

Tidy Towns Competition 2014

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carlanstown** Ref: **1143**
County: **Meath** Mark: **230**
Category: **B** Date(s): **23/06/2014**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	27
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	36
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	36
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	17
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	8
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	48
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	26
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	32
TOTAL MARK	450	230

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Carlanstown /Killbeg Community Development is very welcome to the 2014 Tidy Towns Competition. Many thanks for your comprehensive, clear and well written submission and laminated map which both proved very useful on the day! It was astonishing to read that your population had increased by 85% in the 2011 census! It is good to hear that you are connecting with the new arrivals in your community and involving them in your work. The fortnightly meetings obviously result in a very organised group initiative. The festive events are a great idea for fostering community spirit. The community plan and its organisation are impressive-it was good that you cross referenced with both the County Development Plan and Local Area Plan. Your work with the local football club was also noted and appreciated. You appear to have a strong relationship with local businesses and residents, Meath County Council, Muintir na Tire and the Meath Partnership. The participation in the workshop organised by Meath County Council for centres interested in being involved in the competition is applauded. Having a dedicated public relations officer is certainly a first for this adjudicator! This must be very helpful in relation to communication with local residents etc. The community park and playground both sound like marvellous projects and we wish you luck in this regard, particularly on relocation of the playground. The use of social media and the internet to promote your work is certainly the way forward. The fact that you thank the local community for their work each year is a thoughtful touch. You also appear to have forged strong links with the school and Foroige. We are delighted that you feel your participation in the competition has benefited the village. The participation in the pride of place competition is to be applauded. We greatly look forward to seeing your perimeter walk in years to come.

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

The various public and commercial building of the village looked well cared for on the day. The national school and grounds were very well maintained and looked well. The Good Fortune takeaway restaurant at the crossroads looked fine but could be freshened up before next year's competition. The Gala shop looked well and quite smart. The marvellous mature trees and houses that form the wide Main Street looked quite marvellous and make a positive impact. J Kieran's looked especially fresh on the day. Encourage the replacement of plastic signage with ones of a more traditional timber variety, which look more appropriate. The renovation of the pump was noted, admired and has been mentioned elsewhere in this report. The new footpath and pedestrian crossing with associated wall were noted at the school.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The marvellous planted bed at the crossroads opposite the Good Fortune looked marvellous with its pretty displays of daisies etc. The village pump was simply presented with a stone wall surround. The landscaped areas on approach roads make a positive impact on reaching the village. Window boxes filled with mini pansies were noted at

the timber fencing on the Kells approach to the village. The daffodils must have looked quite magnificent in the springtime. We appreciate the planting of Whitethorn hedging as it is an indigenous variety. The Butterfly Garden is another attractive and appropriate idea.

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

The planting of the Butterfly Garden in the village centre with planting specifically to attract butterflies is a marvellous project. The incorporation of steppingstones for the children is a charming idea. The project to facilitate trout and salmon spawning is commendable and we wish you great success with it. Having a dedicated page on your website relating to the natural environment is very impressive and helps to raise awareness of this important area.

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

The participation of the local Foroige group in the annual spring clean is applauded. Attending the debriefing session given by an Taisce in order to improve your standards in this category is commendable. Including a section on your website regarding this category is good and raises awareness in this essential area. The community wheelie bins will be a great asset to the village. Your fundraising ideas are great. Recycling of mobile phones in order to purchase the defibrillator was a clever and excellent initiative. The establishment of the community shop in order to raise much needed funds by selling secondhand goods is another clever idea.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control was generally very good on the day. The Gold Medal award from the litter league competition was proudly displayed. The village was quite neat with little litter evident on the day apart from the odd paper which seem to be picked up very rapidly! The weekly litter patrols are obviously paying dividends. The weed control measures involving TUS workers are obviously working also. The numerous warning signage for dangerous bends were generally in good condition and quite fresh. The tin roofed building in the centre of the village was quite fresh but the adjacent gate should be painted before next year. The yard area and associated outbuildings and gate beside Kiernan's pub should be screened and painted.

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

The Village Green housing estate was well maintained with its large attractive open space. The old national school has been adapted to form a private residence and was well cared for. The entrance piers at Borbora Crescent seemed somewhat neglected and should be attended to before next year's competition. Participation in the Pride of Place competition is to be commended. The participation of four housing estates in the anti litter league and Pride of Place competitions is marvellous. Congratulations to all concerned.

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

Although it was quite overgrown further out the various approach roads at the outer nameplate signs, the areas between speed limits were well cared for and immaculately maintained, with nicely cut grass verges, and displays of roses and agapanthus. The Dundalk road and the Kells road were particularly admired. The new trees on their grassy bank were admired on the Mullingar road. The planting of whitethorn hedging along 500 m of wire fence on the Ardee approach is a marvellous idea as is the planting of same along the top of the banks of the Kells Road. Try to ensure you don't gild the lily in relation to overenthusiastic floral displays. Tried to strike a balance. It was good to hear your hedging had been cut at an appropriate time of year to avoid nesting times— this is most important and commendable