

Tidy Towns Competition 2023

Adjudication Report

Centre: Inniskeen - Inis Caoin Deagha	Ref: 556
County: Monaghan	Mark: 332
Category: B	Date(s): 09/06/2023

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2022	Mark Awarded 2023
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	38	39
Streetscape & Public Places	80	42	43
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	46	47
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	41	42
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	19	20
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	64	65
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	36	37
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	39	39
TOTAL MARK	550	325	332

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... It was good to visit Inniskeen for the first time having heard so much about the home of the famous poet Patrick Kavanagh. Indeed, the village was bustling with a good number of visitors on the day of adjudication. Thank you for your application which included a completed entry form, village map and some helpful, colour photographs, illustrating your working groups and some of your projects. It was obvious to this adjudicator that the putting together of your application form was not a last-minute effort, but one on which you had spent a considerable time and thought. You network well and have gained valuable advice from Monaghan County Council Environmental Awareness Officer, and The Monaghan Tidy Town Network and Community Development Officer, on issues such as fundraising and project development. Your communications include the local newspaper, the Parish Bulletin, Church Newsletter and Facebook. It is clear that you are gaining from your involvement with your local Green Flag schools. We commend this contact as hopefully schoolchildren will later become committee members and continue the good work in the parish. We wish Saint Cholmcille's School success on their quest to achieve a 3rd Green Flag for Litter Initiatives and Scoil Deagha on their 4th Green Flag for Biodiversity. These important educational achievements will surely be of value to future generations and hopefully lead to discussions on environmental issues at home on an ongoing basis.

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

The Public Realm Spatial Plan prepared by The Paul Hogarth Company for the village is a very exciting undertaking and it is to be hoped that funding will be forthcoming. The central location of the attractively presented Scoil Deagha, with its interesting mural, provides a lively focal point in the village core, especially when the school yard is in use. The proposed redefinition of this central area of the village in your plan is exciting and is greatly anticipated. An array of colourful planted window boxes, hanging baskets and flower tubs was admired at various points dispersed along the street. The Patrick Kavanagh profile sculpture, mirrored at the river in Carrickmacross, is a very attractive feature and beautifully presented. The Raglan Road tearoom and Patrick Kavanagh Centre at the Church were both visited, are very attractively presented and cater for many visitors.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The 'ONE' specific project, developed at the Round Tower Graveyard, is a well-considered initiative, carried out following discussion with your Biodiversity Officer. Congratulations to the workers and volunteers on a very fine undertaking. The committee has developed a good maintenance strategy and the successful results of this ongoing work are to be seen throughout the village. The green open area beyond the bridge is very nicely presented and the

external seating and tables here brightly coloured.

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

The Inniskeen Tidy Towns committee have been very successful in obtaining and following expert advice from the MCC Environmental Officer. Local clubs and businesses have weighed in behind these efforts in sponsoring flower beds. Early plants such as crocuses, bluebells, snowdrops and snakehead fritillary are vital for hungry bumblebees after a long hibernation. The sowing of native wildflowers at the Round Tower graveyard adds colour and improves pollination in this historical area. The river walk is another wonderful amenity. With the co-operation of the Green Flag schools and local Scouts, you have planted a vast array of wildflowers and hedgerows. A sensory garden and an old water pump along the way add interest.

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

Water harvesting is high on your agenda and it is good to read that you use harvested water for your communal planted areas as much as possible. Scoil Deagha is to be commended for installing a rainwater harvesting system. This exemplary school also promotes Walk to School days, carries out cycling proficiency training for 6th class and have installed bicycle sheds to encourage children to cycle to school. It is good to read also that both schools, businesses, MaGee's Shop and local pub all segregate and recycle litter.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The committee adopts a positive approach to welcoming community involvement, by emphasising the social aspect. Co-ordination with Carrickmacross TT on the cleanup of approach roads is obviously working well also. At the recycling centre, the information sign is colourful and fresh but the storyboard facing the recycling centre is faded and needs renewal. The linear park at the pitch and putt club is beautifully presented as are the flower boxes at the bridge and the brightly coloured and fresh red seating along the river walk.

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

A number of very attractive individual townhouses were admired at the Glebe. Boundaries, including railings and hedgerows, were admired. Both St. Daigh's and Dun Ard again have a good standard of presentation and their setting should be further enhanced on the completion of the proposed public realm scheme. A number of very colourful innovative garden presentations were admired here.

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

A number of approach roads were closed for resurfacing on a day of adjudication. Indeed a kindly local assisted the adjudicator to gain access to the village. Close by the village, entry points colourful planting announcements were noted. We look forward to the completion of the road dressing on the occasion of the next visit.

Concluding Remarks:

It was obvious to this adjudicator, that the Inniskeen Tidy Towns Committee and Monaghan County Council are fully aware of the importance of the village heritage and the growing number of visitors you are now receiving. You are commended on your partnership efforts to develop, restore, preserve and enhance this heritage for future generations.