

Tidy Towns Competition 2014

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Newmarket** Ref: **658**
County: **Cork(North)** Mark: **269**
Category: **D** Date(s): **20/06/2014**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	40
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	35
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	37
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	35
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	10
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	52
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	28
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	32
TOTAL MARK	450	269

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Many thanks for your entry in this year's Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for a very neatly completed entry form. Thank you for the map but please, in future entries, don't use Google maps, make your own and include a key on the map. It will make it much easier for next year's adjudicator! Reading last year's report, it is noted that this is not a new issue. Neither is the absence of a plan. Without this, you will struggle to improve year on year and impress on adjudication day. It's great to read that you involve the schools in your work.

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

The work is underway at the old Church of Ireland church and it is hoped that all goes well. The RC Church is immaculate and the planting was admired here, subtle but very effective. There are lots of shopfronts looking really well. The Doll House, Cronin's Bar & Butcher's and Daly's. It's great to see older shopfronts being kept well. There is one newsagent where there are stickers that the adjudicator hadn't seen for many years, great!. Scully's pub is gorgeous but in need of some care. O'Keefe's Supervalu looks well. O'C's Garage is superbly kept up and the Post Office is neat as a pin.

The County Council office were looking clean and freshly-painted. The old national school has found new uses that the adjudicator is sure the past pupils could never have dreamt of. The new national school has both a Green Flag and the Activity Flag, well done!

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

It is hoped that your weekly clean-ups of the ancient graveyard are sensitive to the old structures and the wildlife that may occur here. Your Town Park is lovely but is really in need of some additional planting. Some edge planting would be good here.

The half-tub planters on Charleville Road look really well. The planters at the Sarah Curran statue also helped this area to look welcoming. Well done to the businesses that put up and kept the hanging baskets looking so good.

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

The adjudicator regrets that your biodiversity garden wasn't visited. It wasn't marked on the map and your entry form gives no clue as to where it might be. Well done on the installation of bird boxes and bat-boxes. How did you know where to put them? Let us know how you are advised on this. Well done on the swift accommodation. This is important, protecting the summer habitats of these migratory species is a very valid action. Talk to your local

wildlife ranger about further projects. IRD might be able to support you in getting some expert assistance.

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

Well done on your anti-litter actions. However, this is not the focus of this category. Look at the information provided last year by the Tidy Towns Unit on this category for ideas and inspiration. It can be found at www.tidytowns.ie/publications.php. Go as well to the website of the local authority prevention network (LAPN) at <http://toolkit.localprevention.ie/> for community-based tips and information.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

You've reorganised your anti-litter-teams and its working well. You can be sure it is as almost no litter was seen on adjudication day. Apart from giving out vests, how do you work with the schools?

Look at the entry form again and see how many other things are included in this category. Some signage was seen to be dirty. One of the Welcome banner holders is askew. Are all of the temporary signs for IRD necessary? The recycling bins were spotless. Opposite the Sarah Curran statue, the Kerry Foods temporary sign on the very large frame should be rethought. The frame could be used for another purpose, perhaps? Welcome to Newmarket?

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

Well done for your coverage of the town and it is acknowledged that this is significant. This shouldn't be the end goal, though. Ideally, you want to have every residential area standing on its own and taking care of each estate, whether the council is or isn't involved. Ditto the Main Streets, businesses and residents must play an active role. If the team model is working well, that's great but keep up the hunt for help! Paddy Guiney Terrace looks very well. The trees are well laid out at Murphy's Place. Next time, please indicate some specific actions in some residential areas and ideally - before & after pictures too. They are a great help!

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

The church car-park was spotless. There is one dangerous drain cover here, though. The buildings next door - the old sheds are in very good condition. The 'Cross was Here' plaque was admired - and then explained by a passer-by. The kids' playground is in perfect condition. There are beautiful murals here, well done. The new pavement at West End makes a big difference. The road quality here is very good. The red and black bollards are painted very well. The Sarah Curran statue is lovely. There is an excellent information board here but these need to be kept clean.