

Tidy Towns Competition 2016

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kinlough** Ref: **433**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **277**
Category: **B** Date(s): **18/06/2016**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2015	Mark Awarded 2016
Community Involvement & Planning	60	41	42
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	35	36
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	33	34
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	21	22
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	15	16
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	59	60
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	36	36
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	30	31
TOTAL MARK	450	270	277

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Kinlough Tidy Towns is indeed welcome to the 2016 competition. It has been a number of years since this adjudicator had the pleasure of visiting your village and it continues to impress and progress. You would appear to have a good working relationship with Leitrim county council, Leitrim Development company, the RRS and local businesses. You also appear to communicate well with the youth of the village in terms of your involvement with the primary school and Foroige. The document you included with your submission which itemises comments made in the previous year's report is very clear and informative as it shows how you have responded to these items of constructive criticism.

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

We appreciate the various items you have dealt with in this category of the competition, these include the new tourist signage, new footpath at Spa Brae, and the hoarding by the health centre. Good luck with your work in relation to the removal of the disused phone box-a real sign of the the modern times we live in! Most of the buildings in the village centre were well cared for on the day, Of particular note being the magnificent Courthouse restaurant in its prominent corner location. Gilmartin's pub and undertakers was well presented. The Dartry Centre also looked well and reasonably fresh but its gable wall will need some attention before next year's competition. Claudio's coffee shop was also admired. Do encourage the removal of plastic signage and its replacement with ones of a more traditional timber variety. There was some minor staining to Melvin's which could be attended to before next year, but, on the whole, Main Street looked extremely cheerful on the day. The post office and Classic Cuts hair salon also looked well. The small library in the old National School was also admired. The stone churches looked quite magnificent. The Garda station wall was a little grubby and could be attended to before next year..

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

This is an aspect of the competition that you obviously enjoy. Your work in relation to the ongoing maintenance of the Peace Garden in terms of tree planting and grass cutting is laudable. The flower beds at the village sign on the Bundoran Road looked extremely well as did the grassy verge in this location – it is an attractive lead into the village with its magnificent views to the backdrop of the mountains beyond. The planting of roses at the community Centre is commendable as is the planting of trees in Melvin Fields in conjunction with National Tree Week. There is scope for further development in this category of the competition. Perhaps consider some incidental spaces in the village streets that you may have overlooked before this.

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

We look forward to your action plan for next year in relation to wildlife conservation and enhancement. It is disappointing that you have no wildlife Ranger. Hopefully this will be resolved in the not too distant future. The sensory garden at the eco-park is under construction and we look forward to seeing this completed. Perhaps additional signposting could be considered in order to make the passing motorist and cyclist aware of its location? The construction of raised wheelchair accessible beds in this location is commendable. We were delighted to hear that Sunflower Montessori School planted a rowan tree during National Tree Week and created a bug hotel in their garden.

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

The Leitrim County Council reusable coffee cup campaign is certainly taking off throughout the county! All the towns and villages in the competition seem to be taking part! Congratulations on your participation in same. The re-use of fallen timber from the eco-park for lining the footpaths in the new sensory garden is a commendable project. Your ongoing annual activities such as boot sale, book rental scheme at the school, community gardens and allotments are all to the good.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The village certainly looked neat and ordered on the day. The Adopt a Bring Bank Scheme is a good idea and certainly seems to be bearing fruit. The painting of fencing and new signage at same is commendable. We were pleased to hear that the RSS workers participate in litter picking and weed control. The cleanup evenings are a good idea and we were pleased to hear that the road sweeper comes on a weekly basis. Congratulations to Sunflower Montessori for their litter picking of the Mill Road. They were also involved in a dog fouling campaign which is great to hear. The earlier children become aware of their environment the better in terms of the future of our country and indeed planet! We were pleased to hear that Melvin Gaels cycle club participated in the cleanup this year. Weeds were apparent to kerbsides near the new houses on the Manorhamilton approach. Litter was evident on the Rossiniver road close to the junction at the Main Street.

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

Individual houses and estates on approach roads and in the village centre were generally well cared for on the day. We were delighted to read of tree planting in Melvin Fields –it sported some magnificent landscaping and at its entrance area. The new houses on the Manorhamilton Road were admired-though there was staining apparent to some. Some staining was also noted to a number of gables at Spa Brae. Oakfield Manor was very well presented. Some boundary walls on the Bundoran approach appeared a little neglected.

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

We look forward to the resurfacing of the road opposite the community centre following the removal of the Eircom poles-it will make a huge difference to this roadway. The approach from Manorhamilton road is most attractive and the approach from Bundoran was extremely well maintained with magnificent grassy verges, stone planted beds and spectacular backdrop to the village .

Concluding Remarks:

Kinlough is always a pleasure to visit. It is a charming village set in some breathtakingly incomparable scenery. Congratulations on your participation in the competition for the last 12 years.