

Tidy Towns Competition 2014

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Scartaglen** Ref: **2021**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **229**
Category: **A** Date(s): **09/06/2014**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	34
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	29
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	29
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	20
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	10
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	56
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	26
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	25
TOTAL MARK	450	229

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Thank you for the filled up entry form and support material. A also received some lovely photographs and this is appreciated, but in future you could please cut back on the photographs and only include ones of work that is done on a before and after basis. I note you have six members in your committee and you have links with other organisations in the area and the combined efforts make a big difference to locations. We are pleased to see that you are holding plenty meetings to plan ahead and monitor progress. Your efforts are supported by Kerry County Council, and this is an impressive list of cash collected from the County Councillors. Great to see you have links with the nation school. The local people are well informed of your activities. All of this means you have a very good approach to the competition.

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

This is a beautiful small rural village and I admired the memorial which is in first class condition with the high Celtic Cross and distinctive white and black colour scheme. The Texaco shop, petrol pumps and Post Office is a well organised place and looks very good, and it is also a good facility for the village. The Church is in a prominent position and is splendid; it has a good car park and landscaping, and I felt that this area could be further enhanced by the planting of a few creeping shrubs against the wall and this could also be done outside the graveyard. We admire the forge but the windows here are a bit out of place and you know this, but they are sound and secure, and I admired the old crane outside. The white Cultural Centre is beautiful and adorned with nice floral arrangements. We noticed that the blue building highlighted in last year's report is still in need of a lot of attention; we sympathise with the owners, and look forward to its repair. The three public houses are well presented as is the garage down at the cross.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The green is in great condition with neatly mown grass and a good selection of shrubs. I loved the little sculpture of Pádraig Ó Caoimh the fiddler. It has a neat enclosure with good steps up to it, but I felt that a hand railing or two could be put at the side of the steps to avoid accidents there. There are lovely shrubs and flowers in this area. During my visit there was a nice lady doing tidying up. This beautiful area needs very little intervention being a natural rural setting. The stone walls in the village centre are admired. The herbal garden is pretty situated near the recycling centre. There is a good selection of different types of mature and young trees all over the village. And the views of the countryside are splendid

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

You have exciting plans for the protection of the wildlife like the planting of more suitable trees and shrubs. I had to travel to Scartaglen to learn that whitethorn helps with pollination. We are sorry to hear that the waterways may be polluted and we all look forward to the provision of the new system to be put in the village. The signage will be helpful for us all to see and enjoy the rookery. The birds are well catered for with the bird boxes and feeders.

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

You have listed an impressive list of initiatives that you are undertaking to control the waste and recycle as much as possible with the collection of metal, clothes and mobile phones. The collection of the oil, harvesting of rainwater, reusing old ESB poles, Eircom cable rolls and so on – well done. It is great that you have these links with the school. Composting is the way forward and you know how to do it by occasionally turning it.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Again in this category you are making great progress and this is reflected in the tidiness of the village. Your efforts at the disused houses are noted, and this can be a very difficult task. I met the retired lady and had a short chat with her. The garage now looks fresh and bright, and the other areas are nicely painted notably the heritage centre. Control of weeds is good with just a few small bits near the sculpture up at the green.

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

Cnoc a Rún is a nice estate and we notice the childcare centre in great condition; there are beautiful greens in the estate, and the footpath runs nicely through the grass and keeps the lawn orderly. There are attractive private houses in the village with great displays of landscaping and the one near the school is a good example

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

The signpost at the corner near the shop has been badly damaged and you could inform the county council engineer about this. There was a build up of traffic at the school when the children were going home and it could be great if further parking could be provided there. The road surfaces are in good condition. Well done you love your place.