

Tidy Towns Competition 2014

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carrickboy** Ref: **477**
County: **Longford** Mark: **222**
Category: **A** Date(s): **17/06/2014**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	23
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	32
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	33
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	16
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	7
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	52
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	25
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	34
TOTAL MARK	450	222

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Carrickboy is welcomed to the 2014 Tidy Towns competition. Your participation is important to the Tidy Towns movement. Your long term commitment to the competition shows great community involvement even though your village has a small population. You're fund raising activities and liaising with the entire community is proving positive. Your application together with drawn map is concise. Having workers in the village is of tremendous assistance in such a small community. How you communicate with other member's is also very important. Do continue to involve as much as possible the youth and the local school that they attend. This is a good way of getting your message across together with the parish newsletter and the local newspaper. Social media or texting is also useful. Do try and put a plan in place for the village with projects that are achievable for your committee.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

The local shop, post office and Texaco filling station are well maintained. The Mill pub (Casey's) with the wall murals enhances the village. The stone house that forms part of the village shop is a splendid feature. The car park at the shop is enhanced by shrubs which were admired. Carrickboy is a small community that works hard to present their village to a good standard. In putting your village plan in place be sure to outline projects for each category in the competition. While your built environment is small by nature do ensure to include it in your plan.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Landscaping is of a very high standard throughout the village. The avenue of trees that line the main road were admired. There are also some superb flower beds at the entrance signs and around the shop and car park. Do consider adding more beds of shrubs or roses along the tree lined roads to add extra colour to the areas. A picnic area with seating and maybe gravelled area on the Ballymahon entrance road at the wide area would add more interest to this area. There is sufficient space to accommodate a feature here. The local authority may be able to help you with such a project.

Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fíadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádurtha:

The many stone walls and hedges form a natural habitat for wildlife in the area and there was no shortage of birds both seen and heard in the village. The wildlife sanctuary area could be further enhanced with an information board indicating the different birds and wildlife in the area. Perhaps a member of your committee may be familiar or have a good knowledge of local wildlife that could help you complete such a worthwhile project. There are areas of wall on the main road that berried hedging could be planted that could provide food for wildlife and provide colour in the winter.

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:

In this category it is important to liaise with the local school nearest to you as a lot of work is carried out under the Green Schools programme on reducing waste and the efficient use of resources such as water and energy. More savings in water costs could be addressed by the harvesting of rainwater that can be used in both the home and the garden. Car sharing and the use of public transport forms another saving in this category. Careful food management around the area of waste is just one area that could be looked at in this category. Do try and do a study in your community under any of the headings on resource management and sustainable waste.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The village is generally tidy and almost free of litter. Well done to all your workers and the community at large. Because of the structure of the village overhead wires are not a problem. Do put a plan in place on controlling litter. Start with the An Taisce National Spring Clean and continue then with regular litter patrols involving the entire community.

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

Carrickboy has well maintained houses and gardens. They are all stand alone houses with no estates. From your entry you mention that both houses and businesses look after their buildings and provide floral displays that complement both the residences and the village. Well done to such a small population coming together and presenting your village to such a high standard.

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

The approach roads to the village have nicely planted entrance signs with carefully trimmed grass verges and some stone walls and hedging. A recommendation would be to plant hedging along the concrete wall on the approach from Ballymahon and as you approach the shop there is a stone wall that could be restored. There is also part of the paling on the Edgeworthstown road in need of repair and field gates in need of painting.