

Tidy Towns Competition 2013

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clogheen** Ref: **637**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **268**
Category: **B** Date(s): **25/06/2013**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2012	Mark Awarded 2013
Overall Development Approach	50	38	38
The Built Environment	50	33	34
Landscaping	50	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	24	24
Litter Control	50	33	34
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	9	10
Tidiness	30	19	19
Residential Areas	40	32	32
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33	35
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	263	268

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the filled up entry form and all those lovely photographs that will be enjoyed especially in the years ahead. You are holding plenty committee meetings. The bodies and agencies are supporting your efforts. Local people are well informed of your activities. Good to see you have plenty contacts with the schools. We are pleased to find you enjoy the competition. A Tidy Town will undoubtedly attract more tourists to the area. You have a good approach to the competition.

The Built Environment:

There are two distinct characteristics about Clogheen one is the three storey houses and the second are the huge amounts of traditional stone walls. Some of these walls are in splendid condition, but there will be work to be done on others; this work should be done in the same style as the standing parts of the wall and no fancy pointing is done and the correct mortar mix contains little or no cement only a lime based mortar. The Catholic Church is beautiful and the Church of Ireland is a fine old structure and great to see it now retains its original identity. Two Rivers B&B is splendid as is the pharmacy. Clogheen School is well kept with young and mature trees and the green flag is proudly hoisted outside. Hermitage guest house is a great house in magnificent lawns. The Day Care centre is a lovely setting. A house across the road from the Day Care centre has the windows boarded up upstairs. Vee Valley Hotel is in need of attention; I saw where there is hoarding in the door and windows and this state could be improved with some art work on the timbers. It is sad to see Clogheen Tyre Centre also boarded up and again it could be improved with some art work on the timber. The County Council have powers over dereliction, and if you are not getting co-operation from the owners, then discuss it with County Council housing department.

Landscaping:

There are nice bits of landscaping in many areas around the village, notably at the Catholic Church, At the Children's playground and at the turn for Cahir. Lots of areas do not need any intervention with those brilliant stone walls. Hanging baskets are admired around the village bringing colour and freshness to the surroundings. There are lots of mature and young trees in many places.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Good to see you are paying attention to this important category. The habitats that you mention are important for attracting wildlife and along the banks of rivers such as yours we find nesting areas. You could enlist the assistance of some locals that are conversant with the local wildlife who could then tell us all about the fauna and flora of Clogheen. Buddleia and Nepata are excellent shrubs for attracting butterflies and bees.

Litter Control:

I saw all those wonderful photographs of the children doing splendid work. Do you take part in the national spring clean – up. This is a great initiative put in place by An Taisce and they will assist you with the job when all the people of an area come together and tidy up the entire locality. More details are available from the County Council.

Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:

There is great work going on in the school in those green flag programmes and good to find that you are helping out with the work at the school. The children and parents will now be aware of the best ways of protecting the local environment, and it is a matter for you to follow up on what they are doing in the school and adopt this as a strategy for dealing with waste. You could organise a workshop to teach people the advantages of composting and how to it properly, but lots of them will be successfully doing it already.

Tidiness:

Dereliction leaves places in an untidy fashion. An old petrol pump that is no longer in use could be removed altogether. The streets are neat and tidy. I saw the local worker hard at work on my visit.

Residential Areas:

This is a great idea to get the residents associations in place, and you could assist them at all times like the provision of small bits of finance and giving them general advice. They may want to do some planting and this should be carefully planned. The estates are well kept, and there are other splendid houses around the town notably those three storey houses. Splendid houses are enjoyed on the outskirts.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

I got your follow up letter on the roads thank you. All the work was done by the time I got to Clogheen and the roads are now in splendid condition as are the footpaths. I loved that stone bridge at the bottom of the town it is a great historical structure and looks so well.

General Impression:

Clogheen looks all the better from the attention you are giving to it. Well done for attending to all the categories. It was a pleasure to spend some time amongst your people.