

Tidy Towns Competition 2012

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clarina** Ref: **1994**
County: **Limerick** Mark: **225**
Category: **B** Date(s): **28/06/2012**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2011	Mark Awarded 2012
Overall Development Approach	50	29	29
The Built Environment	50	33	34
Landscaping	50	34	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	6	7
Litter Control	50	32	33
Tidiness	30	18	19
Waste Minimisation	20	2	3
Residential Areas	40	26	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	32	32
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	400	218	225

Overall Development Approach:

Your adjudicator would like to welcome Clarina to the 2012 TidyTowns Competition and your participation is important to the competition. Thank you for the completed entry form and the extremely accurate and helpful map. Your committee of fourteen is very large and that indicates strong support for your work for Clarina. Your meeting schedule seems to be a busy one and it was good to see that the appropriate agencies are involved in your various tasks. Have you considered using texting and email to expand the methods used to communicate with the Clarina community? It is noted that you have extended the area that you cover and the total area was visited. A TidyTowns 3 Year Plan was not included with your entry and this should be considered by the committee in the coming winter. You can prepare the plan yourselves using the ten adjudication categories as a framework or template for the plan. Identify the year or years in which each project should be implemented and the likely supporting groups or agencies.

The Built Environment:

Good work at the old Post Office at the corner was admired as was work at the GAA entrance where the gates have been painted. The Centra area was seen as being neat and tidy. The very large closed building at the roundabout had the potential to be an eyesore but was found to be tidy and generally adequately presented. Good landscaping work at the nearby roundabout tends to draw the eye away from this vacant building. The Catholic Church is an attractive cut limestone building well presented together with the nearby car park. Just down the road the Green Flag was proudly flying at the National School though some weeding was necessary in the car park. Kilkeedy Cemetery was visited and this is an interesting site, however maintenance here needs to be improved. Bad weed growth and long grass were evident. The gates would be improved if painted. The Fisherman Monument is an attractive well planted open space. However the kerbing / concrete edging around the green area need to be repaired. The use of the Irish language on signage is required under present legislation and this should be encouraged where appropriate. On signage the Irish language must

have the primary role.

Landscaping:

The new rectangular landscaped area on the Limerick side of Clarina was visited and good work has been done here. Just before this the verges on both sides of the road have great potential for good presentation. A strip of grass leading towards the new landscaped area had been cut far too tightly. This is damaging to the grass and not helpful to wildlife. Flower planting was noted in various areas of the village and work at the roundabout is especially commended. Your adjudicator reminds the Tidy Towns Committee that the cutting of roadside banks and ditches in the period 1st March to 30th August is not permitted under Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976, incorporating Section 46 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done on the provision of the bird and hedgehog boxes at the school. Have they had any residents yet? Has there been any progress on securing funding for the Wildlife Survey? Do make sure to try and involve the school in this project if at all possible.

Litter Control:

Litter control in Clarina was found to be very good again this year and your mark has increased. The weekly litter patrols are obviously working. The twice yearly parish cleanup days are an excellent idea and help to keep on top of litter and tidiness issues. How have you involved the school in your litter control programme?

Tidiness:

Well done in your participation in the National Spring Clean day with the active support of the school. All signage was quite clean and easily read. It is suggested that in cooperation with the Local Engineer that sign poles are painted matt black. Work on field gates was also examined and the painting is effective.

Waste Minimisation:

You are the first Committee this year in the experience of this adjudicator who has done any work on Carbon Footprint. Do give us a summary of the results of this with your entry next year. Has the Clarina community been able to produce positive results of this workshop? As you will have discovered this category is about the reduction of annual waste generated in Clarina and you will have addressed this issue in your Carbon Footprint project. Next year we look forward to having results from you of what has been achieved locally. The plans for water harvesting are commended.

Residential Areas:

Your links with Residents Associations are good and important. Houses across from the pharmacy were seen as being well presented together with the terrace of houses nearby. New Village was found to be extremely tidy and well presented with an excellent large green area. The planting of some groups of native trees is suggested for this area. Good presentation of private houses also caught the eye along the Ballybrown road.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

On the Foynes approach road the banks and verges needed to be cut. A similar situation was noted along the road leading to the old Graveyard. New road surfacing was admired along Vermont though banks along here needed a trim. Along this road weed growth at the base of walls also needed attention.

General Impression:

You have done good work for Clarina during the year and you are adopting a logical approach to what needs to be done. Good luck for the year ahead and we look forward to returning to Clarina in 2013.