

# Tidy Towns Competition 2013

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Broadford** Ref: **359**  
County: **Kildare** Mark: **291**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **18/06/2013**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2013</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	40	41
The Built Environment	50	39	39
Landscaping	50	43	44
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	27	29
Litter Control	50	34	34
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	10	12
Tidiness	30	24	24
Residential Areas	40	30	30
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30	30
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>291</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

Broadford village forms part of a rural setting that on the day of adjudication looked splendid with cattle grazing in the surrounding fields yellow with buttercups. Well done on your application and accompanying documentation which consists of a very comprehensive water efficiency booklet, eco Board information booklet and three year plan for the village. Your hard working committee of eight are doing great work to improve the village and this is very evident as the visitor makes their way through. Engaging with local businesses and relevant agencies together with the local school will help support your committee to progress along with the realistic goals that you have set as part of your Community Action plan for the village. Thank you for the positive feedback on the Tidy Towns competition which has given encouragement to the wider community in maintaining and presenting their areas.

### The Built Environment:

The Village School which has been newly painted looked well. The clock tower adds a nice feature to the building. The green flag an indication of the schools involvement in the Green Schools Initiative was noted. The Church adjacent to the School is a fine old stone building that is well maintained. The lanterns and flowers in its surrounds adds much splendour to this building. The parish centre looked welcoming and is well maintained and conveniently situated in the village. The businesses Broadford House and Blonde Ambition were well presented. The village can also be proud of the cemeteries which are well maintained and show proof of a community that cares about its people. The park area has a nice walk with seating, and landscaping. The pathway leading to the corner stepped area needs the weed growth removed so as not to damage the surface more. The stepped corner area could be developed further perhaps some seating and flower planters would add to this splendid area.

### Landscaping:

Landscaping throughout the village was of a very high standard. There are many mature trees that frame the streets through the village. The landscaping in the picnic area has a lovely mix of all year planting and seasonal colour which looks splendid in the stone surround flower beds. This is indeed a feature throughout the village. The welcoming stones at the entrance to the village with the nice planting were admired. Groups are encouraged on the use of Irish in village nameplates. Well done on your donations received from the local Nursery's and peat supplier.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The village Eco Park is a natural haven for wildlife. The involvement of the local school in gathering information on wildlife in the area and having the information on boards and booklets is a great learning experience for the children. The Bug Hotel was well built and the adjudicator was anxious to know if there were any vacancies. The butterfly box and bird feeders were also noted. The walking areas provide plenty of opportunity to monitor the wildlife. The Eco Park sign in the tree needs to be replaced.

**Litter Control:**

The weekly clean ups for litter are working well as the village was almost litter free on the day of adjudication. The teachers and students together with the many volunteers are working to reduce the amount of litter are educating one another. On the day of adjudication a volunteer was noted picking litter and this shows continued work being done in an effort to combat litter in the village.

**Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:**

Well done to St. Marys National School on achieving their first green flag. Working with the schools will help educate the wider community on reducing waste produced in the village. The composter in the Eco Park is a useful means of using waste to provide mulch for landscaping. Resource Management in the areas of water, energy and transport can bring big savings to the community if implemented. Cycling, carpooling, using rainwater and energy more efficiently can bring about these savings. Carry out a survey on the waste produced by households, the results should identify areas where waste can be reduced. The Tidy Town's handbook offers many more suggestions on ways of reducing waste and reusing or recycling where appropriate. You are doing good work in this category do concentrate on the top of the pyramid around reducing waste.

**Tidiness:**

The village has a general tidy appearance throughout. This was spoiled somewhat by the presence of some weed growth along the kerb at the car park. The signage could do with cleaning or painting in particular the children crossing sign. Grass verges were neatly maintained. The Broadford sign over the speed limit on the left is missing and encroaching foliage is obstructing the sign on the right. The area around the clothes bank looks untidy.

**Residential Areas:**

Residential areas throughout are maintained to a high standard. A very attractive house with wooden railing to the front caught the eye at the approach from the bridge. This standard was maintained with all the residences adding colour to the streetscape with hanging baskets and window boxes. Millrace Lawns built in 1972 is a fine example of well-maintained residential area with well-presented lawns and landscaping. Well done to all involved in this category.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The approach roads had well-presented grass verges, all neatly mowed. The welcome to Broadford stone with flower surrounds looked good. The newly pruned mature trees are now producing some lovely growth. Some boundary walls were in need of freshening up. The road surfaces in front of pub were uneven. The small gate leading to the park from the Church needs painting.

**General Impression:**

Broadford is a pleasant rural village that has maintained its own unique character through its village enhancement. It has potential to progress further in the completion. Thank you for participating and you are wished continued success.