

# Tidy Towns Competition 2014

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cloone**

Ref: **425**

County: **Leitrim**

Mark: **291**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **07/06/2014**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	37
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	40
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	41
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	20
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	25
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	62
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	32
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	34
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>291</b>

### Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

A warm welcome to Cloone to the 2014 Tidy Towns competition. Thank you for the completed entry form, map and photograph of the centre together with the map indicating the area set aside for landscaping. We found the extensive timber fencing on the approach to the town to be most attractive and very well presented. It would benefit from painting before next year's competition if that can be undertaken. The display of the 'Endeavour Award 1998', the flowers behind it and the presentation of the entrance of the Old Cemetery was done to an exemplary fashion. The excellent name plate with bedding plant display was most attractive and caught the eye. At just 95 residents you are one of the smallest population centres to participate but your success belies your small numbers. Well done to all involved over these last 22 years you have been entering the competitions which as you say encourages people to work together for the betterment of their own village.

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

The former school which is now serving a new purpose continues to be an important element of the built environment. Sadly a number of weeds were noted in the roof of it and growing in the gutter. The Community Centre looked very well being freshly painted. Similarly the new school was very bright in its new livery. The Catholic Church was attractively located and well presented. Business premises to catch the eye included McKeon's and Tiernan's. Taken as a whole the Main Street colour schemes work very well and this entire area is applauded. The Post Office and attached house was presented in an exemplary manner.

The Conefrey Monument (Musician & Patriot) is very well maintained while the ancient carved figures taken from the top cornerstones of the Abbey of Fraoch and which is believed to date to 578AD brought a tangible sense of antiquity to this well presented and most interesting area. The black gates were appropriately painted and the totality of the presentation here was greatly admired. At the new church the repainted tower was noted with approval.

The work at the former Garda Station will enhance this area.

### Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Excellent planting was admired at the traditional wall near the old school. Good use was being made of concrete planters which brought a degree of colour to their area. Excellent planting was noted opposite the Community Centre. The planting at the side of the road above the school was also admired. The impact of the cemetery entrance area and the short path leading to it is a delight. The additional shrubs put in on Ballinamore Road were admired as was the landscaped area leading to the nature trail.

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

You have clearly taken great advice following the NPWS conservation report. The completion of the Bog Walk, Nature Trail and the erection of the map at the entrance on both ends of the route showing the route itself is an enormous addition to the facilities and attractions the village has to offer. The bird feeders and 'Bug Hotel' behind the old school are important elements in your overall attempt to enhance the birdlife and wildlife population of the area. Have you considered undertaking a survey of existing birdlife and wild life in the area as a baseline census of the diversity you currently enjoy?

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

It is a delightful touch that the iron gates required by the school have been created, locally, by recycled iron. Your efforts to encourage the community to compost their waste are applauded as is the making available of an area behind the old school for composting grass cuttings. Grass cuttings can best be added to with leaves (from the previous autumn) to make highly valuable compost material. Have you considered doing a household audit to emphasis to individual householders the extent of which expensive food is being purchased but often not consumed?

### **Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:**

This new category is an amalgam of the former separate tidiness and litter control categories. It is pleasant to record near total absences of litter throughout the centre on the day of adjudication. Delighted to learn that the school children are very litter conscious and that most have bought into the requirement to bring their litter home and dispose of it appropriately there. Fatima National School children are very energetic in encouraging the community to recycle their waste even working with your committee to keep the recycle area clean, neat and tidy. Getting 28 members of the community both adults and children to participate in the clean-up evening in April is a fine manifestation of public appetite for the job. Well done to all concerned.

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

A number of individual houses contributed to an overall pleasant vista especially noteworthy were those beyond the school. The maintenance of the grounds at Lake View Estate was of a high order and well done to all involved in this on-going work.

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

In general the approach road verges and hedges were appropriately but not excessively cut back. Leaving an area of the grassed verge to continue to grow is important and valuable from a wildlife and birdlife point of view. Roads generally were well swept neat and tidy. The grass verge on the road to Newtowngore might with advantage receive some attention. We admired the signage for 'Tour de Humbert'. Your on-going efforts of painting of gates, wooden fences, street furniture and bins are applauded. Please maintain your efforts to insure at all street signs are washed and looking well.