

Tidy Towns Competition 2013

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Doon** Ref: **717**
County: **Limerick** Mark: **272**
Category: **B** Date(s): **27/06/2013**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2012	Mark Awarded 2013
Overall Development Approach	50	38	39
The Built Environment	50	38	38
Landscaping	50	32	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	27	30
Litter Control	50	28	30
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	11	12
Tidiness	30	20	20
Residential Areas	40	31	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31	31
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	263	272

Overall Development Approach:

Fáilte arais, Dún Bleisce. Many thanks for your entry in this year's Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your entry form, fully and comprehensively filled and the most beautiful map the adjudicator has seen this year - putting the art into cartography. The adjudicator managed not to get it wet nor write upon it. If you could remove offending ticks and scan this, you could then reproduce it in a smaller version, annotated as needed, thus keeping the original for reuse. The accompanying information was much appreciated, including the charming description of your Nature Trail. Well done.

You have good numbers on your committee and you meet regularly. Your communications appear to be excellent - you use radio, print, have a website and you use Facebook. You link well with your schools. Your account of the benefits of the Tidy Towns Project to your village is good to read.

The Built Environment:

Thank you for the account of the projects completed here. Please have another look at the entry form to see what is applicable in this category. These projects are more properly adjudicated under Roads, Streets and Back Areas. Good luck with obtaining the RIC Barracks - this would be a great plus for your community.

There are some lovely old shopfronts, e.g. Rainsfort's and Ryan. Owners might be asked not to place advertisements on walls or cover windows with them. Moore's was probably the adjudicator's favourite shopfront in Doon. The Post Office is very nicely kept. Martin's has a very nice shopfront. Well done to the owners. Could Lysaght's possibly be a bit better protected from the elements?

Both the CBS national school and college could be made to look much better with some planting, or indeed any form of decoration. The shed opposite the church could be made to look much better. The treatment of the cottage on Cappamore Road was admired.

Landscaping:

The work at the church is acknowledged and is to be commended. Well done for working to a plan like this. Warning: There is Japanese knotweed here. This is an invasive species and spreads very readily. Do not try to remove this without expert advice from an ecologist or from Invasive Species Ireland. Tackled incorrectly, it will

only spread further.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The survey of your bog walk is an important piece of work. Such work is necessary to inform additional projects such as the new impressive boards. You picked National Trails Day to open this walk - well done.

Litter Control:

Well done for hosting a Spring Clean and for your regular anti-litter actions. It's great that the schools are occasionally involved with ongoing litter-picks - try and formalise this if you can.

Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:

Your attendance at events such as the waste prevention seminar is important. Knowledge is key! The fundraiser certainly counts as a valid action in this category. Sustainable Waste & Resource Management is a newly modified section of the competition. You are advised to consult the literature provided by the Tidy Towns Unit on Sustainable Waste & Resource Management and the guidelines in the entry form. In these, you will find many examples of suitable projects and initiatives.

You'll find that you're probably doing some of these already but look at the list of projects and initiatives and see where you 'tick boxes' and what you can do next. Innovation is welcomed!

Tidiness:

Do keep up the idea of putting cables underground. One day this will happen. The work at the church and at Shannon Development is noted. The bottle banks were spotless but the litterbin here was stuffed to overflowing.

Residential Areas:

Well done for the highly laudable actions in Hillview. It is hoped that you establish good relations with the association at Coonagh Court. The Forts was neat on day of visit but a bit more planted would be of benefit here. There is a very nice single-storey terrace on Cappamore Road. At the little estate (no name signs noted) beside Coonagh Court, it was noted that a little more planting is needed and that the gates should be painted. It appeared that the grass at Coonagh Court had not been cut for some time. Hillview looked great - well done to all the residents.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The work on the old estate walls, church car-park and new footpath are noted. So too are the approach road works and the site opposite Coonagh Court. The old board of works town name sign is lovely. You could inspect the 50kph warning signs to ensure that all are visible and straight.

General Impression:

Doon was a pleasure to visit. There is appreciation here for both the built and natural environments. Good luck.