

# Tidy Towns Competition 2017

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cloghane Brandon** Ref: **2214**  
County: **Kerry** Mark: **220**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **14/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	30
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	28
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	26
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	24
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	10
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	51
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	23
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	28
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>220</b>

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

Cloghane Brandon is welcome back to the 2017 SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition; thank you for your submission. There have been many changes to the competition in the past 20 years since you last competed and you are advised to consult the Tidy Towns Handbook and website to up-date the committee on the requirements of participants. It is necessary to submit a multi-annual Tidy Towns plan each year indicating how the community would like to see the villages developing; it is also necessary to provide a map showing projects achieved for the current year colour-coded and linked numerically to details in the entry form; the map provided this year is good but would have been better if projects were colour-coded. There are guidelines available on the Tidy Towns website on these two requirements and more. The committee are approaching the Tidy Towns in the correct manner by creating strong links with other groups with a commitment to the village; links to the school are also fruitful and communication methods effective, your Facebook page is favourably noted.

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

The stone built church is a handsome feature of Cloghane Brandon and the roadside boundary wall is nicely painted; the car park beside needs resurfacing. The school and its grounds look well and Halla Le Cheile looks wonderful, its adjacent playground is favourably noted. The stone built Hostel and Tourist Information centre was admired also. An Siopa Pobal has a certain appeal that is quite charming however its curtilage area could be a bit more organised. Mullally's Bar (O'Shea's) is beautifully painted including its gable walls. A little bit of painting is necessary to a stretch of blue wall beyond the Hostel. Overhead service cables are unsightly and every effort should be made to have these ducted and the old timber service poles replaced with street lighting on attractive lamp-standards. General maintenance to the village is of a high standard and all responsible are to be commended.

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

Flower displays surrounding signage in Cloghane Brandon look colourful, are a nice touch and well located; the site behind in Cloghane could be developed as a viewing point with seating added and surfaced appropriately. The management of grassed areas for visual amenity and wildlife interest is admirable. At the time of adjudication, the Fairy Walk, although sign-posted was not found, hopefully next year's adjudicator will have that pleasure. We wish you well in the further maintenance and development of the Mount Brandon Grotto, work achieved to date is favourably noted. Let us know in future years details of species chosen and try to plant for year-round interest and colour in addition to planting native species; the difficulty of planting by the sea is appreciated by your adjudicator.

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

A plant species survey of Cloghane Brandon and environs should be undertaken and checked for invasive species; Montebretia and more were noted in grass verges which if allowed to grow unchecked will undermine local bio-diversity eventually; the bio-diversity status of the area should be established. The foreshore area in the Brandon end of the village was clean as were other stretches of beach however, the access path was weedy and overgrown. Interpretative panels for the wildlife of the area should be installed particularly beside viewing points. Work accomplished on signage to date is acknowledged. Well done on the Whale and Dolphin Stranding Course. The committee might consider a visit to Timoleague to see how they present under this heading.

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

The National School pupils and their teachers are to be congratulated on their Green Flag status, four were seen flying on the day of adjudication. The location and general maintenance activities for the recycling point is noted. Well done also on the reuse of unwanted goods. It would be fruitful to take on community wide rainwater harvesting and energy conservation projects; the rainwater can be used to water landscaped areas. Consult the website [locationprevention.ie](http://locationprevention.ie) to see what other communities are doing.

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

Well done on Cloghane Brandon's participation in the County Clean-Up and regular beach and streets clean up. The collected litter should be analysed to identify its source, type, location and frequency of occurrence to enable a strategy to be formulated that will eventually reduce significantly the amount of litter to be picked. Segregation of litter for recycling is a 'must'. Weedy kerbs to the stretch of footpath near the church look untidy however it was not too widespread. The loose natural stone wall leading up to the church is a handsome feature and must be maintained weed free to highlight its beauty; the magnificent view of the sea shore from here is breath-taking. The pier in Brandon was tidy and the foreshore area here clean.

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

Many beautifully painted dwellings including holiday cottages are a feature of Cloghane Brandon and residential properties overlooking the sea all have an excellent presentation; those in Ce Brenainn were admired also. Hopefully the two vacant houses will not be allowed to fall into disrepair and the one that retains some of its traditional architectural features will do so upon refurbishment. Impress on residents the need to maintain their roadside boundary walls to as high a standard as their dwellings and gardens; roadside areas to boundary walls are worthy of attention too, where feasible these should be grassed.

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

An Cloghane Brandon is not well signposted from the main road and was a little difficult to find; this should be taken up with the council road engineer. Town Twinning signage and other good signs together with their surrounding landscaping all look well and create a favourable first impression of the village. Townland name-stones are both interesting and attractive and complement older stone work in walls and the bridge. The road surface leading into Ce Brenainn is very good and this area features a lot of fine stone-work. The area around the utility box could be better maintained. The beautiful polished granite seat overlooking the Quay was admired as was the nice hand painted Failte-stone nearby; resurfacing is necessary to some car-parking areas.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

An Cloghane Brandon is a beautiful village tucked away into a beautiful corner of the Dingle peninsula to the extent that it is almost hidden; appropriate road direction signage is necessary to give the village a higher profile for the travelling public and to create a stronger unique 'sense of place'.