

Tidy Towns Competition 2023

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kinlough - Cionn Locha** Ref: **433**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **311**
Category: **C** Date(s): **13/06/2023**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2022	Mark Awarded 2023
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	45	46
Streetscape & Public Places	80	40	41
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	40	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	28	30
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	19	19
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	62	63
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	37	37
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	33	34
TOTAL MARK	550	304	311

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

Fáilte chuig Comórtas Na mBailte Slachtmhara Super Valu don bhliain 2023. Táimid buíoch daoibh as ucht na hiontrála a chur chugainn, agus guimíd gach rath ar bhúr gcuid oibre amach anseo. Adh Mór....

Your regular meetings and committees demonstrate the Kinlough Tidy Towns committee's commitment to the competition. You have developed collaborative relationships with a broad range of organisations, including the NPWS, Local Development Company and County Council, and you have the support of Rural Social Scheme workers. Kinlough Tidy Towns has built relationships with the National School and preschools through art competitions. Please include more information about the competitions in next year's entry form. The adjudicator would like to encourage you to update your Facebook on a more regular bases. Perhaps you could find a new volunteer to look after. The Tree planting at the Gubacreeny/Bundoran junction has enhanced the area. You have been entering the competition for 17 years, which has helped improve appearance of the community and it has helped to develop a sense of pride in the community Your map was excellent and made it easy for the adjudicator to view your projects. Well done for including the sustainable development goals in your application form.

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

It is good to hear that you have been attempting to tackle the issue of the derelict site. Dereliction is a challenging issue for the community, but it is good to see that Kinlough tidy towns is taking positive action The work that you have done in trying to get improvements to the HSE site is noted by the adjudicator. More information in this section next year would be welcomed by the adjudicator. For example, is, the Tidy Towns group involved in the uptake of public buildings such as the church and community centres. The old graveyard and church opposite the eco-park do not have any name signage. Have you considered developing some signage for the building? The childcare facility on the main street was very well presented.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The planting in Main Street and Barrack Street enhances the streetscape by adding colour. Have you considered adding some wildlife-friendly plants to your landscape? Pollinators.ie is an excellent resource with some suggestions for pollinator-friendly planting. Your flower colourful flower beds and road junctions helped to develop a strong sense of place. The adjudicator could not enter the community garden as it was closed for construction. From the gate, the planting looked very well done, and using the perennial poppy brought colour to the area. The teacup outside the community centre was an unusual planter. The use of bold block colour planting by the Grotto is an excellent feature of the town, have you considered expanding its use.

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

The eco-park and playground are excellent resources for the whole community. It is a great place to go and relax and enjoy nature. The ongoing liaison with the adjudicator notes the county council about removing Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam. It is a challenging multi-year project to control invasive species. Have you considered running an information program about invasive species in the parish to highlight how to identify and then eradicate them.

The adjudicator did spot some Japanese Knotweed on the Rossinver side of Oak Grove tree planting can enhance a community for many years to come, and your promotion of the Hazel tree will benefit the environment around the town. The continuation of the Sunflowers for Ukraine project will benefit wildlife and help to raise awareness of the war in Ukraine. Your biodiversity plan and the training series that you sponsored from Leitrim County Council will raise the profile of Biodiversity in your community.

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

The community garden is an excellent sustainability resource for Kinlough Tidy Towns. The space will be enhanced by adding a polytunnel and raised beds. It is good to see the community garden making use of their compost. This should help to reduce the use of peat-based potting mixes in the community. The outdoor school library is an excellent initiative. Have you considered expanding it to include a section aimed at adults? Devour café is promoting the use of reusable coffee cups. It is good to hear about Kinlough's participation in creating a resilient climate community. Local voices need to be heard in the ongoing conversation about climate change. It would be welcome if you could include more information on your actions in next year's application form.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Well done on our excellent litter control. Your clean-up is a perfect way to encourage residents to participate in community litter. It is heartening to hear about a reduction in plastic waste in Kinlough. There was some litter by the bringing centre. However, these are challenging areas to maintain. More information on your activities in this category would be welcomed in next year's Tidy Towns application.

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

The residential streets and housing areas are well-kept, creating an excellent impression of the site. The entryway to Oak Grove looks well. However, the fence that it is on could do with some TLC. The Spae Brae estate was also very well presented. The Clanchy Court estate was kept well. Glenview estate has great views of the beautiful mountains, and the planting by the entryway could be refreshed. The mature shrubbery on the way into Melvin Court looks very well. Have you considered developing an initiative to encourage residents of Kinlough to take environmentally friendly actions in their gardens?

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

The well-maintained verges and neatly kept flowerbeds help to give an excellent first impression of Kinlough. The newly developed footpaths will improve pedestrian access. The blush-coloured roses enhanced the Manorhamilton approach road. Have you considered including some wildlife friendly planting in these beds. The verges are managed in a manner that is in keeping with the rural nature of the community.

Concluding Remarks:

Kinlough is a very present community that has made significant progress in protecting biodiversity.