

# Tidy Towns Competition 2014

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Doon** Ref: **717**  
County: **Limerick** Mark: **276**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **07/06/2014**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2014</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	39
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	39
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	35
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	32
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	13
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	52
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	33
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>276</b>

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

Prior to the visit, your adjudicator read your application but could not understand how well you have done in a short number of years and how the marks have increased so quickly. But having visited Doon this was then understood. It's very well looked after and there are beautiful view of the mountains. All credit to the Community in Doon that work to enhance your locality. Well done on linking with all relevant agencies and communicating across your community. Have you drafted a long-term plan? This would help you focus your work and concentrate on priorities.

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

Doon is full of wonderfully presented buildings all along the Main Streets. It was a delight to walk around and explore this town. Wheelen's pub on the corner looked really nice as did Moore's pub on the side of the street. The livestock murals are really effective at Tracey's victuallers. What's nice is that you have kept the traditional names on the streets. The re-use of the bank as a pharmacy is also to be commended. Ranesford grocers is a wonderful building and your adjudicator was pleased to note that the clock was at the right time

The national school was nicely presented. Across the road from this school was a spot of dumping at the edge of a building site. The fencing here is in bad condition and needs replacing. To prevent the growth of fly-tipping in this area, this needs to be addressed.

A new trend is to close up shop windows totally with stickers showing products so you cannot see into the shop itself. In some cases this does not work and takes away from the streetscape so should not be encouraged. The new playground is wonderful and should be put your adjudicator's map. The new school also needs to be added to the map also.

Derelict premises have all the windows boarded up and are nicely presented. Perhaps some of the very shiny commercial signs would be better in a more muted colour, in keeping with the streetscape? On adjudication day the old RIC Barracks was to be auctioned so it is hoped that a restoration or refurbishment plan is now to be progressed here with the new owners.

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

The convent gable walls were very clean and really bright as you drive down and there are beautiful lobelia growing on the wall. Stunning! There were nice hanging baskets at Buckley's and up at Kelly's. There was a lovely flowerbed in front of the church and a nicely restored wall across from the church. The sewer vent pipe here looked well.

You say that some derelict properties have been purchased such as the site on Monastery Road and the plans for these will be eagerly awaited. What are the plans for the convent building? If this is not to be used as a school any more it is strongly recommended that the community work hard to ensure a sustainable use for this building is developed.

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

Well done on organising nature walks onto Kilmoylan bog. The continued planting of native trees through the community is to be commended also. Watch out for suckers coming out of the base of trees, they need to be cut back.

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

The two primary and secondary schools are to be commended for their work on waste minimisation. With the new school located at the far side of town, work could be done on promoting cycling facilities and safe cycling routes, especially as one part of the road here becomes quite narrow. Maybe next year you can provide more examples of the work relating to this category of the competition as there are a lot of points now to be gained here. Does the school run a book rental scheme, or is there a community composter? These are the types of activities that you may already be doing that can help you gain marks in this category of the competition.

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

There was a little bit of litter at the petrol station spilling out on to the road which may be something for the petrol attendants to watch out for. The recycling bin for cans was full on adjudication day so perhaps the timetable for pick-ups could be re-scheduled if this is a regular occurrence.

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

Assumption Terrace was a lovely residential area with very nice landscaping – your adjudicator couldn't resist climbing up the tiered ramp here, though it was quite steep. In Glashan talann every single home has a basket outside it or a plant or a window box. The whole community looks lovely and there is some really nice beds planted up here. In Coonagh Courts there were a small number of weeds at the edge of the pavement which could be hand pulled. Hill View Grove sign has been swivelled around. The 'slan/welcome' signs are lovely and bright and are very welcoming. Hill View Grove is a quite large estate farther out of town which is nicely managed with friendly people and has beautiful views of the mountains.

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

There were gorgeous ox-eye daisies along the roadside on the approach roads to Doon. Arriving from Cappamore there is a lovely stone building with a brightly painted red door that makes for a warm welcome to Doon. Nearby a wooden fence placed on top of a nice stone wall. The fence is quite wobbly and needs to be fixed in place. The car park where the bottle banks were situated had quite a number of pot-holes. Some letters have been removed from directional signs in places.