

Tidy Towns Competition 2016

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Fenagh** Ref: **429**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **284**
Category: **A** Date(s): **14/06/2016**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2015	Mark Awarded 2016
Community Involvement & Planning	60	39	40
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	35	36
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	34	35
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	23	23
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	16	18
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	58	58
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	30	31
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	42	43
TOTAL MARK	450	277	284

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Fenagh Development Company is indeed welcome to the 2016 Tidy Towns Competition. It was pleasing to note that you have a Facebook page and communicate well with the local community in order to explain your work. You would appear to have a good relationship with local residents and the business community. You also appear to have a good working relationship with local statutory bodies and residents of all ages from the national school to the Active Age Group. You also have a good relationship with Leitrim Tourism Alliance and other Tidy Towns Committees in the area. You also ensure that you get in contact with new residents to the village in order to make them aware of your work. The mural project at the old cottage was a lovely idea and included the local school children. The involvement of the transition year students into your work is a commendable. The commemorative calendar was a lovely idea. The Book of Fenagh Project is another fine concept. Many thanks for your completed application form, map and town plan all of which were most useful on the day.

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

We wish you luck with your restoration of the old Church of Ireland – it really is a fine building. We look forward to it being accessible to the general public. Congratulations on the work done so far particularly in relation to strimming, weeding, painting et cetera. Your work in relation to advising the Church of Ireland committee in relation to their seeking of a grant is commendable. Your work in relation to the old cottage with its landscaping and murals is commendable. Unfinished and unoccupied houses are an ongoing issue throughout the country and we do wish you luck in this regard. Hopefully the issue will be resolved in the not too distant future. We were disappointed to hear about the vandalism to signage and note that you have a been involved with replacement of same. We look forward to your work at the handball alley – this should make a very strong impact in its prominent location. Some weeds were evident to its guttering on the day and some staining to the rather large façade. Attractive stone walling is a strong feature of the village structure and was well maintained. Commercial premises of the town looked extremely well – of note being Quinn's. The marvellous visitor centre and ruined abbey and graveyard make a strong Impact. Unfortunately, the shops and off-licence at the centre of the village appeared to be abandoned. The National School was well presented on the Mohill Road.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The magnificent timber planters were noted throughout the village and looked extremely well on the day. Good luck with your work to the new picnic area on the Ballinamore approach road. We applaud your planting of trees as part of National Tree Week –these will pay dividends to future generations of residents to Fenagh. The red boat with its colourful floral display at the bridge field certainly does create an attractive focal point for the village. The traditional red village pump was very fresh and its associated rockery was admired. There were a number of incidental

landscaped spaces throughout the village centre, which made for attractive areas of interest as one walks along. The attractive in area with butter churns beside the old phone box looked quite charming, as did the area beyond this opposite the road junction.

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

Congratulations on your bird and bat box fundraising initiative. We look forward to seeing your biodiversity/habitat/ecological survey with next year's entry and wish you and the local school children good luck with the same. Your work with the local beekeeping group is commendable – no doubt the talks and demonstrations are very interesting. The selling of local honey at the visitor centre is a good idea.

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

We applaud your use of energy efficient bulbs in the visitor and community centre. Congratulations on the new more energy efficient dishwasher. The battery recycling is a good initiative. Use of your recycling and compost bins is commendable. The recycling area looked extremely well with its attractive planting. Recycling of sheets of paper for draft printing is commendable. Attendance at the Energy Awareness Day is commendable. The participation in the Keep Leitrim Lovely Coffee Cup Initiative organised by the county council is commendable. Good luck with your children's workshop in relation to the Rethink Reduce Reuse Recycle Initiative.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Congratulations on your participation in an Taisce's Spring Clean up campaign. The monthly cleanups are a good idea. Congratulations on your spraying weeds at kerbsides – hopefully you are using environmentally friendly products for this work? The scaffolding mentioned in your report did not appear to have been removed from the house on the day.

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

We applaud your work with the developers to keep construction sites and unfinished properties as tidy as possible. The removal old scaffolding from the unfinished house on the Ballinamore approach road will make a good impact in this category of the competition when it takes place. There are some magnificent houses and gardens throughout the village and along approach roads which were admired. They generally sported freshly painted boundary walls and attractive gardens. The Old Rectory B&B makes strong impact in this category of competition. It was smartly presented with a very beautiful garden.

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

We were sorry to hear that your request for a footpath on the Ballinamore approach road had not borne fruit. Hopefully this will be resolved in the not too distant future. We also look forward to the flower garden with toadstool seating and picnic bench at the top of the hill. Hopefully this will be completed for next year's competition. Work in relation to the replacement of old planters, regular litter patrols, replacement of vandalised signage, grass cutting and planting are all useful initiatives in this category of the competition. The attractive traditional sign in Irish and English was greatly admired on the Carrick on Shannon road. It would benefit from a repaint before next year's competition. The retention of the traditional telephone box in the centre of the village is commendable. The verges were well maintained on the Ballinamore road and there are some attractive mature trees overhang the roadside on this approach. A junction sign close to the village on this road seemed somewhat grubby and could do with a wash down. The Mohill road is an attractive approach into the village with its mature trees.

Concluding Remarks:

Congratulations are due to Fenagh on this the 10th anniversary of entering the competition. It continues to perform well and develop from year to year.