

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clonmany** Ref: **306**
County: **Donegal** Mark: **234**
Category: **B** Date(s): **22/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	27
The Built Environment	50	38
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	10
Litter Control	50	38
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	20
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	234

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for your entry into this year's Tidy Towns Competition. As suggested by the adjudicator last year, a medium-long-term plan is a very good idea. This will help you see what's needed, prioritise tasks and assign jobs to people. It doesn't have to be very exhaustive or lengthy but it is a good place to start. You could also look at getting more people involved on the committee. Getting in contact with a Tidy Towns Committee from a larger town may be helpful in getting some ideas or tips.

The Built Environment:

Many of the business premises of the village look very well. Toland's and McFeeley's both use very nice colours. Brennan's Pharmacy looks well. The Garda Station does not but this is being worked upon. The railings of the existing national school need painting. St. Mary's Hall and library looks very well. It is hoped that the new school will be a positive addition. St. Mary's (RC) church is pretty and quite impressive. The graveyard is obviously receiving regular care. The Tug-o-War clubhouse is in good condition. It would be nice to know some history of this club. The addition of a footbridge here would be a great feature.

Landscaping:

Riverside Park needs some landscaping to make it look less bare. The mile marker on the bridge should be fixed up. It could be very nice and would be less likely to be hit by cars. The Diffley Garden is very nice indeed. The Market Square looks great.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

You have no initiatives listed in this section. There are many positive additions to a small village that your group could make. Lots of information may be found on the internet for wildlife projects. These could include: a baseline wildlife survey, a bird nesting box building and erection programme, the planning of a nature trail or the creation of a wildlife area designed to attract insects or birds. Contact your local conservation ranger (National Parks and Wildlife Service) or the environmental awareness officer of Donegal County Council. Your river is a splendid wildlife amenity and would be a great starting point. Do seek advice from a wildlife expert before doing any work in or beside the river. There are also some very nice mature trees around the village.

Litter Control:

Well done on your work to tackle litter. Praise is also due to your FAS participants for their vigilant work. No litter was seen in the village on day of visit.

Waste Minimisation:

Again, you should contact the environmental awareness officer to assist you with this section of the project. This does not focus on litter but on reducing and minimising waste. This is often a good project to undertake in conjunction with schools. Community and individual household composting is a good place to start. The national school has a composter in place and would be well-placed to advise.

Tidiness:

A little bit of weed control is required on some of the side roads. The litterbins seen were all clean. The bring centre was spotless. The library railings would benefit from a coat of paint.

Residential Areas:

The houses and gardens seen were largely very well kept and to a high standard of presentation. Riverside Park is very new but is nicely done. Your concerns over poor planning are noted.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The bridge is somewhat dangerous for pedestrians. Is a footpath here a possibility? This road though is very pleasant to the eye and the river is lovely. Workers were out and in action on the Letterkenny Road on day of visit.

General Impression:

Clonmany is a very pleasant and quiet little village. Your entry has raised some legitimate concerns and has identified some areas for work. It is suggested that you put these together into a concise plan for work that will address these. Seek some advice from other TidyTowns Committees as they will have faced many similar issues. Your entry leaves the adjudicator in doubt that your group wishes to succeed for the betterment of your village and this is the crucial factor. Good luck with all your work.