

# Tidy Towns Competition 2017

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Beaufort**

Ref: **2039**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **300**

Category: **B**

Date(s): **21/06/2017**

|   | Maximum<br>Mark | Mark<br>Awarded 2016 | Mark<br>Awarded 2017 |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Community Involvement & Planning          | 60              | 41                   | 41                   |
| Built Environment and Streetscape         | 50              | 36                   | 37                   |
| Landscaping and Open Spaces               | 50              | 35                   | 36                   |
| Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities  | 50              | 34                   | 34                   |
| Sustainable Waste and Resource Management | 50              | 20                   | 20                   |
| Tidiness and Litter Control               | 90              | 61                   | 61                   |
| Residential Streets & Housing Areas       | 50              | 36                   | 36                   |
| Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes           | 50              | 34                   | 35                   |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>                         | <b>450</b>      | <b>297</b>           | <b>300</b>           |

### Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

It was a pleasure to adjudicate Beaufort this year and welcome to the SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition 2017. Thank you for your multi-annual Tidy Towns Plan and map; the latter is very artistic and was easy to follow however projects for the current year of adjudication must be colour-coded on the map and cross referenced by number to a brief description in the entry form; identify the location of the Tree Trail on next year's map to facilitate adjudication. The committee of twenty-five with a further seventy-four families to call upon when needed is indicative of a cohesive and inclusive community committed to the environmental and social development of their home place. The use of social media to communicate Tidy Towns news and events is noteworthy as are links to a wide network of support groups. We look forward to the completion of Beaufort's Heritage Trail and future adjudications

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

Old natural stone walls leading into the village are beautifully maintained and are a handsome feature of Beaufort; old pillars marking entrances are a significant feature of the built environment also and their planned refurbishment is applauded. We wish the community successful funding for the proposed car parking facility to access the ogham stones. The Inn Between Bar and Restaurant is beautifully presented in all respects and the Daybreak premises look well too. The church looks beautiful and appears to have been recently painted, the Community Hall was admired also. It is good to note the appropriate use of seating by cyclists.

### Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Landscaped areas at the entrance to the village from the bridge look wonderful together with the nameplate here; hanging baskets on the bridge are a nice touch. Container flower displays at the Beaufort Bar and Restaurant look really well; it is wonderful that all your flowers are grown from seed by the community and the availability to you of expert advice. The link with the Beaufort Bee Keepers Association is favourably noted for pollination. The 1916 Remembrance Garden together with the seated amenity area nearby looks well. The picnic area at the bridge on the N 72 is a welcome amenity. Planting flowers for winter and spring colour is excellent; consider shrubs and trees too that provide colour at these times of the year. Where feasible choose native species to support bio-diversity. Your adjudicator will enquire on your behalf on the eradication of Ragwort; it is wonderful that Beaufort is Japanese Knotweed free.

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

The GAA sports grounds enjoy good maintenance and its natural stone roadside boundary wall is notable. Thank you for the brochure on the 'Seven Beaufort Trails' it is quite fascinating; are these signposted from the village? if so

they were missed (regrettably) during adjudication, if not a future project might be to have finger post signage in addition to the planned interpretive panel for them installed in the village centre. Well done on the 'Taking the Bees to School' initiative which is invaluable for life skills education as well as the future of pollination. The participation of local youth in the planting of fruit and vegetables and their use for 'Meals on Wheels' is praiseworthy. Keep us up-dated on progress with the orchards. The proposed new access road to Tomies Wood is exciting making this primeval oak forest available to all, try to incorporate universal access also. New signage at the three rivers is noteworthy

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

Congratulations to the pupils of the National Schools on their Green Flag success, this is a fine achievement. The switch to paperless communication is a great project that prevents waste at source, well done! Your water harvesting initiative is excellent and should be expanded throughout the community; energy saving projects should also be considered and reductions made quantified for feedback on progress and use as a motivation tool. Reference has already been made to the growing of fruit and veg and their use for the community thereby preventing food waste. Log onto [locationprevention.ie](http://locationprevention.ie) and consult your Tidy Towns Handbook and website to make further progress under this heading.

### **Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:**

Seventy miles is a very large area for litter picking and clean-ups by any standard. Beaufort was indeed litter free for adjudication and weed control is good too. Regular litter patrols and clean-ups throughout the year are no doubt responsible for your fine performance under this heading in addition to participation in the KWD county clean-ups and the 'Adopt a Road' initiative. We note the segregation of litter for recycling; it should also be analysed to identify its source, type, frequency and distribution to enable you to formulate a strategy to reduce the litter at source and reduce the need for so many clean-ups. The involvement of the schools in litter control is laudable and the children deserve our thanks.

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

Deelish Park is beautifully maintained in most respects however a few roadside boundary walls to dwellings could be improved. Coolmagort estate looks well to except for its weedy kerbs. Landscaping at the entrance to Beaufort Park is superb; one wonders if too many trees have been planted within the estate, as they may become too big for their location as they mature; hopefully this may not be the case.

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

Nameplates on entrances are a wonderful introduction to Beaufort as is the handsome bridge. Stone wall refurbishments (noted above) are a handsome feature of the village as one approaches. The grotto marking an entrance is visually appealing and resurfacing of the road from here to the village is noted favourably as well as resurfacing at the bridge junction. Street furniture looks well. Green verge maintenance by residents is applauded.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

Beaufort is a charming village full of surprises at close encounter; we look forward to proposed projects coming to fruition and adjudicating on these in the coming years.