

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cleggan** Ref: **1028**
County: **Galway** Mark: **248**
Category: **B** Date(s): **13/07/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	38	39
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	30	30
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	28	30
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	25	26
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	12	12
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	50	51
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	30	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	30	30
TOTAL MARK	450	243	248

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Many thanks for your entry in this year's Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for participating in Ireland's biggest community project. It is believed that this is your second year in the competition and you are very welcome back. It's great to have you! Thank you for the very helpful maps and the copy of your plan. For your size of village you have strong numbers on your committee and you have other volunteers too. Very good. You take part in the activities of others (e.g. at the national school) and you participate in Coastwatch. Among your plans are the recreation of old - indeed ancient - pathways. This is great. There are a variety of support available to Tidy Towns groups and you should be made aware of these. It is highly recommended that you contact Galway City and County Council's Environmental Awareness Officer who will be happy to tell you about how the local authority and others can assist Tidy Towns groups such as Cleggan.

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

There are areas on the pier where ownership is being established and you are awaiting the outcome of these decisions. Is the old ice-plant an item of industrial heritage or is it better removed? These are questions that you will have to resolve as a community. Might it be painted in the interim? The pier area is very substantial and actually very pleasing in many ways and potentially could be developed to make it even better.

Oliver's Bar looked well. one of the signs was in need of repainting here. The ticket office is also nicely presented. The old shed adjacent could do with a makeover though... The Community Council premises look well but the sign needs to be replaced. The large generic signs at the Gala shop add little to the streetscape. The Fish and Chip Shop was really neat and tidy and the planters and pots here really help. Joyces's Pub looked sharp in black and white.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The excellent work by the bus-stop was seen. Of course it was, it's quite spectacular. This may have transformed this area into the nicest bus-stop in Co Galway. Well done on this great piece of work. In front of the old shed, some lovely work has been done. This extends all the way up the L1102 (Claddaghduff Road) and looks so good.

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

Your work this year has included participation in the Coastwatch survey - a really useful exercise. Please do tell us how this went. You of course have also created wildflower areas. You may be aware that there is now an All Ireland Pollinator Plan. This contains recommendations on how we might improve the lot of our pollinating insects, such as

bees, by adjusting our practices when it comes to mowing, strimming and planting. It's really useful. For example, converting areas of verge to low/no cut regimes is a way to save time and petrol as well as bees. This is an area wherein Tidy Towns groups such as your own can provide oversight and resources and save the local authority input for another area where you cannot directly help (e.g. road signage or surfaces).

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

Thank you for your entry here. This is a tricky category and you have addressed it in part with your second point. It's all about waste prevention and saving resources. The Tidy Towns Unit sent out a guidance document on this category the year before last. It is available from www.tidytowns.ie as you may not have been entered when it came out. This has literally dozens of project ideas so you'll not be stuck for things to do to get more points in this category. Galway City and County Council's Environmental Awareness Officer is literally the expert in this area so please do contact her for advice. Your new bicycle rack - for example - counts as a carbon-saving measure.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Thank you for the very factual and useful entry here. It's great to hear that the May clean-up found little litter. This is what we hope for! You had planned a beach clean-up which is no doubt finished at time of writing. Well done on this and please keep it up until the day that there is no more litter to be gathered! On the day, almost no litter was seen. A great achievement. Well done. Watch out for some shop-related clutter at the bus-stop. Opposite the bus-stop there is an old sign frame.

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

Well done for contacting all the householders about anti dog litter initiatives. It is believed that in a community the size of Cleggan, you could cut out dog fouling entirely. Good luck with your ongoing work. Lots of lovely examples of container planting were noted.

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

While the outcome of the equestrian centre is awaited, other projects are put on hold and this is probably wise. The area here is in need of some good work for sure. In the meantime, take the best care you can with the approach to Cleggan. Watch out for name signs being obscured by vegetation. Since the adjudicator was last here, you have got a new car-park. it is lovely! The new wall, footpath and street lights have transformed the area.

Away from here there are lots of opportunities for better signs, murals and general improvements to cluttered areas.

Concluding Remarks:

It has been some years - perhaps a decade!- since the adjudicator last visited Cleggan and it was just great to see all of the positive changes. With this kind of energy and imagination, many more improvements could well be close at hand. Well done all.