

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cloone** Ref: **425**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **257**
Category: **A** Date(s): **02/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	34
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	16
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	9
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	34
General Impression	10	9
TOTAL MARK	400	257

Overall Development Approach:

Cloone is welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition in its 50th anniversary year; thank you for your submission, we note however the absence of a planned work programme and general support material, you should submit a plan with next year's entry. Well done on your liaison with statutory bodies and the local school. It is good to note your newsletter distribution to the community. Cloone is an attractive village.

The Built Environment:

Work accomplished for the old school at the northern end of the village is acknowledged. The Garda Station is an attractive building and has been well maintained, the church and its car-park look well also. Encourage property owners to get rid of the dated plastic beer signs and to eliminate stickers and posters from their window and door displays. The Community Centre also looks well and the 'Doherty' buildings make a strong attractive visual impact. The school grounds and its car-park are presented to the highest standard.

Landscaping:

Reference has already been made to the grounds of the school and those of the Church are beautifully landscaped also. The maintenance of shrubberies and rose beds is to a high standard and flower displays in containers are acknowledged. Try to plant for year round interest and a greater variety of native species in the future as this is supportive of wildlife.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is good to note from your submission the existence of the nature trail south of the village which is used so frequently by the community in general and by the school in particular. We applaud your plan to have signage erected identifying the flora and fauna of area and don't forget a signpost also from the village centre. If you engage in the promotion of wildlife awareness amongst the community or with developers we would like to hear details as this can be a source of extra marks!

Litter Control:

Litter control was very good in Cloone on adjudication day with a small exception the Lake View housing development where there was a light scattering. Your community clean-up day and ancillary activities ie notices in the newsletter are acknowledged. Hopefully the new litter bins will be provided however it is important that these are emptied on a frequent basis as sometimes they can be a source of litter if allowed to overflow. Try to ensure that litter bins are not accessible to birds.

Waste Minimisation:

Congratulations to the school for its composting and recycling initiative and the segregation of litter. A community waste audit should be considered to establish the quantity of waste produced by both residential and commercial interests with a view to reducing this. Are businesses in the community involved in the recycling programme also?

Tidiness:

The wall along the road into the Lake View residential development could be cleaned/painted. The overall appearance of Cloone is one of tidiness and your weed control programme appears to be successful. We wish you every success in having your overhead service cables ducted, we look forward to enjoying the positive visual impact this will make.

Residential Areas:

It is good to know that all grass verges are mowed regularly and improvements at the graveyard in progress. The namestone at the entrance to the Lake View estate is an attractive feature. At the time of adjudication some on-street dwellings had been beautifully whitewashed and reference has already been made to the visual impact of the small 'Doherty' complex of buildings. A few roadside boundary walls to dwellings near the Garda station are in need of upgrading.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

As noted above we wish you every success in having overhead service cables ducted and hopefully the old service poles will be removed also, it is good to note that ducting had is in place both north and south of the village. A footpath at the southern entrance to the village had yet to be finished at the time of adjudication however work accomplished in Cloone in relation to resurfacing and the creation of new footpaths is acknowledged. Car-parking is orderly and street furniture looks quite well however the seat in the Lake View estate needs to be painted to freshen its appearance.

General Impression:

Cloone is an attractive village which enjoys an enviable location in the heart of lovely Leitrim. The village is recovering from the sewage works and the right conditions are now in place to proceed with a planned programme of work for the future. We wish you every success, don't forget to log onto the TidyTowns web site at www.tidytowns.ie for useful information and tips.