

Tidy Towns Competition 2014

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clondrohid** Ref: **114**
County: **Cork(South)** Mark: **248**
Category: **B** Date(s): **05/07/2014**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	40
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	34
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	34
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	14
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	9
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	56
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	31
TOTAL MARK	450	248

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Clondrohid is most welcome to the 2014 Tidy Towns competition. Many thanks for your entry form and photos. Please accept our deep condolences on the tragic loss of one of your group. This is no doubt a heavy burden on a small community. You are urged to try to rebuild your committee and try to encourage new blood. You could use your communication tools to launch a recruitment drive as really what you need at this stage is an injection of new blood and new ideas. This should be followed by the formation of a simple three-year plan which would identify the medium-term actions you would like to see happen under each of the contest headings. Your application contains no map and really this is an essential prop for the adjudicator. The adjudicator may not have been to town before so needs this to navigate and to find the locations where projects have been completed. Perhaps there is an artist in your village the could draw this, highlighting the principal landmarks. You have good contacts with support agencies but perhaps your communication needs some work. Most Tidy Towns groups typically avail of church announcements, local radio and press as well as social media. In your recruitment drive perhaps you could assign the task of communications officer to one of your committee. It is excellent that you have one of the local teachers engage with your committee. Do make sure the children are encouraged to engage in diverse projects from wildlife to litter control and heritage issues. Clondrohid is a very pretty village and you have a lot going for you. You are wished the very best going forward.

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

The lovely old church in Clondrohid provides a nice focal point for the village. It is freshly painted with neatly mown lawns. A dead Christmas tree at the centre of this lawn should be removed however. The disused old house on the Main Street that is now whitewashed is a nice highlight. The building across the road here, which looks like it is of heritage significance for the village is quite untidy. There are heaps of wooden debris and other waste items. Could the owner here be contacted and asked to deal with this waste appropriately? The Co-op is tidy and freshly painted. The Tavern is very well presented with its clean stone facade and colourful flower attractions. The Spar and post office are tidy and well presented. The presentation of the two mill stones is excellent and a nice heritage info was admired. The national school is very freshly painted and clean surfacing throughout was admired. Equally the colour scheme at the community hall looks well.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

In a rural setting such as this the main landscaping features are the tall trees, hedges and stone walls that typify the surrounding countryside. Any intervention on your behalf should seek to nurture these elements, for example by repairing stone walls or planting additional native trees. The bridge over the River Foherish, and of course the river itself, are beautiful features that give your town much of its identity (and its name!). It is nice to see that the native

vegetation here has been allowed to develop while your baskets of flowers along the bridge add colourful interest. The painted black gate with whitewashed pillar really complements the scene. The more formal sloped bed on the town side of the bridge really has too much black plastic to be effective. Perhaps this could be removed and the suitable shrubs that there will grow into the space. Your community centre and sports fields were visited on adjudication day and these are excellent amenities for the townspeople. The area was very clean and very attractive raised stone beds were admired. Some of the recently planted trees are not faring so well and should be replaced.

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

This category encourages communities to actively engage with your natural heritage. This can be done through awareness raising events with a display or information panel for instance. It is an excellent area in which to involve children as nature studies seem so neglected in schools these days. Rivers in hedges provide valuable habitat features and there is enormous opportunity to explore these through art or science. How about focusing on a theme, such as the story of the otter which is found in your village? As per last year's adjudication comments you will need to detail how the 'game conservation group' promotes natural heritage.

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

This category is not about the presentation of the bring bank but aims to encourage groups to reduce the dependence on water and energy while also minimising waste. The school are strongly encouraged to participate in the green flag program as this is central to reducing the environmental impact of the village. You could also contact the environment officer of Cork county council to arrange an information evening and decide on one or two projects for next year. For helpful tips and case studies from other Tidy Towns entrants please take a look at <http://localprevention.ie/tidy-towns/>

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Is your annual litter collection are part of the national spring clean? Do detail how you raise awareness of the importance of litter control among the students in the local school. The village is generally very tidy with no major issues of note. A nice project would be to paint field gates a uniform colour as this would add charm and character. A low quality sign for a cash and carry should be removed from the lovely hedge with stone wall. The large open space beside the bridge has an old container that looks untidy in this key location, could be removed? The bring bank was very clean. Litter control in general on adjudication day was to a very high standard and well done on this achievement.

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

Are the volunteers in the estate is also involved in the general tidy towns effort? Their input would be most welcome. The village benefits greatly from numerous stand-alone homes boat in the centre and add its periphery. Boundary walls are well painted and the standard of presentation is very high. The Curra Glen estate enjoys a wonderful view over the wooded valley and its houses are presented to a very high standard. The well built stone walls at its entrance really add character and are complemented by native tree planting.

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

It is great that you have someone who is interested in traditional stone wall building but you don't indicate whether he has been involved in any projects in Clondrohid. The arrival from Macroom is excellent with neatly trimmed verges and attractive name sign. There are a number of stretches of low stone walls and these were admired.