

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Brosna**

Ref: **276**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **275**

Category: **B**

Date(s): **15/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	35	35
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	34	35
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	34	36
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	28	30
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	15	16
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	57	57
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	33	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	32	33
TOTAL MARK	450	268	275

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

It was a pleasure to revisit Brosna for adjudication and note enhancements to the village over the past twenty-one years. Thank you for this year's entry form and well done on developing a fruitful and strong working relationship with other stakeholders in the development of Brosna especially the school children, this is a very real investment in the future of the community. It is satisfying to witness the benefits that participation in the competition has brought to the life of the people of Brosna. It is interesting to note that the results are given by hand to every household, that is a very real personal touch which must make people feel very involved in the Tidy Towns initiative. The working relationship between the rural social scheme workers and the volunteers have made a significant contribution to the overall appearance of the village.

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

Well done on your success at having the Garda Barrack in the Square repainted together with the back wall of an unoccupied building. A survey of buildings and walls in need of painting cleaning or other refurbishment should now be undertaken and included in your multi-annual plan. The boundary walls of the school need attention together with other walls within the village. We anticipate the completion of the wall leading to the school by next year's adjudication and congratulations on this achievement.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Brosna's tree planting programme is impressive and all involved are to be commended, no mention has been made of the species but presumably they are native and will enhance bio-diversity potential. The array of spring flowers noted in your application must have been a glorious sight. Some flowers are better than others for attracting pollinators and thought might be given to a project for next year under the National Pollinator Plan; the children can have their own pollination project too and be in with a chance of an award. The concrete post fencing at the entrance to the village which features the large 'Welcome' sign should be landscaped for visual amenity or planted with native hedgerow. The large planters and other landscaped areas within the village centre including window boxes on almost every building enhance the streetscape wonderfully. The small Grotto at the church is charming.

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

Congratulations on completing the work at Bruach na hAbhainn, it is good to note how popular this facility/amenity has been. An inventory might be taken of the species that inhabit the bird and other nesting boxes in the school grounds. The participation of the schools in the Heritage in Schools program is commendable and we look forward to seeing the fruits of this endeavour in future years. Field boundaries lining both sides of roads into the village

should be surveyed for their biodiversity status. The hosting of a guest speaker on the wildlife heritage of the Clydagh River and the field trips involved for the school children is a wonderful initiative that will reap rewards in years to come.

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

Well done on the segregation of materials collected in the National Spring Clean, again the school children are to be acknowledged for their role in this endeavour. Participation in the Green Schools program is commendable also. The strong working relationship between the community and the school is applauded and we wish them success in acquiring their 7th Green Flag for Global Citizenship. The committee should now take on a rainwater harvesting project for watering Brosna's flowers and plants. An energy saving project might also be considered. Check out the Tidy Towns website for more creative ways to prevent waste at source and use resources wisely.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The support for Tidy Towns from the schools is most visible in the litter free appearance of Brosna, the work of the rural social scheme workers must not go un-noted either so well done to all involved. The site at the old building (creamery) should be enclosed with attractive fencing to its roadside boundary pending redevelopment however recently planted trees here are favourably noted; more attention could be paid to weed control especially along kerbs. Hopefully the remaining overhead service cables and associated service poles will be eliminated from the streetscape in the not too distant future.

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

Both of Brosna's residential developments are being nicely managed with neatly landscaped green areas young trees and colourful flower displays. It is a pleasure to note from your entry form a newly surfaced area of the village and plans to complete the rest of it later this year. Container flower displays enhance the appearance of dwellings also. Roadside areas to residential properties on the Abbeyfeale approach are reasonably well presented however they would look better if grassed; the road surface in Cois na hAbhainn is quite bad. A beautifully white washed roadside boundary wall on another entrance to the village sets the standard for all. It is good to note the proposed development of the playground.

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

Well done on the allocation of funding for the construction of the wall leading to the school this is a fine achievement and previous difficulties with landscaping is appreciated. Newly refurbished areas are favourably noted however road surfaces to buildings within the centre of the village in too many cases are quite bad and need improvements. The car park to the roadside of Pairc na Feile should also be resurfaced and lined otherwise this facility enjoys an excellent presentation. Name stones at each entrance to the village are a charming feature.

Concluding Remarks:

Brosna is a handsome village with many traditional features and fine amenities both natural and man-made. The ecological field trips and talks by the nature expert are invaluable to the future of the community and its wildlife habitats.