schools is to be commended and the results are stunning.

The Built Environment:

The attractive town buildings have been mentioned in previous reports and it was also commented that these buildings still retain many of their original sash-windows. This is a particularly important issue in a village such as Clogheen that still retains its traditional character. The Lower Main Street area of the village highlights this charm to great effect. Dated beer signs and an existing canopy have been previously commented on and it was noted that these have not yet been rectified. The Spar building in a very commanding central location also needs to be decluttered in relation to signage. Both churches, St Paul's Church of Ireland and St Mary's Catholic Church, were well presented and admired. The grounds of St Mary's Church were decorated for the celebration of the 25 year service of Fr. Pat Butler. The grounds of the Court House / Fire Station are in need of some attention. It was noted that the former Clogheen tyre service building is for sale and will be undergoing redevelopment in the future. This is an extremely important building as you ascend from the

Bridge. It is a street-end and corner building addressing the very attractive playground and recently completed seating area (again well maintained) in the village core and forms a vista closure when viewed from Lower Main St. The street houses opposite the new local authority houses at Bridge St (River Path), which vary between single-storey and two storey, are a magnificent addition to the streetscape of Clogheen. The houses, although having a contemporary expression fully respect the traditional character of the village in relation to scale, proportion and materials. They are a huge asset to this street and compliment the very attractively presented street houses opposite.

Landscaping:

It was noted that the committee have continued to reinforce their landscape plan and the increase of permanent planting of trees and shrubs will in time enhance the natural setting in the village. Window boxes and hanging baskets were again to a high standard.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is good to see that the committee liaised with the County Council to develop the Mill Walk area, and this project when developed will add to the wonderful amenity of the river that already exists in Clogheen.

Litter Control:

Litter Control was excellent on the day of adjudication. It is noted that the committee have again liaised with the County Council and have received the assistance of two men two days a week and a sweeping machine every Wednesday. No doubt this is paying huge dividends. Also noted is the school competition on litter awareness sponsored by the local Spar shop. This is a very worthy effort.

Waste Minimisation:

The initiative in relation to recycling is helping to promote waste minimisation in the wider community by encouraging all pubs and shops to deliver cans to the school, from where they are collected by Green Dragon Recycling Ltd

The recycling centre itself, while well located, is not in a very aesthetically pleasing area at present. The intention to improve directional signs to recycling bins at the council yard is welcomed and it is hoped that more initiatives in the Race Against Waste will be developed in the future

Tidiness:

The overall impression of the village is one of general tidiness and the neatly boarded windows to two derelict structures, in Cockpit Lane and Convent Road, were noted.

Also at the Convent Road / Vee Road a derelict car should be removed from the forecourt of an abandoned building, opposite the Day Care Centre.

Residential Areas:

The standard of residential areas throughout the town is generally excellent. Lios Mhuire, which is designed around a manicured village green, contains some excellently presented private gardens, and has a very subtle colour scheme appropriate to the area. This in turn complements Barrack Hill located opposite. Abbey Close, located to the rear of Lios Mhuire, is a scheme that provides a great sense of place identity, and creates an element of surprise on arrival. The green was neatly manicured and the area tidy on the day of adjudication. Fr Sheehy Terrace and Mountain View looked particularly well presented on the day. The grass in the open space was newly mown, the hanging baskets around the perimeter looked well, and the area was generally neat and tidy. It was noted that some construction remains to be completed in this area. Some areas of Cockpit Lane are in need of attention.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Roads and footpath surfaces are generally quite good and some are excellent. Stone walls are a feature of the village and the ongoing renewal works to some of these are noted, particularly on the Vee Road. The Bridge is the focal point of the village and its attractive appearance and vistas are unique.

General Impression:

Clogheen has a track record of improvement in the Tidy Towns competition and this trend is set to continue in the future. Congratulations!

