

Tidy Towns Competition 2016

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cleggan** Ref: **1028**
County: **Galway** Mark: **243**
Category: **B** Date(s): **28/06/2016**

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

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Cleggan is welcome back to the SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition after an absence of eighteen years, it was a real pleasure to revisit your lovely village and see the many positive changes. Thank you for the copy of Cleggans Three Year Plan and the helpful map. For future years please identify projects described in the entry form on the map too by number and colour code; this will ensure that all work achieved will be assessed by the adjudicator. The Tidy Towns committee enjoys good support from a variety of sources including the business community, engagement with the school is invaluable for the future of the village and sounds like fun. Hopefully your flyer and other activities will attract new members and volunteers. It is good to note your use of social media in addition to traditional methods to communicate Tidy Town activities. Both Joyce's Bar and Newman's Bar are nicely presented together with the Pier Bar & Cleggen Marine. The school is nicely painted also. The shop located across from the Ferry Ticket Office should have identification on its fascia board. Rear facades and gable walls which can be seen from the public realm must be maintained to the same high standard as roadside facades, some were noted as in need of attention. Street furniture is an important element of the streetscape, the attractive stainless steel bus shelter and other street furniture enhances Cleggan's streetscape, ensure it continues to be maintained to a high standard. Log onto universaldesign.ie for ideas guidelines and information on designing buildings and spaces with universal accessibility.

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

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Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The beautifully landscaped area overlooking the pier in the village centre is being nicely maintained and appears to have year round seasonal interest. A landscape plan will need to form part of your multi annual plan and you may need to seek expert advice given that plants with high salt and wind resistance will need to be prioritized. It is important to choose native species where possible to enhance biodiversity opportunities. Permanent planting (shrubs & trees) is favoured over summer bedding plants as they provide visual interest throughout the year, don't forget to plant for winter colour also.

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

Cleggan beach should be signposted from the village as it is an important natural amenity and has the potential to encourage visitors to spend more time in Cleggan; the children's playground should be signposted too. It is good to note the committee's awareness of invasive species and the need to avail of expert help in eradication; roadside verges feature montebretia & fuchsia in addition to other species of wildflower. Well done on exploring the pollination element of wildlife, log onto biodiversityireland.ie/pollinators for information and ideas on starting a pollination project, perhaps a junior project would be appropriate? We look forward to the fruits of the meeting with Galway Council Biodiversity Project Manager. No wild life information of any kind was noted during adjudication.

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

The village recycling point is very basic with just one bin for general waste and one for recyclables however it is being maintained neatly. This category in the competition is about more than recycling / reusing, it is about waste prevention at source and the efficient management of water and energy resources. The Tidy Towns Handbook is a valuable resource with lots of ideas to get you started. The EPA's new web site livegreen.ie is an important source of information tips and projects on green living. It is invaluable to your performance in this category to measure results of projects and publish for feedback and motivation.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control was strong in Cleggan on adjudication day and the May and June clean-ups are acknowledged. It may be necessary to organise regular daily or weekly litter patrols / pick ups. A litter survey may be necessary to identify the nature and source of the litter which will enable an appropriate litter strategy to be formulated. The curtilage area of the Ferry Ticket Office needs resurfacing and general tidying and the same applies to the car park for the Riding School and other curtilage areas. The pier was litter free and very tidy in other respects but some structures looked quite shabby and could do with cleaning or painting. The 'Ferry Car Park' within the village centre is alarmingly potholed.

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

The Harbour House Accommodation premises looks really handsome. The stone clad houses in the village centre with their stone boundary walls enhance their streetscape. It is important to stress to residents that their efforts at maintenance should extend to their roadside boundary wall and beyond to areas immediately outside their walls. Residents should also take responsibility for common green areas. It is also possible to link in with the wildlife category by monitoring the birds that visit their gardens, Bird Watch Ireland is a good resource for getting started.

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

Road and footpath surfaces are generally good throughout Cleggan and recently surfaces stretches of footpath were noted. A handsome long stretch of stone wall looks new also. Approach roads can be maintained neatly trimmed to their roadside edge with inner areas left in their natural state with wildflowers and grasses for pollinators. The pay-and-display carpark is well surfaced lined and features a good roadside boundary. Sign posts look well, as noted above provide finger posts both for the beach and the children's playground identified on the map provided with your entry form.

Concluding Remarks:

Cleggan looked remarkably well and your adjudicator agrees that it should be a destination in itself and not just a place to catch the Inishbofin Ferry. The committee appears to be both well informed and proactive in attaining this goal for Cleggan.