

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Carrigaholt** Ref: **732**  
County: **Clare** Mark: **227**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **16/07/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	29
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>227</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you Carrigaholt TidyTowns for your entry on behalf of Carrigaholt village to the 2008 TidyTowns Competition. Welcome.

Thanks to your Committee of five people who take the time and effort to attend your monthly meetings, in addition to other TidyTowns events. Your Committee and partnership organisations are doing worthwhile work for Carrigaholt, a village with a population of less than 200 people. Well done to all concerned.

Thank you for the submission including the photographs of the various TidyTowns activities in Carrigaholt. Thanks also for the sketch of the village map.

The work of local people, residents, business people, schoolchildren and others is to be praised. Well done on your energy and commitment. A recommendation is for the Committee to prepare a very short three-year plan on TidyTowns activities to say 2011. This plan would help you focus on agreed targets and need only be set out in short bullet points and would not exceed a page or two. A further recommendation is to attempt to increase the number of people willing to serve on your TidyTowns Committee. Your present Committee of five would benefit by the introduction of new members to help spread the workload and take on additional duties.

I wish you all the best with your planned activities into the future. Enjoy the Carrigaholt Family festival and the curragh regatta in August. Keep up the good work.

### **The Built Environment:**

Carrigaholt is situated in a magnificent seaside location in the heart of some lovely West Clare countryside. Your ongoing attempts, with other organisations to improve the quality of life of the people of Carrigaholt is to

be applauded.

The entrance to the village is quite attractive but presently some of the road surface within the village is of poor condition. The lovely bridge, which brings you right into the village, was nicely decorated with hanging baskets of flowers. Well done.

Due to ongoing change there is a wide variety in the quality of the built environment in the village. Those public buildings that impressed included: The Church; the National School is an excellent facility for the people of the area, congratulations on its condition. The Garda Station also looked well. St Mary's Hall while it had some nice planted containers outside, could do with some painting. The Post Office, a nice single storey stone building, looked very well.

Other commercial buildings that looked well included: the Long Dock, nice flowers planted outside, the rustic tables and benches looked well; Morrissey's Village Pub; the Loop Head Studio; The Anchor-Jack Lynch; Keane's Pub; the Dolphin Watch Information Centre; Fennell's Bistro; Carmody. Well done to all.

The treatment of the derelict cottage at the bridge is excellent, a nice display and the lovely painting/mural painted by the local children is attractive. Well done to the organisers and the artist involved. An old store painted yellow is in a derelict condition, with the roof apparently falling in and could be considered unsafe.

The beach, the pier areas, the lovely park and the green all add to the attractiveness of the village. These need to be protected and watched over closely.

### **Landscaping:**

The Car Park area near the beach is well landscaped with a nice stone wall, some lovely stone beds of flowers and the clean grassed area with the four rustic tables/benches. A pity to see the rubble left untidily from the work.

There are also some lovely landscaped areas at the Park near the Post Office, and at the seated area opposite Keane's. The mature trees add to the scene.

There are some nice shrubs and plants at the Church surrounded with mature trees on the sides. The village pump painted red with the flowerpots beside it looked well.

The high standard of landscaping in the private residences is impressive.

Well done to all involved in the various locations for good landscaping in the individual elements that get to make Carrigaholt look well. The residential areas also put so much effort into their own gardens and the result is mainly impressive and of benefit.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Carrigaholt situated in the wonderful coastal and seaside region of West Clare offers excellent opportunities to highlight the native and indigenous wildlife and birdlife. As suggested last year the Heritage Council and the Wildlife Ranger will assist in the establishment of an appropriate wildlife project for Carrigaholt. Well done on your initiative to contact the Wildlife Ranger. The setting up in the village of a range of Interpretative Panels on birds and wildlife would help in this category.

Well done on the existing information panels on the Dolphinwatch; the Shore Angling of Poulsherry to Kilkee and the Wildlife in the Shannon Estuary.

### **Litter Control:**

Carrigaholt was mainly clear of litter on the day of my visit. Well done on the Anti-litter campaign and the involvement of the school children is of course of benefit.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

The purpose of this category is to encourage Tidy Towns Committees and the local community to get involved in projects that will reduce waste and encourage recycling. Projects could include community guidance on methods of reducing waste such as segregating litter during clean-up events,

Well done on the clean up day which involved the grading and recycling of the litter.

Also well done on the four Rehab recycling partnership bins in use in the village. Always an area to be monitored closely. The recycling of an old tractor tyre as a planted flower container seemed to work well.

### **Tidiness:**

In general Carrigaholt looked tidy on the day of my visit. There are of course always pockets of untidiness that could be better. These included the Car Park near the bridge, here there was a pile of stone rubble left in a heap apparently the remains of the work here. A pity to see this nice area somewhat spoilt. Another item to consider is the removal of apparently two dumped cars on what is probably private property.

The two Eircom telephone kiosks are in a poor condition.

### **Residential Areas:**

The older townhouses help retain the village character and seaside charm of Carrigaholt and some of these are maintained to the best possible standards. The lovely two storey stone house near Blakes was impressive. The seven holiday cottages near the Caravan Park are in excellent condition but the gardens of some of these needed maintenance.

Some individual houses on the outskirts of the village are top quality with some lovely gardens. Congratulations to all concerned on the upkeep of their residential areas.

Well done to all residents for the great effort

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The approach roads and the bridge into the village looked reasonably well.

The town was in general clean and tidy with some nice grassed landscaping which could be improved by further planted hanging baskets.

### **General Impression:**

Congratulations to Carrigaholt on your entry again to Tidy Towns and well done on the progress made on your projects during 2008. Keep up this excellent work and engage as many as possible new members to your Committee.

I look forward to further visits to your lovely seaside village