

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cahersiveen** Ref: **327**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **288**
Category: **C** Date(s): **22/06/2017**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2016 | Mark Awarded 2017 |
|---|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Community Involvement & Planning | 60 | 45 | 45 |
| Built Environment and Streetscape | 50 | 37 | 38 |
| Landscaping and Open Spaces | 50 | 36 | 37 |
| Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities | 50 | 25 | 27 |
| Sustainable Waste and Resource Management | 50 | 22 | 22 |
| Tidiness and Litter Control | 90 | 50 | 53 |
| Residential Streets & Housing Areas | 50 | 30 | 32 |
| Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes | 50 | 32 | 34 |
| TOTAL MARK | 450 | 277 | 288 |

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Caherciveen is welcome to the SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition 2017; thank you for your continued participation, we enjoy our visits to your vibrant town with its plethora of cultural and sporting events and festivals, it is good to note the important role of the Tidy Towns committee in the life of the community. a word on your submission; it is difficult to make significant progress without a multi-annual Tidy Towns plan and a map showing the location of projects for the current year colour-coded and linked numerically to details in the entry form; neither of these were supplied with this year's entry. The committee of twelve with the support from eighteen volunteers and other groups is well poised for success in the future. Why not try a Facebook page and later perhaps your own website? These can be effective PR tools in attracting more interest from a wider community.

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

Public buildings within Caherciveen are nicely presented and many were admired; The Daniel O'Connell Memorial Church is attractive and container flower displays here are a nice touch; other attractive buildings include; the Court House; The Local History Museum; the Legal Aid Board premises: both The Corner House premises and O'Connells Pharmacy are beautifully presented corner buildings with excellent gable walls. Walshe's SuperValu premises and its beautifully landscaped car park is a fine introduction to the town. How wonderful that the Water Marquee Hotel now has a new owner and will enhance its streetscape. Schools were admired also and include Colaiste na Sceilge, it's carpark and its grounds with its mature landscaping/shrubbery; Scoil Saidhbhin is beautifully presented also & Scoil Mhuiri looks well too. Commercial premises on approach roads look reasonably well. The Ring of Kerry Hotel carpark could be resurfaced and the rear facade of the premises which can be seen from the public realm need attention in many cases, these are just as important for the townscape as the roadside façade. The Old Post Office Street has a very pleasant and streetscape. We look forward to the restoration of the recently discovered old stone fort and its incorporation into Caherciveen's Heritage Trail

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Congratulations on the on-going development of the Memorial Garden which is one of Caherciveen's important attractions. The landscaped area with sculpture at Scoil Skellig was admired as was landscaping and sculpture with interpretation which is an excellent introduction to the town; Saint John's Wort in full bloom makes for a cheerful first impression at this entrance. What a great idea to engage a tutor to give classes in sowing and planting flowers and preparing soil, planting vegetables, composting and more. It is interesting to note that the planters made by the Men's Shed and located at the bottle banks have reduced the incidence of litter here. Your awareness of the importance of universal accessibility throughout the town and in this instance at the old Abbey grounds is laudable; log onto www.universaldesign.ie for further guidelines and information. Be mindful of the needs of wildlife in general

and pollinators in particular when choosing plants for landscaping. Also choose native species where possible and favour permanent over bedding plants in addition to planting for all seasons of the year. Next year include details of your tree maintenance activities.

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

Reference has already been made above to Riverside Daniel O'Connell Memorial park which is an invaluable amenity for the community. Reenrusheen road takes one on wonderful walk with magnificent scenic views and a connectedness with nature. A walk along Top Street affords some wonderful scenic views too and could be developed as such but needs remedial work. Well done on wild flower seed planting, hopefully they will successfully attract pollinators. Work on invasive species including Japanese knot weed is favourably noted. The entrance to CLG Naomh Mhuire looks well and good interpretation at the Holy Cross Graveyard is welcome. The marina looks a little dishevelled. We wish you success on the new playground, perhaps it too can feature universal accessibility. We anticipate lots of wild bird report sighting from the new bird watching group.

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

Caherciveen's town centre recycling point at the tyre Centre was quite tidy however the clothing bank was full to overflowing; does the finger post for the recycling centre need to be realigned? It is good to note your anti-litter and recycling coordinator who provides advice and assistance to schools and others. Congratulations on the purchase of two buses for communal transport three times a week to other towns, this is a significant energy saving. The Community Garden is an excellent initiative and more so in that the produce is used for community benefit by Meals on Wheels and the Day Care Centre. The pilot energy saving program for prominent buildings within the town is interesting and we look forward to the results. It is excellent that litter is segregated for recycling in the school.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control is very good in Caherciveen and we note your weed control activities also; It is good that the committee has identified the six main causes of litter, that will enable you to deal with it more effectively. Treatment to a vacant building on the road to the Tyre Centre is laudable; we wish you success in dealing with remainder. The Iveragh Co-Op Mart is very tidy and its handsome natural stone wall to its roadside boundary is noted. Hopefully overhead service cables will be ducted and service poles removed from the streetscape in the not too distant future; well done on work to date on excessive redundant signage. Congratulations on sponsorship for the new street cleaner.

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

Some on -street residential dwellings are in need of painting; many roadside boundary walls to residential properties could be improved especially at the entrances to the town. The residential development on Fertha Drive is nicely landscaped and well painted and features a good overall presentation. Cois Uisce is a very attractive development which will improve as a young trees here mature, green areas are well maintained. The Riverview estate is charming. Congratulations on the wall building project in Woodbrook estate and on each estate having their own sit on lawn mower. There are some magnificent private gardens in Caherciveen.

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

The bicycles attached to poles and lamp-standards are a fun introduction to the town. Road and footpath surfaces are good together with a name- plates and landscaping. It is good to note that approach roads have been improved; stretches of footpath from Supervalu into the town need refurbishment. The public toilet block is a credit to whoever is responsible for their maintenance. Carparking appears to be adequate and the new car park is noted. Good signposting and street name plates are a feature of Caherciveen. Work accomplished on lane ways connecting car parks to the Main Street is time, money and labour well spent.

Concluding Remarks:

Caherciveen has a handsome and interesting built environment and lots of potential for further amenity development. The proposed Greenway will increase its recreational amenity value substantially. Log onto universal design .ie for information and guidelines on building universal accessibility into the environment of the town.