

Tidy Towns Competition 2023

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Myshall - Míseal** Ref: **42**
County: **Carlow** Mark: **342**
Category: **B** Date(s): **13/06/2023**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2022	Mark Awarded 2023
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	53	54
Streetscape & Public Places	80	46	47
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	43	45
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	39	40
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	19	21
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60	61
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	39	40
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	33	34
TOTAL MARK	550	332	342

Community – Your Planning and Involvement / An Pobal - Pleanáil agus Rannpháirtíocht:

Fáilte chuig Comórtas Na mBailte Slachtmhara Super Valu don bhliain 2023. Táimid buíoch daoibh as ucht na hiontrála a chur chugainn, agus guimíd gach rath ar bhúr gcuid oibre amach anseo. Adh Mór! Welcome to the 2023 Supervalu National Tidy Towns Competition Myshall Muintir Na Tíre! Your work is truly admirable and demonstrates a strong dedication to environmental stewardship and community engagement. Efforts in engaging a variety of volunteers from diverse backgrounds - new residents included - in projects has fostered inclusivity and collaboration within the village.

Utilising social media as your primary form of promotion has allowed you to adapt quickly to changing communication trends while reaching significant engagement levels. Your proactive engagement with local schools, youth clubs, and the Green Schools Committee exemplifies your dedication to engaging young people in environmental initiatives. Incorporating children's artwork in posters promoting a litter-free village is an innovative approach which encourages youth participation; furthermore, your 'Wild Child Day' during Heritage Week earned you a National Award, congratulations! Your submission was clearly out with the right amount of detail. Feel free to add in more photos after each entry if you like – before and after work best. Also see about aligning each project to the UN SDGs not just the category. Your map was very clear and made my visit very enjoyable, thank you!

Streetscape & Public Places / Sráid-Dreach & Áiteanna Poiblí:

You have shown great dedication in maintaining key local buildings such as the church, school, community center and Garda station to a high standard. But as you say the Adelaide Memorial Church is a real jewel, you are very fortunate to have such an impressive and iconic building in the village. Well done for engaging with Carlow County Council on addressing derelict buildings so as to enhance overall village aesthetics. Securing funding for conservation advice at The Church of the Holy Cross Myshall and St. Finian's Church Ruin is an impressive accomplishment, reflecting your dedication to safeguarding local heritage. All your shops were well presented and the paving was spotless. The plaque behind the Mill Wheel was very hidden, could this be exposed? As you enter your wonderful park could some of these signs be relocated as they take away from the public realm which otherwise is wonderful. Also, whilst the Shrine was immaculate, the planters were empty and hanging baskets were missing. There were lovely small heritage nuggets such as the milestone.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

Myshall Muintir Na Tíre has shown exceptional dedication and collaboration with others with regards to this category. I am in full agreement with last year's Tidy Towns Judge and you deservedly once again get high praise for your landscaping. Work conducted on the Walled Garden shows promise in its rejuvenation; as part of the works consider relocating the Historical Tree Trail sign and Orchard nameplate. Multiple reports, including Ground

Penetrating Radar Survey and Conservation Architect Report, highlight your dedication to careful planning and restoration. Continued development and enhancement is further illustrated by your completion of the Forest Trail and Remediation Works on Stream Embankments, both projects reflecting a proactive approach. Is there scope for small but impactful planters at the Water Pump? There was a wonderful selection of trees in the park, and it was my first time seeing a Korean Fir! Could the interpretative panel for St. Brigid's Well be facing it as opposed to having your back to the well whilst reading it? The oak and beech nameplates had both fallen and need fixing. The pollinator fringes in the playground and at the GAA grounds were excellent and a wonderful example of sustainable landscaping.

Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality / An Dúlra agus an Bhithéagsúlacht i do cheantar:

Your efforts have had very positive results, demonstrating a holistic and thoughtful approach to improving the environment. Joining County Carlow's "Plant a Forest for Our Community" 5-year project demonstrated your dedication to native tree planting as well as maintaining existing ones; additional planting of Snowdrops throughout Tobar Bhride, Millenium Park and New Forest Trail added delightful touches. At such times, the initiative to lift community spirit by planting Sunflower seeds from a Ukrainian Fundraising project was truly amazing. Their vibrant blooms bring joy to both villagers and visitors alike and generated an exuberance that only can come from sunflowers! Well done to Paul from your biodiversity team for his invaluable role by propagating and distributing seeds throughout their village.

Sustainability – Doing more with less / Inmharthanacht - Mórán ar an mbeagán:

The work undertaken by you in this category is commendable and you have demonstrated remarkable commitment to education and sustainability within the locality. The "free book scheme," available to both Primary Schools and secondary school pupils who cannot access rental schemes, shows a commitment to expanding learning opportunities for all their pupils. Collaborating with Myshall Community Centre Committee to store books and promote use of a "Free Library" is another effective means of increasing accessibility to reading materials. Great to see the collaboration with the SEAI in conducting an energy audit and install energy-efficient LED lights and a more energy efficient heating system. These initiatives showcase the community's positive influence on education and sustainability. Keep up the great work in this category and don't forget to touch base with your local Environmental Awareness Officer or seek inspiration from the Special Awards and other entrants Adjudication Reports.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

You will be happy to know that Myshall was litter free on the day of adjudication – well done to all involved. Your efforts in combatting dog fouling and litter have been commendable and have no doubt led to considerable improvements in the village. Implementation of new signs allowing dogs on leads while emphasising responsible waste disposal has, no doubt, yielded positive results, thanks to collaboration between G.A.A. and others. This exemplifies effective teamwork and problem-solving. Engaging with Carlow County Council on their 'Butt Out' campaign highlights your proactive stance in combatting cigarette butt litter. One minor issue I noted on the day, as well as those outlined in Green Spaces & Landscaping, was the need to freshen up your Pride of Place sign on arrival to Myshall.⁶¹

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

Don't worry about having new projects every year for each category, maintenance is just as important. This is exemplified in 'The Meadows' winning the prestigious "Best small estate" award during Carlow's Pride of Place competition. As you outline, this success not only inspired residents of 'The Meadows' to continue their commendable efforts but also encouraged other groups, like Wild Child, to get involved with community projects. One small issue was noted at St. Oliver's Crescent and that was to ensure the planting did not mask the nameplate, otherwise all homes were presented to very high standards.

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

Your efforts in accessing the Town & Village Renewal Scheme have had a great impact, particularly with the successful installation of a new path on Croppy Road that benefits users of the G.A.A. Pavilion. Future plans to replace Leylandii trees with native species align with the village's Biodiversity plan and demonstrate a commitment to ecological preservation along approach roads. Well done on cleaning signs following last years Adjudication Report.

Concluding Remarks:

Myshall has shown remarkable initiative, thoughtful planning and positive impacts on community well-being and environment - well done!