

# Tidy Towns Competition 2023

## Adjudication Report

Centre: <b>Blacklion - Learga</b>	Ref: <b>955</b>
County: <b>Cavan</b>	Mark: <b>273</b>
Category: <b>A</b>	Date(s): <b>13/07/2023</b>

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2022	Mark Awarded 2023
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	35	36
Streetscape & Public Places	80	36	37
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	36	37
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	25	26
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	14	14
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	52	53
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	34	35
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	34	35
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>273</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. Great to see Scoil Naomh Padraig, Shannon Gaels GAA Football Club and local residents help make a noteworthy contribution to the village. The committee of seven and four volunteers is supported by Killinagh Community Council whom you liaise with on a regular basis. Cavan County Council, Inland Fisheries, The GAA and the Cavan Burren Park are all on hand for funding, advice, support and sponsorship. The committee has strong links with the national school and two of your members raised the Green Flag at the end of the school term in 2022. Your main project this year was the erection of fencing on the Florencecourt road and tarmac footpath leading to the GAA park. Well done on the works completed. It is a great job and will enable safe access between the pitch and village. This is your 9th year participating and your involvement spreads awareness of the benefits of being involved in the competition. We encourage you to keep up the good work.

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

The Market House is impressive and well cared for with nice flower pots and benches and good information boards detailing the community's identity. All trails are well signposted. Fine stone walls feature on many streets. Forecourt of the Go filling station is well presented. The Dugout and Neven Maguires are all looking very well. Some older shop fronts F. Maguire, Johnston and Mc Govern's add to the uniqueness of the townscape. An Bonnan Bui Way has been repurposed for members of the Ukrainian community. They have helped by painting the front of the building and maintained the shrub beds adjacent to their homes. Nearby the area known as the Fairgreen awaits the go ahead for development as a Community Hall, outdoor area and office space. This will be a much-needed space for the community so we hope funding is successful. We noticed a few unoccupied houses and you are working with the owners and have had some positive responses.

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

We enjoyed a walk of Cathal Bui Trail by the river and we note the apple trees and sunflowers. Native tree planting is one of the best ways to maximise the benefits for wildlife so look for more opportunities. Plant containers were very attractive but rely on many annuals for colour. Is there scope for more all-year-round pollinator friendly choices. Achieving sustainable planting is a notable goal. Are there any initiatives for spring bulb planting i.e., crocus, grape hyacinths or alliums. Credit is due to everyone for a good standard of maintenance

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

The aim here is to understand how valuable our habitats are and how we can conserve, improve or protect biodiversity in the locality. Your provision of nest boxes along the river is admired and remember to monitor for activity over the coming year. We applaud the Inland Fisheries and the GAA who help you with clean-ups. Are there any river surveys completed for bats or birds? Once again, we congratulate the children on their Green Flag achievement. Please keep us updated on their progress. Lough Mac Nean was busy with water lovers and a great amenity for community engagement. We note the water safety classes the previous week. Facilities here include toilets, playground, picnic area, outdoor adult gym and jetty. All was spotless. They are good opportunities to survey the wildlife in this area or perhaps host a biodiversity walk or talk.

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

You have continued to promote recycling with the school children and the wider community. This category is all about hosting training events, learning, walks, talks and changing people's behaviour and attitudes. Good examples are forming a community garden, eat locally produced food, carpooling, slow fashion, push for E charger point in village etc. Check out <https://tidytowns.ie> for more ideas.

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

We applaud the CE worker, Cavan County Council and all the volunteers for ongoing street cleaning, litter picking and participation in the Green Kilometre. Litter was well controlled. Some weed growth was visible along the paved paths and we understand this is difficult to manage. The Bring Bank was neat and tidy. Good result.

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

Rockview estate and Glangevlin road are all maintained to a good standard and this is encouraging for the entire community. It is obvious many dwellings make a great effort and take pride in their areas and we thank everyone who assists you with your TT activities.

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

Nameplates and green areas achieve a good standard. Finished works on the Florencecourt road enhance the street.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

It was a pleasure to adjudicate in Blacklion and your performance in the last nine years is superb. Thanks again for all your hard work and support.