

Tidy Towns Competition 2014

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Farranfore** Ref: **1087**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **229**
Category: **A** Date(s): **06/06/2014**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	28
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	30
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	30
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	22
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	11
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	51
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	28
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	29
TOTAL MARK	450	229

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Thank you for the filled up Entry Form, map and the Multi Annual Plan plus supplementary documentation. I note you have 10 committee members and you are holding monthly meetings plus there are a large number of volunteers willing to assist your efforts. You are getting good support from the agencies and bodies that you have listed and it is pleasing to find that you receive great support and financial assistance from the local residents and businesses. The local people are well informed of your activities. The contacts with the school principal and parents association are well worthwhile and good to learn that the pupils are involved in clean ups around the school. Farranfore benefits greatly from your participation in the Tidy Towns competition as it builds up a good community spirit. This is a good approach to the competition.

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

This is a very busy village with huge volumes of traffic on the roads. The airport is nicely secluded from the main road. Sherwoods is well presented and contains a good car park to keep traffic safely in off the road. Then there is the nicely decorated furniture store. The railway has nice cut-stone structures and we see the remains of the water tower. Ahern's pharmacy and the post office have good parking spaces and excellent shops. At Herlihy's we are invited to enjoy a pint at its best and there is a quite attractive mural at this point. Across the road Centra again has excellent parking and a well kept shop. The garages have lots of cars for sale in well appointed locations. Nicely set back from the road we admire Keerry Co Op complex; it has a good recessed entrance and effective fencing at the roadside and we note that a hedge is now planted at the front. I noticed the cleanliness of the stone bridge on the Currow road, and I further found that some ivy is starting to grow on the wall and I recommend that it be removed before it becomes a problem. Sheehan's petrol station stands out in great condition. The school is splendid and they have a good play area with the tarmac ground cover, and we admired the green flag there. The Garda barracks looked supreme.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

There is nice landscaping in many areas around the village notably in the entrance to the school and GAA grounds. There are a few great stone walls locally and I liked the ones across from the Pharmacy. Attractive landscaping is on the Tralee road with well kept open spaces and out further we enjoy the purple coloured rhododendrons were oxeye daisies adorn the roadsides and remind us that they too have a role to play. Landscaping at Kerry Co Op is good. In some areas there is a natural rural setting that needs little intervention only normal maintenance. The Airport has excellent mature trees and shrubs.

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

Behind the scenes, so to speak, you are doing a lot of work as outlined in your entry which is not really noticed now but will entice much wildlife in years to come. The clearance of the ditches and the planting of hawthorn, spindle, rosa rugosa and oak trees is an obvious step in the right direction. I did not find the riverside walk and you could please highlight this with next year's entry. Knotweed is a major problem if left unchecked as it can do a lot of damage and the clearance of it is recognised.

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

The recycling area is maintained in clean and tidy fashion and we noticed some people using the facility. Waste is disposed of in a responsible fashion by Killarney Waste Disposal. The shredding of trees is applauded and as outlined the resultant compost is useful for the planting in the village. Composting is the right way forward for the householders whereby waste is not going to landfill and instead compost is available for the vegetable and flower gardens. It is recommended that workshops be organised to assist the people to become more proficient with the composting like regular turning of the material and mixing of green waste with brown such as hedge clippings, and further information of this is available from the County Council. With the school involved in the green flag initiatives the children, parents and teachers now have a better understanding of the local environment. It is delightful to listen to young children that are involved at our schools around the country telling us all about composting, growing vegetables and other conservation methods.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

We appreciate that Farranfore is a drive through village where most of the traffic is not local and this can cause extra problems when keeping the village in an orderly fashion. It is pleasing to learn that your village is getting some work done in Rural Social Scheme, and this takes a lot of the load off the local people. Good luck with the work on the knotweed. Farranfore and the surrounding area is all the better for your participation in the Kerry Clean Up day, and it was a great effort to collect 90 bags of material. Walking around the village is pleasant in neat and tidy surroundings. It is noted that the business houses are well presented.

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

Park View is a splendid housing estate and very neat and tidy, with a good pride of place attitude shown by the residents. Lovely landscaping enhances the area. Private houses are in great condition with nice displays of landscaping that further adorns the village with some lovely houses on the Currow road.

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

As already mentioned this is a drive through village where great care is needed when driving in such a large volume of traffic, but the roads are well designed to cope with all the activity. We have seen the work done in the bio-diversity programme with the suitable planting in the hedgerows.