

Tidy Towns Competition 2023

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Fenagh - Fionach** Ref: **429**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **326**
Category: **A** Date(s): **14/07/2023**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2022	Mark Awarded 2023
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	46	48
Streetscape & Public Places	80	41	42
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	40	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	27	28
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	23	24
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	63	64
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	34	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	44	45
TOTAL MARK	550	318	326

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 SuperValu Tidy Towns competition 2023. Thank you for your entry, map and photographs. You have 6 committee members and 4 volunteers and we congratulate the group on your involvement over the past 17 years - a fantastic achievement. You list a great network of businesses, organisations and agencies that provide sponsorship, advise and funding. You make good use of the Leitrim observer, church bulletins, social media, flyers and word of mouth to advertise your activities. It is good to note new residents attended your weekly work sessions which is always a great boost. We commend your work with Junior Tidy Towns led by the school Deputy and we are inspired by the creations in the photographs they displayed for Halloween, Christmas and the St. Patricks Day Parade. They also planted sunflowers and are taking part in a Photo Calendar Competition with the theme of 'Fenagh flora and fauna'. We look forward to the Calendar in 2024 and wish you well with the photography workshop. We are delighted to hear that your experience in the competition has encouraged people to take pride in their local area. Your main project this year was the creation of a wildflower patch at the corner junction with Failte greeting attached and the red boat received a makeover. Both looked absolutely fantastic and well impress as you enter the village. Super work by everyone involved and a special mention to the Junior Tidy Towns for their dedication and commitment to enhance the village. We acknowledge your reference to the SGG's in your application.

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

It is a pity unfinished housing estates have not been completed but some improvements have been made and the children have dressed up the fencing with plenty of interesting murals which is a lovely idea. The village is undergoing waterwork upgrades this summer and we understand it is even harder to keep the village looking good. Furthermore, two of your public houses have closed which is another setback. We acknowledge your efforts to reinstate the old telephone box and hopefully it can be installed in the near future. You are lucky to have some unique heritage buildings and we are delighted the OPW are building a walkway to the old Abbey by the national school which will allow for safe pedestrian access. We wish you well in your efforts for the Abbey Trails project and we commend you on the funding secured for drone footage of the village and historical sites which will develop the historical offering further. Many thanks to your volunteer Karin for her time and knowledge shared in the popular weekend walking tours - great dedication. It is good to hear you are working towards historical signage and murals and we look forward to the creations in the coming years. The horse-cart received new wheels and was refurbished and was looking amazing. We note the Milestone and their historical importance at Fenaghbeg. Great work by everyone and especially the RSS crew for all their maintenance carried out throughout the year.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

Pops of colour at various locations are very impressive – the red boat and hand painted welcome, red pump and matching container with red fuchsia hedge, displays of pink roses, climbers and shrubbery, the horse-cart, milk drum and matching blue & green decked planters teaming with nasturtiums, heuchera and geraniums and vibrant coloured seating and containers on the Ballinamore road are all super inviting and really contribute to the feel of the village. The wooden fence has received a painting and is the perfect location for the upcycled bicycle. We cannot wait to see the children's murals and future projects at the Vegetable Patch on our next visit. Fences on the Cloone road and in front of Abbey Bar are well presented. We acknowledge the efforts put into winter bulb planting and the expert advice sought. Great work all over has been put into maintenance, creating great aesthetics. Good job.

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

Congratulations on your conservation project regarding swifts, swallows and house martins. We noted the new swift nests and keep us updated on their progress. Well done on engaging with Eanna Ni Lamhna last summer in the 'Love where you live' competition and we are delighted you achieved the runner up in 'Cleaner and Greener' category following her visit. Your interest in habitat restoration and your wildflower areas and insect hotels does not go unnoticed in this category. We hope your junior members get the weather to carry out the butterfly survey and with so many biodiversity areas now in the village there is opportunity to identify wildflowers native to the locality using the Wildflowers of Ireland website. Well done on your biodiversity training to learn about wildlife and future activities regarding 'Actions for Pollinators, Viewing Hut over Lough Reane and the Community Greenhouse are noted. Wildlife panel by the river on the Cloone road looks very good.

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

We appreciate your efforts to promote local walks and cycle routes to raise awareness about sustainable transport. These positive initiatives include walking groups, buggy walks and photo groups, all noteworthy. Fenaghs water harvesting, crisp recycling, paint reuse, recycling everyday materials, book swap, willow workshop and LED lighting are just some of the projects maintained in this category. Funding for E-charging points and recycling workshops would be welcome for the community. The sharing of green issues and initiatives on social media is very effective as is attending information days.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Presentation is very good, a sign of organised litter picks. We acknowledge your involvement in an Taisce Spring Clean Campaign to highlight the issues. We are happy you have residents who assist regularly in the collections as well as Junior Tidy Towns and the local Faroige group. We thank everyone for their continued support in weed and litter control. Great teamwork.

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

A good standard of maintenance is achieved in many residential areas. Area names look nice and create a good first impression. A vote of thanks to the residents at the back of the Visitor Centre for planting the rockery. We recognise your efforts to liaise with Leitrim County Council regarding unfinished developments and the CCTV on the Ballinamore road should help with illegal dumping.

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

Congratulations on all the practical work done on all approach roads and the picnic area at the top of Ballinamore approach road shows great future potential. The new footpath is visually appealing and provides safe linkage to the village and we hope the proposed Greenway linkup becomes a reality sooner rather than later.

Concluding Remarks:

We would like to commend the great work realised during the year and wish you a speedy completion of the water upgrade. We look forward to the new walkway and the proposed Abbey trails in the coming years. Keep up the great work.