

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Barraduff**

Ref: **1515**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **235**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **20/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	35	35
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	30	32
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	30	32
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	15	19
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	10	14
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	50	51
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	25	26
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	25	26
TOTAL MARK	450	220	235

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Barraduff is most welcome to the 2017 SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition, thank you for this year's submission, it was a pleasure to visit your charming village. The map provided was not appropriate for adjudication purposes, you are referred to the Tidy Towns website for guidelines and examples. A multi-annual Tidy Towns Plan should also be included as part of your entry. This is your second year of participation in the competition, we hope you found it interesting and enjoyable, it is good to note the benefits that have accrued to the community as a result. At some stage, the creation of a Tidy Towns website might be considered, it can be a very effective PR tool. Your communication methods are favourably noted. The close working relationship between the committee and the school is commendable and we note your entry for the SuperValu Youth Award.

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

Barraduff's built environment is nicely presented; the Church and its grounds looked superb and the national school and grounds together with its car park was admired also. The Garda station look as though it had been recently painted. The car park to the side of Kates Restaurant could be resurfaced and landscaped. Both petrol stations have quite good road frontage. Hopefully the two shops along the main street which are closed for business will be re-opened soon. Well done on the treatment of derelict premises.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The landscaped entrance to Barraduff from the Rathmore road with its newly laid flower beds beautiful green areas young trees looks superb and is a wonderful introduction to the village. The good road and footpath surfaces here complete the picture. The picnic facility is a welcome addition to the amenity status of the village. Flower beds throughout the village were admired for their colour and profusion; be mindful of the needs of pollinators in your future choice of plants. Well done on the planting of the thirty trees which will be a welcome legacy for future generations. The blackthorn and whitethorn hedgerow will provide for new wildlife habitats and support local bio-diversity. Be mindful of the annual cutting times for hedgerow to protect wildlife habitats.

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

Comments above are pertinent to this heading also especially in relation to native species, bio-diversity and annual hedgerow cutting times. What a wonderful donation! A poly-tunnel to the National School, the children are very lucky; the community will of course be repaid in the delight the children will experience in planting, growing and harvesting, what a wonderful set of life skills! It is so satisfying to find that all the flowers on display during adjudication were grown from seed by the school children; we are indebted to them and their teachers. Perhaps a

junior pollination project can be taken on for the coming year under the National Pollination Plan?

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

Flowers and other plants do need to be watered as we know and the school is harvesting rainwater for use in their new poly-tunnel. Perhaps this can be developed into a community wide project and rainwater harvested at a number of locations around the village for watering plants in public places, other communities have done this successfully and there is a lot of saving of this valuable resource involved. Check out zerowaste.ie for a global perspective on waste; other websites include the Tidy Towns website and those of the EPA and An Taisce these are full of ideas on preventing waste at source and making significant savings in water and energy. Black plastic bags should not be allowed to accumulate around the clothing bank.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control is excellent; we note weekly litter picks and the involvement of the national school children. The commitment of local businesses and residents to maintaining the areas outside of their own premises litter free is a significant factor and the input from Kerry County Council is noted. It is good to note that litter is segregated for recycling. It should also be analysed to determine its source, location, type and frequency so that an appropriate management strategy can be formulated which hopefully will reduce the need for frequent litter picks. The undeveloped site located behind the shops could be problematic under this heading if left indefinitely, well done to those working on keeping it looking presentable. Good hoardings to vacant premises at the Rathmore end of the village prevents it from looking poor. The terrace of three buildings on the Scartaglen road looks vacant, are there plans for these premises?

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

The small housing area at the Killarney of the village end is beautifully landscaped and saplings planted to the fencing together with the roadside planter will make a big contribution to this area as they grow to maturity. An attractive stone wall boundary to an estate across the road from the school was admired; the input from the residents and the Tidy Towns committee is noteworthy. Roadside boundary walls to dwellings should be maintained to a high standard at all times as these are often instrumental in creating first impressions.

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

As noted above the entrance from the Rathmore approach road with its newly laid flower beds, beautiful green areas and young trees are an excellent introduction to Barraduff together with good road and footpath surfaces. On the street car parking is noted however indiscriminate parking on forecourt areas diminishes the visual amenity of the streetscape and damages surfaces and kerbing. The car park to the side of Kates Restaurant could be resurfaced and landscaped. Street furniture looks well in most instances. The installation of the new pedestrian crossing will improve road safety and will be ready for next year's adjudication.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure to note the fruits of the work of the Tidy Towns group working in tandem with the school children; the new poly-tunnel is a good size with plenty of scope to accommodate even more projects.