

Tidy Towns Competition 2015

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kildavin** Ref: **1147**
County: **Carlow** Mark: **255**
Category: **A** Date(s): **10/07/2015**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014	Mark Awarded 2015
Community Involvement & Planning	60	37	37
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	33	33
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	35	35
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	20	20
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	9	10
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60	61
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	29	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	28	29
TOTAL MARK	450	251	255

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Many thanks for your entry in this year's Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your entry form and map. Could the latter be made a little more detailed, please? Perhaps include all road/street names and give orientation etc. However, it was very useful on the day, so thanks. On the former, please make sure that you fill it out completely please. The entry form is so important for us to get a picture of how your group works and how you are progressing. Thank you

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

Well done on the work at the community centre. The freshly-painted woodwork was admired. It's great that you are commemorating your industrial heritage at Machine Hill. This will be a service to your community for many years to come.

Conway's pub looks really fantastic. Planters, hanging baskets, benches and a great paint job make this a lovely focal point. The weighbridge was admired. A lovely house on the corner, perhaps a former dispensary, has been very well maintained. The national school is a lovely little school and rainwater collectors and planters were noted here. The church is very simple and there is a stark but evocative cross in the grounds.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The tree-planting is another project that will have a very long pay-back period - giving benefit to many for decades. The herb garden is a great project. The Village Garden is a gorgeous space of very clever design. The pump looks very well indeed. Good, consistent planting in tubs was noted.

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

It is felt that you may need some assistance with this part of the competition. The planting of non-native species beside the river is really not advised. You should also be aware of the kind of bird boxes that can be maintained and those that are better not put up at all. It is suggested that you contact Carlow Co. Co.'s Environmental Awareness Officer and discuss way in which you might gain some advice. Some beautiful mature oak trees are key habitat areas for your village. The Mt Leinster Heritage Drive information board is of high quality and very interesting.

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

You mentioned two very relevant and practical examples of reuse - and great ways to avoid waste. The Tidy Towns

Unit sent out a guidance document on this category earlier in the year. It is available from www.tidytowns.ie if you didn't yet see it. This has literally dozens of project ideas which won't leave you short of other things to do to manage waste and save resources. Rainwater collectors were noted on the day.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Sincere thanks to your anti-litter team. Again, a really valuable service to the rest of the community. The Spring Clean event is an important annual event. Fair play for working all the way to Bunclody. However, the Green Feet is a great initiative - well done! Road signage was generally in good condition. The recycling centre was very neat and tidy.

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

Thank you for the detail here and the confidence with which you describe the diligent care leaves the adjudicator in no doubt that it is thus. Glasheen is very nice and a new bench was noted. Oak Lodge is a beautiful private residence and opposite it are lovely gardens.

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

Well done for the ongoing work on your verges, footpaths and roadsides. The adjudicator is aware of how much time this takes to carry out so many thanks for your efforts. The box hedging was admired. There is well maintained landscaping at the car-parking area in front of the school. The post and rail fencing here is in very good condition.

The new footpath is going to be a 'game-changer' for your village and will greatly enhance safety for your school-goers and indeed older folk too. Good luck with this.

The approach road from the south is really nice with mature sycamore and oak trees, stone walls and shade.

Concluding Remarks:

This was a genuinely enjoyable visit to a charming village which is in very good hands, it would appear. Some assistance with the biodiversity aspects of your village may be useful. Again, thanks for all of your efforts.