

Tidy Towns Competition 2014

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clondra** Ref: **876**
County: **Longford** Mark: **282**
Category: **B** Date(s): **25/06/2014**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2014 |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Community Involvement & Planning | 60 | 43 |
| Built Environment and Streetscape | 50 | 39 |
| Landscaping and Open Spaces | 50 | 38 |
| Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities | 50 | 29 |
| Sustainable Waste and Resource Management | 50 | 17 |
| Tidiness and Litter Control | 90 | 58 |
| Residential Streets & Housing Areas | 50 | 30 |
| Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes | 50 | 28 |
| TOTAL MARK | 450 | 282 |

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Clondra is welcomed to the Tidy Towns Competition 2014. Thank you for your entry, map and copy of village area enhancement plan and supporting documentation. You have a committee of 16 which is supported by the local agencies and local school. You have a strong group of volunteers and this is evident by the number of hours clocked up in the old school project. This shows good community commitment and as you state in your entry there is also the social aspect where the community can get to know each other and is a way of welcoming new members. Your village enhancement plan was read with interest. The history of the village is interesting and your proposed development addresses the needs of the community and should certainly bring tourists to the village. You are wished well with your endeavours to enhance and develop the village and its surrounds in future projects.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

The old school now a Community Hall has been restored to its former glory. Well done to the community on the effort they made to complete this project. It takes commitment and dedication and this you have in abundance. The Richond Inn in its vibrant colour looked pristine on the day of adjudication as did the Camlin Bar. The Mill, what a superb building to have in your midst. It certainly would be superb to hear the Mill wheel turning again. It is good to note that it is part of your village enhancement plan. The 46th Lock is another piece of history; unfortunately the house adjacent is presently unoccupied. Scoil Mhuire was well presented. The church surround and graveyard looked neat and tidy. The play area was visited and it too looked splendid. The bridge is a superb feature of the village. Lichen growing on the bridge added natural wild growth.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The Longford road entrance had a nice green area each side with superb trees planted, perhaps an area of perennial flowers here would add colour. The picnic area was admired with some nice landscaping. There were fine examples of stone flowerbeds noted throughout the village. Any dead trees should be removed and also refrain from the over use of weed killer. The tree at the bottom of Richmond Harbour does not require the shrubs at the base. The planters of flowers dotted at the canal area brought a lovely splash of colour. Do consider where possible planting seasonal year round plants for added interest during the year. These should be ground planted where possible and containers can be used to bring colour where this type of planting is not possible.

Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:

Clondra has many areas of habitats for wildlife. Your wildlife study when complete will be a basis to build on with further studies as an addition. In time you will have a comprehensive overview of wildlife and habitats of your area.

This should be recorded and documented. Any studies in this area that you complete please do enclose copy of same with your entry. Groups are encouraged to host events that celebrate and raise awareness of local species and habitats. This could be a tree planting day or a bat walk with an expert. Assistance for this can be obtained from the Local Authority. This event could be run as part of Heritage week. Your day in the bog and harbour festival is similar to the events stated above. Do send any photos or paper clippings with next year's entry. The bicycle path along the canal will be a superb amenity when complete.

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:

This category is about waste prevention, reducing the amount of waste produced in the first place. You are making good progress in this category. Working with the school on the green school programme is an excellent way of sharing knowledge and information. Well done to the school on their green flag. This is the start of many I would say. Food waste is one area where savings in waste could be made. Some groups are holding workshops on food waste. These workshops are likely to be run from September across the country. The local authorities prevention network website have added a specific Tidy Towns page to this website providing practical tips and advice on sustainable waste and resource management. The website address is <http://localprevention.ie/tidy-towns/>. This hopefully will be of benefit to groups.

You are also progressing in water savings in harvesting of rainwater. Well done on your work in this category.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Well done on your plan on controlling litter and you're on going litter patrols which appears to be working well. You have good support from the community with your anti litter campaign. The bottle bank was neat and tidy. At the side of Camlin Bar some litter was noticed, also kegs in front were untidy. Dangerous Bridge sign is rusty with ivy growth. Boundary wall across from Camlin Bar needs painting. Fly posting was also noted. All of these things are small and would greatly help in this category if addressed.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:

The residential streets and housing areas were well presented. Neat colourful gardens were also noted. Shannon View garden caught the adjudicator's eye. The housing areas at the mill were noted. Grass growth was noted but this happens when houses are only occupied part time. Unfinished estates are a problem in most towns and villages, hopefully their future will be shortly resolved.

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:

The approach road from Longford had nice green areas both sides with planted trees. On the road from Killashee a nice stone wall was noticed but grass needs to be cut at the village sign. The wall on Church Road if restored would enhance this entrance. The bridge one of your strongest features could be highlighted more perhaps with containers of flowers on the bridge. You have done good work for this year's competition. You are wished continuous success.