

# Tidy Towns Competition 2023

## Adjudication Report

Centre: <b>Bawnboy - An Bábhún Buí</b>	Ref: <b>50</b>
County: <b>Cavan</b>	Mark: <b>268</b>
Category: <b>A</b>	Date(s): <b>13/07/2023</b>

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2022</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2023</b>
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	34	36
Streetscape & Public Places	80	34	35
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	35	36
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	20	22
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	14	15
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	59	60
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	32	32
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	31	32
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>268</b>

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

Failte chuig Comortas Na mBailte Slachtmhara Super Valu don bhliain 2023. Taimid buíoch daoibh as ucht na hiontrala a chur chugainn, agus guimid gach rath ar bhur gcuid oibre amach anseo. Adh Mor. Welcome to the 2023 SuperValu Tidy Towns competition. We are delighted you put a short-term plan together after reading last years report and you have a long-term plan up to the end of 2026. You host regular meetings with the community and the entire village is involved in litter pickups, cleaning and weed management. All age groups are involved and you welcome the assistance of the Ukrainian community. You have strong links with Templeport Development Committee, with the teachers and students in both schools and the newly formed Parish Council Green Team works alongside the Tidy Towns Committee. Congratulations on your Guardians of the Land float in the St. Patricks Day Parade which took first prize for the Local Youth Club. We are not surprised judging by the photographs. That's a wonderful creation and raising their concerns for the environment. Your main project this year was the Well-being Garden which was completed by the students in St. Mogue's Secondary School in liaison with the local community. This is incredible work consisting of a woodland, small orchard, a hedgerow, flowering shrubbery, a designated no-mow area, a wildflower area and boxes for flowers and bulbs. We applaud the help of local Garden centre proprietor, Landscaper and the herbalist. The garden caters for all 5 senses and herbs and fruit were planted for the birds, bees and insects. Rainwater is harvested on site to water the containers and TY students handcrafted the boxes from recycled timber. The signage is absolutely beautiful, 'to plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow'. How fitting a tribute to everyone involved. The current committee have been involved for the last 6 years and lots of work has been completed to enhance the village, more and more people are coming onboard and the involvement of Ukrainian families has helped them settle and become part of the community. We found the map provided hard to use – just highlight the main buildings in the town on one page only, along with (N) and (M) projects identified in different colours if possible.

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

The village has a striking workhouse which we read awaits improvement works albeit if funding is successful. You are also awaiting funding for seating, bins, tables, plants, bicycle rack and mural which would be a great addition to the village. St. Aidan's GAA and Templeport Playground were maintained well. The community garden looked extremely well and we were met by some charming bees and ladybirds on our visit. Fencing, bug hotels and benches look smart. We were astonished by the interiors and we found this Geopark information brilliant. Well done on wall maintenance and painting jobs. We wish you well with upgrades to the petrol pumps and the footpaths. A special thank you to the school parents who carried out painting of the boundary wall. Bus shelter was spotless. By our very nature we are always drawn to stone bridges and rivers for their visual attraction. Of course, they are vulnerable to alteration at times by vehicles so we are delighted it is back in good shape again. Many premises are

presented well: The Keepers Arms, The Rocks of Bawn Siopa, St. Aidan's National School, St. Mogue's Secondary school and the church grounds. We admired the outdoor space at the shop. Many containers brighten up smaller spaces and create focal points in larger areas. White gate at Post office would be a nice feature with maintenance.

### **Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:**

As mentioned earlier the Well-being Garden took a massive amount of effort this year and is just completed. The children at the primary school planted a new hedge and vegetables and fruits from their polytunnel. In their new flowerbeds they planted flowers and bulbs. Best of luck with your autumnal bulb planting project later in the year. We noticed the stake attached to the Hope and Remembrance Tree is rubbing against the main stem and may cause damage.

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

With the help of a local ecologist a Biodiversity plan has been created for the church and graveyard and areas in the community garden. A feasibility study has also been completed on the habitats of birds, pollinators, flowers and plants that occupy the river, buildings and hedgerows in the village. Already the trail cameras are capturing the specialist birds of the stony stream habitat; dippers, grey wagtail, pied wagtail, kingfisher and mallard ducks. Several birds of conservation are nesting in the area including the swifts and spotted flycatcher. An experiment in cob boxes for solitary bees was carried out with the kind co-operation of members of the community. As part of the UNESCO initiative a group of young people took part in a beetle and bug hunt organized by the committee. We commend everybody involved with maintenance especially the CE workers and the TY students. It is great to see the students are brought on board many projects.

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

A vote of thanks to the committee the use of resources more efficiently with rain harvesting, new seat and flower pots & containers made from recycled materials. The national school children participated in a number of initiatives such as national Tree Week, World Earth Day and Day of action around travel. We thank you for your ongoing efforts.

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

Our appreciation is offered to all volunteers for litter picking activities. Your photographs show very well the support you have for this activity. On our visit we were impressed by the neatness of the village and there was no litter to be seen. In the primary school, lessons are taught on environmental awareness and they were rewarded for their success in the Green's School project winning a prize fund of 500. Sponsoring a sign promoting litter awareness is a great idea and we look forward to the children's art work next year.

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

Floral displays were a feature of many houses in the village. We hope you will be able to encourage residents to incorporate biodiversity into their landscaping. We acknowledge your assistance with vulnerable householders in the village with maintenance. We are sure they are very grateful of help.

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

Roadside verges and shrubs and flowers beds are maintained by CE workers. Weed and litter control is very good. Flower bed at 60 km safety sign across from Workhouse could have more pollinator perennials added and the fence needs painting. All signage was clean. Great work.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

We are delighted to have your entry this year and we were very impressed by the projects you achieved. Your hard work makes a difference and you are helping address real changes across the community. Continued success.