

# Tidy Towns Competition 2023

## Adjudication Report

Centre: <b>Kilnaleck - Cill na Leice</b>	Ref: <b>1005</b>
County: <b>Cavan</b>	Mark: <b>303</b>
Category: <b>B</b>	Date(s): <b>13/07/2023</b>

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2022	Mark Awarded 2023
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	45	46
Streetscape & Public Places	80	38	39
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	39	40
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	24	25
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	24	25
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	57	58
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	34	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	35	36
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>303</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. Thank you once again for taking time out to join us in the 2023 SuperValu Tidy Towns competition. We are delighted to receive your entry, map, photographs and your 3-year plan. You have a great team of volunteers and committee members and you communicate via Newspapers, Newsletters, meetings and several digital platforms. A great list of agencies, government bodies and businesses support your endeavours and all local organisations work together to promote the local area. You find face to face meetings a useful technique as it allows the group to share your messages clearly, builds camaraderie more efficiently and really encourages engagement, feedback and participation in activities. We are pleased to hear your CE workers, Pascal and Vladimir, are so keen to help out and show a particular interest in biodiversity and sustainability. It is also great to hear Junior Tidy Towns members are developing an interest in their local environment and they inspire creative ideas and enable the group to reach its goals. Your main project this year was maintenance of the walkaways, footpaths and pedestrian cross connecting the 5k loop. It does look in great condition and no doubt appreciated by the local community. Since 2014, the whole community has rallied around Kilnaleck TT through their time, effort and commitment- this has given the community a new sense of pride and purpose. And, of course, we too thank you for your dedication. Great work everyone.

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

We note your town has benefited from the Town and Village Revitalisation Scheme and improvements of paths etc really enhance the town. Many buildings are looking very well; O'Reillys, Vintage Bar, The Chick Inn, The Copper, Kiernans, Suil Eile and Mc Daid's to name a few. Some need attention but this project is ongoing. Upgrades to footpaths and the pedestrian crossing will increase pedestrian safety. The 5k loop is a vital public space and provides a safe zone for walkers. Safety signage and name plate on L3002 could do with maintenance. Realtog Centre is nicely presented. Two listed buildings, Boylan's and the Arcade are well maintained. Crosserlough GAA provides well managed facilities and environments for everyone. St. Patricks National School looks very well. Playground needs a little attention and Clar funding is noted for improvements. Mens Shed continues to flourish and we hope the Hen shed will be up and running in the near future. We were impressed with the old sayings and the pride in the Irish tradition and language displayed around the town. We acknowledge the Kilnaleck Cupla Focal Club who meet regularly in the Café Pobal – Suil Eile. Derelict buildings have been upgraded to house International Protection Asylum Refugees. Wall murals & art sculpture are nice touches.

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

Large and small green spaces are managed to a good standard. Window boxes and containers throughout are

fantastic. More perennials could be added to the welcome signage along with the catmint for more pollinator friendly planting on the R154. Nice bed of roses on church road. Tree guards around the town are well maintained – green shoots on the variegated maples are much more vigorous and should be pruned out completely or cut back into wood containing variegated foliage. The landscaped flowerbed is progressing very well but some shrubs may need to be replaced and new ones added for more colour and landscape fabric covered up in places. Well done to local landscaper Shane for his help. The polytunnel is a credit to everybody involved. We note your commitment to planting native and to adding more spring bulbs in 2024. Your efforts are great to see. Follow advice on bulb planting at <https://pollinators.ie> as tulips and daffodils are poor for pollinators. Bluebells planned will be brilliant. We appreciate the time and effort it takes to uphold these standards and we thank the CE workers.

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

Strong links with Kilnaleck NS, Drumkilly NS and Crosserlough NS auger well for the town. Congratulations on funding for the Biodiversity Trail. Actions like signage are good initiatives to highlight the importance of Biodiversity areas and more help will be available at your local Environmental office. Leaf mould collection, community orchard, polytunnel, biodiversity garden and wildlife cameras are favourably noted. Please let us know what birds have been viewed and keep us updated on the Green Flags. We note your participation in the St. Patricks Day Parade promoting your theme 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle'.

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

SDGs are a crucial part of this competition and you have mentioned over 20 projects ongoing with great examples like the FREEBOX initiative to exchange seeds, Christmas market, and participation in the town's health & well-being initiative, Operation Keep Well in January. All these events spread the word about sustainable and resilient communities and we look forward to hearing about new projects in this category. Check out [www.sustainabletoolkit.ie](http://www.sustainabletoolkit.ie) to learn more about the work you can do locally.

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

Litter control was very good with just a few items in the playground. Weed growth was minimal too, just in spots so well done. We applaud the school children, local residents and all the volunteers in their continued participation in the Annual Spring Clean. We acknowledge the support of your local county council with regular litter patrols, road sweeping and help with illegal dumping. You seem to be on top of dog fouling and the new bins are a great addition. The provision of tools for residents is appreciated. Bring Bank was presentable. Keep up all your initiatives and promotions in this category.

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

The residents on the Green, Cul na Lana and Sheelin Close all work to maintain green areas and plant trees and flowers. Awards like best vegetable garden or bee friendly patch would help keep residents motivated and make good projects. A good working relationship is evident and we are delighted you can call on them for support.

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

Well done on the new footpath, road surface and street lighting. Green grass areas and flower beds are all presented well. Pumps will look good when they get their new coat of paint this year. A new hall roof will be a great addition to the Handball alley so don't forget to include the pictures in next year's application. Christmas novelty creations crafted by the Men's shed look fantastic. Thanks for all the lovely photographs.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

Town painting has really refreshed the streetscape and we look forward to more transformations. The new Biodiversity Trail is an exciting new project and good to see the focus on nature. Wet weather this summer season must have made maintenance more difficult so once again we commend the residents of Kilnaleck for the hours of work involved. Best of luck in 2024.