

Tidy Towns Competition 2016

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cloone** Ref: **425**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **303**
Category: **A** Date(s): **16/06/2016**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2015	Mark Awarded 2016
Community Involvement & Planning	60	38	39
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	40	41
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	42	43
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	21	22
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	25	26
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	63	64
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	33	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	35	35
TOTAL MARK	450	297	303

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Cloone Tidy Towns Committee is indeed welcome to the 2016 competition. We were pleased to hear you get good support from FAS, TUS, Leitrim County Council, local businesses, Leitrim Development Company, the youth club, the ICA, the GAA etc. You also appear to work closely with the national school who are very involved in landscaping and gardening work. It was good to hear the youth club participate in cleanup days and put forward some positive and successful ideas.

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

Cloone has a wealth of magnificent vernacular buildings. The most attractive Dillon's was for sale on the approach from the main road. It is a particularly fine example of an Irish vernacular roadside shop building of its type. Hopefully it will be bought and restored to its former glory. The modern hexagonally church was admired in its prominent location. The marvellous tower stone at the top of the town was looked well with its magnificent surrounding landscaping and graveyard. Ensure that gable walls are not forgotten when considering the overall presentation of buildings - that at the post office appeared a little grubby and could be repainted before next year's competition. Its façade looked well, as did O'Higgins next door. Mc Keon's also looked well. We note your work in regard to the co-op building and at the GAA wall. Perhaps there is scope for further landscaping in this location? Another gable looked a little neglected on the Fenagh side of the village. The former National School looked well as did the later, larger and more modern one. And older National School on the far side of the village was also admired – is it being used for anything at the moment? It looked quite patchy in appearance although the area around it appeared to have been cut back. We were pleased to hear of the new guttering in this location for rain harvesting purposes. The community centre appeared quite fresh

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

There is scope for landscaping at the wide forecourt area in front of the wall at the GAA grounds. This area also incorporates the recycling bins which could be screened from public view as part of the same project. There were attractive floral displays throughout the village and the magnificent landscaping leading up to the tower was admired. The wonderful grassy banking with daisies and mature trees on the Mohill approach to the village was greatly admired. More banked landscaping and gravel beds with native trees planted was looked very well further in the towards the centre of the village. There appeared to be a lot of construction work relating to landscaping taking place in the village on the day and this will look extremely well when it is finished. Hanging baskets throughout looked most colourful. There were some very attractive floral displays by the old National School. There was also an abundance of hanging baskets and windowboxes and a lot of work being done at the entrance points to your marvellous wildlife walks all of which looked quite magnificent on the day.

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

You are indeed fortunate in your Sli na Mona and Bbothar na Naomh walks. These are marvellous facilities to have in the village. The wonderful daisies at the grassy banking on the Mohill approach were greatly admired. The wildlife area in this location looks very interesting. The wildflower garden beside Saint James's tower is a marvellous idea and we were pleased to hear of its extension. We look forward to seeing your 1916 commemorative garden. We were pleased to hear that your wildlife audit has been completed in conjunction with National Parks and Wildlife. We note your work in conjunction with a botanist in this regard. The signage looked well on the day. We were pleased to hear you have avoided the use of pesticides in your work-this is commendable. The bird boxes at the old National School are a great idea.

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

The recycling bins looked reasonably well if a little grubby – perhaps, as mentioned elsewhere in this report, they could be screened from public view? We were pleased to hear you harvest rainwater for your landscaping projects. It was good to note that local residents are also involved in rain harvesting. We were delighted to hear of the success of the school in its clothes recycling project. Congratulations to Fatima National School on receiving their fourth Green Flag! It was good to hear that most people in the town are using low energy lightbulbs.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The waste treatment plant was reasonably well screened from public view but there was a little bit of weeding necessary to the gateway area. Some weeds were also evident on the kerbsides on the Mohill approach to the village in the vicinity of the lovely grassy bank area. There is a lovely traditional cottage or outbuilding on the Mohill approach which would be marvellous if it was re-white washed and its tin roof repainted in its traditional red colour. It was good to hear about your annual litter picking day and that so many people had been involved. You certainly covered a large area over a 5 mile radius! Your regular patrols are obviously paying dividends as there was very little litter evident on the day. Well done on your work in relation to fly tipping and weeding of footpaths and open spaces.

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

Lake View estate was fine. There is a good stock of housing along approach roads and in the village centre which were generally in good condition. In particular, housing on the Keshcarrigan road looked very well.

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

The approach from the main Mohill road is most attractive with its lovely signage, floral displays and stone bridge. The large amount signage throughout was generally well maintained although the Humbert Tour signage opposite the church could be repainted before next year's competition. Timber fencing and traditional gateways throughout gave a lovely soft appearance to roadside and boundaries and were well maintained. The Keshcarrigan road was a little rough in appearance on the day. The Fenagh Road appeared to be presented to a higher standard. We were pleased to note that the GAA and ICA are helping you in relation to the maintenance of approach roads and laneways.

Concluding Remarks:

Cloone is a most attractive Leitrim village set in some magnificent scenery. It was a pleasure to visit for the first time.