

# Tidy Towns Competition 2014

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kenagh** Ref: **909**  
County: **Longford** Mark: **266**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **21/06/2014**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2014</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	39
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	39
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	36
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	24
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	12
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	53
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	29
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	34
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>266</b>

### **Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:**

Kenagh is welcomed to the 2014 Tidy Towns competition. Thank you for your entry form and map which the adjudicator found most helpful. You are an active committee of 10 that hold many fundraising events. The results of these can be seen throughout the village. Your involvement with the wider community in particular the school is important. The schools Green Programme can assist with litter control and also the sustainable waste category and other areas. You also get good support from local agencies and clubs through sponsorship and other assistance that may be required. You are also fortunate to have dedicated workers to assist you with new projects and in maintaining the village. The spelling of Kenagh is a bit confusing as the village signs are Keenagh.

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

Well done on your new playground. The location of the playground set in natural settings is applauded. It is a superb amenity for the community. Your community amenity at the canal was also visited. This provides a picnic area where the community can relax and enjoy the environment of the canal. On approach to Kenagh the Parochial Hall newly painted was admired. The well presented Church with adjacent house and grounds looks good. The school with its Green Flag and mural at the side was also noted and admired. Gav's bar and car park were well maintained. Sticky fingers and Irish Wheelchair Association looked pristine with well manicured window boxes. The Kenagh sports complex with walking route for the community had a good landscaped entrance. The Clock Tower makes a nice feature in the village centre but the roof at the back of Tower looks a bit unsightly. The village restaurant and house adjacent, looks good with colourful window boxes. Your work at the front of the thatched cottage does help to take ones eye from the roof. The cottage on canal road with railings looked superb and is a nice feature. There were many buildings, too many to mention that were well presented and brought their own character to the streetscape.

### **Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:**

The landscaped area at the bus stop looked superb as was the landscaping at the Clock Tower. The corner area with lowered wall and stone surround landscaped beds complemented the river. Kenagh is bordered by superb trees and hedging set in rolling green fields. Landscaping within the village should complement its surrounds. The new playground is a good example of keeping to a natural setting. Year round seasonal planting if recommended. This should include native trees and shrubs that provide for wildlife. Where possible, ground landscaping using this type of planting is more cost effective for groups. Containers can be used to add colour to an area and where ground planting is not possible. The use of uniform types of containers such as barrels is more effective. Containers should be places on a solid surface. You have lovely areas of ground planting and colourful tubs of flowers and troughs that enhance the village. Continue this theme of planting maintaining the natural setting of the

village.

### **Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:**

The three overall issues in respect of this category are Education, Conservation and Celebration. Groups should have a knowledge of local species and habitats and knowledge of local designated areas. This you have attained by your surveys which were read with interest. Information boards in the village are very informative to the community and visitor. Conservation is about maintenance of important wildlife areas and the implementation of survey results. Your recorded sightings were sent to the National Biodiversity Centre and this can be built on with future sightings. Communities are encouraged to host events that celebrate and raise awareness of local species and habitats. This could be a walk or tree planting day with an expert. Assistance for such a day can be obtained from the local authority. During heritage week or tree planting week is a good time to host such an event. Well done on your work in this category.

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

Well done on your resource efficiencies with the introduction of water harvesting which can be adapted by the wider community. That is one of your target areas for 2014. Waste prevention is your second area to be addressed. Reducing the amount of waste being produced by the community in the first place is one of the hardest areas for groups. Lots of community groups are interested in food and hold workshops on food waste. The average household throws away on average 700 euros of food each year so there are monetary as well as environmental savings to be made. The local authorities prevention network website have added a specific Tidy Towns page to this website providing practical tips and advice on sustainable waste and resource management. The website address is <http://localprevention.ie/tidy-towns/>. This hopefully will be of benefit to groups.

### **Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:**

The bring bank was neat and tidy on day of adjudication and its location is easier to maintain than on the outskirts of the village. On the Longford Road entrance, grass dumped along the verges looks untidy. Perhaps a community composter in this area would help. The clutter at the side of Newman's also looks untidy. Your plan on litter appears to be working well. Your regular litter patrol which presumably involves the school creates awareness among the wider community about the importance of having a litter free village.

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

The traditional houses of Kenagh blend in with the more modern developments that are now part of the village. Unoccupied houses are the norm in most towns and villages but thankfully those houses in Kenagh so far do not take from the streetscape. Houses are well presented with colourful gardens, window boxes and hanging baskets all adding a lovely splash of colour. The cottage on the canal road was admired as was Brookfield House, two very different styles of houses both displayed their own character. The housing estates that all have residents associations set up have presented the houses and entrances with nice landscaping, which is commended.

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

The Ballymahon approach road entrance sign with its nice green area and trees was admired. The canal road with its mature trees, stone walls and footpath complemented by the river made an impression on this road. The Longford road also had nicely trimmed grass verges but the cut grass dumped looks untidy.