

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Roundstone** Ref: **319**  
County: **Galway** Mark: **239**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **20/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	34
The Built Environment	50	34
Landscaping	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	4
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>239</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Your adjudicator would like to welcome Roundstone to the 2008 TidyTowns Competition. Thank you for the copy of your work programme dated January 2007. The Roundstone Development Plan appears to be underway or discussion and we look forward to seeing this next year. It is good to read of your involvement with Galway County Council and the School. You have involved the School in wildlife and litter issues and these are very important aspects of the TidyTowns programme. Do remember that the TidyTowns Handbook gives great information and suggestions. Both new Committees and those who have been involved in the competition for some time will find this booklet really useful.

### **The Built Environment:**

The Tennis Courts which the adjudicator understood to have been refurbished this year still had a lot of weed and grass growth present around the edges. Roundstone House was admired with its white and black colour scheme and is just one of many buildings in Roundstone that had been freshly painted. Indeed the village has an excellent sense of colour. By the three flagpoles the two Granite seats are beautifully made pieces that compliment this area which has fine views over the water. The Beola Restaurant caught the eye as the excellent colour scheme here and the colourful window boxes work well together. At the Community Hall the long grass and weed growth in the car park needed attention. Eldon's Hotel is another premise that has made another great effort in presentation terms and the colours used here are again successful. Finally for this adjudicator the graphics at Silas stood out. Below The Roundstone Café one large building needed to be painted and colour choice here will be important. The Monastery Tower and the old stone entrance gates to the Park are important aspects of local history.

### **Landscaping:**

Under this category no real new projects were identified in your Entry Form. The many flower boxes, hanging

baskets and flower tubs bring great colour to Roundstone and this works well with the many freshly painted buildings. The grass area between the Playground and the Tennis Courts was very neat and well presented. At the small car park up the hill off the main street a small landscaped area was noted with a bridge feature. Is this a public or private development as the adjudicator was unsure?

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

The Entry Form referred to 'ongoing work in the Fair Green' but did not specify what works were for 2008. The cleaning of the walkway to the Church of Ireland Church was a worthwhile project. The Park area was a real surprise set in a beautiful location and excellently presented with sloping banks. The stone features added to the scene. However could the steel containers at the back be screened from view?

#### **Litter Control:**

No specific projects were identified in the Entry Form under this category. Some litter was noted by the Catholic Church and on the pavement above the Tennis Courts. It is good to see that the School is involved in litter awareness classes and that you involve the Youth Club in clean ups. Building work was under way beside the Bring Centre and the Entry Form did not make it clear that this was for the Bring Centre units, but the adjudicator thinks that it may be. Some landscaping here is recommended together with the painting of the wall at the back of the units. At the Welcome sign on the Ballyconneely approach road much rubbish had been dumped and scattered here.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

No projects were noted in the Entry Form under this category that fit within this category.

#### **Tidiness:**

No projects were identified in the Entry Form under this category. The Information panel needed to be varnished and the metal supports for the Tourist Information panel needed to be painted. In the car park at the Playground grass and weed growth was noted in the gravel. Some piles of sand were also here and what seemed to be the remains of a metal barrier for the car park. Some poor projecting signs were noted in the village and these need discussion with the owners. Weed growth was present at the low stone wall near the Pier. At the Pier opposite O'Dowd's the area behind the wall of the access road needed to be tidied.

#### **Residential Areas:**

Private houses were excellently presented, many freshly painted and quite a number of hanging baskets and window boxes were evident. The thatched house on the Clifden approach is a really beautiful building. At the junction leading down to the Park the houses here have used a great colour scheme complimented by landscaping to the front. Excellent landscaping of the estate by the Fair Green is a strong feature here.

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

The Welcome signs in stone are most attractive and the Clifden approach along by the sea is really beautiful. On the Ballyconneely road good hedging is a strong feature. Other roads were well presented.

#### **General Impression:**

It was a pleasure for your adjudicator to visit Roundstone for the first time. Good luck with your TidyTowns projects for 2009 when we look forward to visiting you again.