

Tidy Towns Competition 2023

Adjudication Report

Centre: Carrigallen - Carraig Álainn	Ref: 424
County: Leitrim	Mark: 299
Category: B	Date(s): 14/07/2023

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2022	Mark Awarded 2023
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	39	40
Streetscape & Public Places	80	40	41
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	41	42
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	30	31
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	20	21
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	57	58
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	33	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	31	32
TOTAL MARK	550	291	299

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 competition. Thank you for your application form, map and lovely photographs. You have 25 on your committee with a mix of ages and backgrounds providing a good perspective. At least 30 people lend a hand during the busy season and you are delighted many Ukrainians are keen to join in. Meetings are now back to normal and you receive support from a number of organisations listed in your application. Communicating your activities through items in the Parish newsletter, Leitrim Observer, Facebook, WhatsApp, emails and word of mouth regarding what needs to be done. We commend your group for involving the younger generation in creating your future. Your main project this year was the upgrade of the railings overlooking the lake and maintenance of the overgrown bank. This is the perfect spot to view the lake and looks magnificent. Tourist information is now in place. Your involvement over the last 25 years has brought the community together in your efforts to ensure the town is well presented and you are the driving force each year setting goals and making improvements. Consider demonstrating which SDG goals your projects and actions meet. Keep up the great work.

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

Carrickallen is a busy rural setting but it still has a village feel. This lakeshore setting is popular with tourists especially anglers. We loved the use of vibrant colours to enhance the streetscape with many floral containers dressing entrance signs, mill wheels, window boxes, pink & blue bicycles, businesses and street corner stones. This was complimented by colourful murals on many service boxes. We admired the lantern style lighting. The Community Centre and car park are well maintained. The memorial garden has been landscaped for pollinators. It is evident that many private dwellings and businesses were painted recently and look very well. Scoil Mhuire Naofa has nice tiered planters. Grotto and church area were cleaned and ivy removed. GAA looks well. Church Of Ireland is well presented. The lakeside carpark, benches, fencing and the newly installed tourist board are all looking super. Failte go Carraig Alainn has been painted at the corner of the stone wall by one of the Ukrainian residents. We note application made for lighting to Bredagh Barley Field playground, funding for Biodiversity signage at Mohill road and your continued efforts with the local authority to replace some signs which are damaged. We congratulate the residents for Pride of Place in the Community Garden and commend them on tree planting. Plenty of small walkways add interest to the village. We are delighted you had a visit from the Rose of Tralee - Margarets cottage in Tully. We applaud the CES workers and Leitrim County Council for all their maintenance and improvement works carried out this year.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The village has managed to maintain all green areas to a good standard. Our appreciation is offered to the RSS and to local residents who prune trees and shrubs in many areas throughout the year. Daffodil bulbs are also in abundance in spring. Consider bee friendly bulbs like crocus in planting schemes next time around.

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

As mentioned earlier, the committee have applied for funding for various projects to fulfil the community plan. We acknowledge the promotion of wildlife habitats with bug hotels at the lake and off main street at Barrack Well. Areas had wildflowers added and we wish you good weather for the upcoming bat survey. Keep us updated of what actions have been taken to control Knotweed. Have any birds taken up residence in bird boxes? We commend the TT group on bringing more awareness to the community by sharing information from both Biodiversity Ireland and the Heritage council. We thank your members for attending events for Biodiversity week held by Leitrim County Council.

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

You list over 20 recycling activities that the group maintains which range from school diners, grow kits to clothes cobbler and sustainable travel. We appreciate your WhatsApp group set up to assist the Ukrainian residents. Can you keep us up to date on what Green Flag the schools are working towards. We are amazed by the colourful containers they created for displays around the town. For more ideas check out <https://www.sustainabletoolkit.ie>.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Well done on securing the solar bin from Leitrim County Council. You have a co ordinated approach to litter with daily picks on all approach roads and you liaise with publicans regarding cigarette butts. An anti-litter competition was organised in the National School to bring awareness of the effects of litter on the environment. The Vocational school have also got involved in a weekly pick on the Mohill road. The Recycling bank was in good order with appropriate signage at the facility. You continue to work with the council regarding surplus poles and the position of the Blue Carrigallen signs. This year's annual clean up was a great success with An Taisce selecting Carrigallen for a promotional campaign with a write up in the local papers. Litter bin was secured for the lake area and signage. Dog fouling bins are a welcome addition.

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

We are delighted to hear the 'adopt a road' philosophy really works for the residents. You have many houses and buildings of historical importance which are well maintained with traditional shopfronts and signage. Many areas have green spaces and strips left for biodiversity.

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

Wildlife hedges along many approaches and grass verges are managed appropriately. All welcome signage is nicely landscaped, clean and tidy. It is clear the RSS workers have put in many hours of fantastic work to make the environment very attractive. It is truly a fantastic team effort. Once again, thanks for all the lovely photographs.

Concluding Remarks:

You are working hard for the community of Carrickallen and the group is adopting a continuous improvement approach. It is hard to come up with the goods year in year out but there seems to be no end to what this group can achieve and you believe feedback is an important component of effective learning and we believe this to be very true. We wish you all the best for 2024.