

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Caherdaniel** Ref: **1451**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **239**
Category: **A** Date(s): **23/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	34	34
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	30	32
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	29	31
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	12	19
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	12	12
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	42	49
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	30	32
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	28	30
TOTAL MARK	450	217	239

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Welcome to the SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition for your third year and thank you for this year's entry; it was a pleasure to visit Caherdaniel. A multi-annual Tidy Towns Plan is a requirement under this heading, such was not provided this year. The map was very clear and easy to use however projects should have been colour coded and linked numerically to details in the entry form. The committee of 14 seems adequate for the Tidy Towns task especially as there are up to 10 volunteers to call upon. Well done on the first year of organised tidy-ups these can be fun as well as work! It is satisfying no doubt to feel a greater degree of engagement with the community and to have residents approach the committee with ideas. We note your use of Facebook and texting in communications.

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

The fascia sign number on the Freddie's premises shop should be replaced. The Blind Piper Pub looks very well indeed and container flower displays here are visually impressive. Caherdaniel Church and Parish Centre together with the car park looked really well and the latter is nicely surfaced however it should be signposted from the public road as it took your adjudicator quite a while to find them. The HSE premises looks quite well also, some landscaping might be considered for its curtilage area. The school and grounds are attractive; the new commemorative plaque on the road to the school is a fitting tribute. Work accomplished for walls and footpaths is favourably noted. In future developments keep the need for universal access in mind. The website universaldesign.ie/built-environment offers guidelines on this issue.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The landscaped and kerbed road edge on the Waterville entrance to Caherdaniel looks very well indeed and is an excellent introduction to the village for the first-time visitor. The small layby with picnic bench is a welcome feature also. The village has a significant stock of handsome mature trees; perhaps a 'Tree Trail' could be developed as a feature of the village. Is there a plan to plant more trees and do you have a maintenance programme for existing trees and older landscaping? These details should appear in your Tidy Towns Plan. It is good to note newly planted areas and the funding received in addition to the work of volunteers some with an expertise in gardening. The careful selection of pollinator friendly plants is favourably noted.

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

The importance of the identification and eradication of invasive species cannot be over emphasized and it is wonderful to note that awareness has been raised within the Caherdaniel and wider community by the 2016 seminar on Japanese Knotweed; well done also on accessing expert advice on the issue and taking action, please

keep us up-dated on your progress. Your entry form notes access to Derrynane National Park from Caherdaniel however your adjudicator did not note any signposts; apologies if I missed them otherwise direction signs to this wonderful amenity should be installed in the village. The good working relationship with the OPW officer is noteworthy; appropriate wild life projects should now be explored particularly in relation to the river.

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

Hopefully the material collected on the Annual County Clean-Up in Caherdaniel is segregated for recycling. If the school is participating in the Green Flag Program provide us with details as this can attract more marks. We wish the community a successful outcome to their recycling plans under consideration. We note from your entry energy savings by the use of the Community Bus and the part funding of Community Care with the proceeds of the recycling system in place. To progress under this heading, it is necessary to undertake additional projects; for more information and to see what other communities are doing log onto locationprevention.ie your Tidy Towns Handbook is an excellent resource also.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control is excellent in Caherdaniel no doubt due to your regular Thursday night village and environs Clean-Up. It would be useful to analyse litter collected for information on its source, type, location and frequency in order to formulate a litter management strategy that will have the effect of reducing the number of necessary litter picks. Well done on the removal of redundant signs and ongoing work in this respect. Discussions with the owners of vacant premises will hopefully have the desired outcome.

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

An attractive housing development deserves an identification name-stone especially as large stones are featured creatively in the development in question! Well done on the initiative of approaching all householders with a request for their participation in Tidy Towns, it seems to have paid dividends! Well done also on asking people not to use weed-killer. Perhaps another seminar can be organised for the Caherdaniel community on alternatives to weed-killer and its detrimental impact on wildlife and biodiversity.

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

The entrance to Caherdaniel from the Waterville road is quite dramatic with its rocky outcrops and flower displays. Good road surfaces and edges together with boundaries are a feature also. Road surfaces by the Antique Shop are poor enough. The pedestrian bridge is an excellent feature and finger post signage is good.

Concluding Remarks:

The overall appearance of Caherdaniel is good and the village is well located for access to a range of natural amenities within its hinterland. Local walks should be identified signposted and mapped with details of duration and levels of difficulty.