

Tidy Towns Competition 2023

Adjudication Report

Centre: Greenan's Cross-Crois Ui Ghrianain	Ref: 2028
County: Monaghan	Mark: 280
Category: A	Date(s): 08/06/2023

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2022	Mark Awarded 2023
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	32	33
Streetscape & Public Places	80	36	37
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	38	38
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	35	35
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	16	16
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	53	54
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	29	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	36	37
TOTAL MARK	550	275	280

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.... Thank you for your application, supporting documentation and coloured-coded map which was easy to follow and indexed your village projects. The photographs accompanying your application were excellent and of great assistance to the adjudicator on the occasion. The old school is a fine venue for your meetings and you are fortunate to have an asset such as this at your disposal. It is encouraging to read that a number of newer residents have joined your committee. Working closely with your schools is also commended and the outdoor classroom and biodiversity projects are very interesting. It is obvious now that the school children are assisting you in many of the categories associated with the competition. This strong youth contact augurs well for the future and hopefully will keep young people involved in the long term. You have been successful in achieving support from your local authority and other state agencies to continue your developments. The committee networks well with a myriad of other organisations interested in the promotion of sustainable environmental projects. The list of your supporting contacts submitted makes impressive reading.

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

It is very encouraging to read that your 'ONE' specific project is the restoration of traditional boundary walls and the reinforcing of native hedgerows. Ireland has a rich heritage of building with stone that has left its mark on the landscape. Hedgerows, enclosing roadside boundaries, and individual fields abound in your environs and have a very fine quality. In many parts of Ireland, these lovely features are disappearing to facilitate new developments and to cater for strip grazing farming methods. Well done on this well considered initiative. Regeneration at the old school is a significant project and makes an important intervention in the village centre. The painting of village buildings, including the Community Centre and the derelict house, were worthwhile undertakings and make a significant visual improvement.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

Your programme in this category continues to expand. You now maintain a large amount of planted interventions that are significant enhancements in the village. The planting of 150 whitethorn will be a reinforcement of the previously mentioned environs landscape and their contribution will increase as they mature. You mention in your application that you plant for different times of the year. This is a good initiative as it adds colour and freshness to the village throughout the year.

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

Organising biodiversity workshops and habitat tours for school pupils is a very commendable undertaking. You also state that the restoration of native hedgerows and traditional stone walls has been an important part of your efforts over the past number of years. These activities all contribute to strengthening biodiversity in your village and environs. They also contribute to the raising of awareness of the importance of monitoring and protecting wildlife habitats within your community.

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

The Local Link public transport service is reducing the number of individual cars on the roads. Low energy bulbs at the Community Center, the use of recycled wood and old cable reels for seating and tables at the Habitat, all contribute to a more sustainable future for the village. Communication with farmers and residents on reducing chemical spraying of weeds is a further step in this direction. The monitoring of water quality at Lake Cashlan and the production of a water survey and report by ecologist Billy Flynn will contribute further consciousness raising for a more sustainable way of life.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Spreading the burden of maintaining a litter free environment amongst residents, businesses, organizations and schools is a guaranteed way to success. Your organised clean ups and daily pick-ups are obviously achieving results, as the village was litter free on the day of adjudication. When the new hedging along the Main Road matures, it will provide welcome screening for the rather unsightly wire fencing. Repainting the Community Center and the derelict house all contribute to a nicely presented and tidy village.

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

It is encouraging to read that your residents are actively involved in the maintenance and care of their respective areas. A good standard of presentation was observed in various locations and the previously mentioned unoccupied house now looks bright and well maintained.

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

The approach roads to the village have good landscaping and neat verges and are a credit to your C.E. worker. The bilingual announcement signs have a good standard of design, an attractive black background, highlighted by gold leaf lettering and portray a welcoming appearance.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure to visit Greenan's Cross and to see first-hand the projects that your committee have undertaken. We wish you well in future endeavours.