

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Farranfore**

Ref: **1087**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **260**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **19/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	35	36
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	31	32
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	32	34
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	25	30
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	14	15
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	52	52
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	30	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	29	31
TOTAL MARK	450	248	260

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Farranfore is very welcome to the 2017 SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition; thank you for your entry with multi-annual plan a good sketch map and a biodiversity plan, we wish you every success for the future implementation of both plans. It is good to note the support received from a wide network of statutory and other bodies and of course business interests; the large number of volunteers for Tidy Towns work is indicative of a strong community spirit. Links with the school through the Parents Association and the school principal is laudable. It is satisfying to note the environmental and community benefits of participating in the competition, we look forward to many future visits.

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

The Medical Centre and its curtilage area within its boundary walls is beautifully maintained however its roadside area looks quite dishevelled. Many business premises in Farranfore feature a good presentation. A New and Used Furniture premises needs remedial work (cleaning / white washing or painting) to its roadside facade as does the roadside facade of the Kebab House. Sherwood's Pub and Restaurant which is a landmark building in its streetscape is nicely presented together with its car park and landscaped area. The presentation of the school is good. The bridge looks well and street furniture is nicely presented. Overhead service cables and a service pole marking the entrance to the village from the Killarney Road near the Centra premises looks quite bad, hopefully these will be ducted and the service pole removed soon as they diminish the visual amenity of the streetscape.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Container flower displays within the curtilage of the Centra premises are a nice touch: those to the roadside boundary of Herlihy's Bar should be planted likewise. Well done on flower displays and shrubs at the entrance to the Kerry Foods Agribusiness and on the bridge. Premises within the Business Park are all presented to a high standard and landscaping here looks well; hopefully the adjacent undeveloped site will see some remedial work in the not too distant future. Landscaping to the roadside of Kerry Airport is superb. The concrete post and wire fencing closer to the village from the airport could be planted with a native hedgerow. We look forward to the proposed development of the two new amenity areas; recent tree planting is laudable, hopefully they will survive to make a significant difference to their surroundings. The 1916 Commemorative Garden looks superb.

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

Well done on the preparation of Farranfore's Biodiversity Action Plan, we wish you every success in its implementation and applaud this initiative especially as it will be followed up by community training in all aspects of

biodiversity; it is notable that a number of residents have embarked on beekeeping. The GAA club house and car park is excellent in presentation, no doubt the overflow car park will be developed soon to a similar standard. Has consideration been given to developing a section of the river for amenity or wildlife interest? Congratulations also on the approval by the Irish Heart Foundation of your two new Sli na Slainte walking routes.

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

The recycling point at the Centra shop is well-managed with no sign of untidiness or other mis-use; it appears to be used extensively by the Farranfore community. It is good to note all waste management activities by the committee including the Christmas tree shredding and liaison with business interests regarding their waste management. Is the school participating in the Green Flag program? We note the school garden with all its activities around growing fruit and vegetables in addition to rainwater harvesting; shared community travel is noteworthy too as well as the Mobile Library facility. Commendations to Centra on their new bio-degradable sandwich wrapping and on water-saving devices installed at all premises that provide toilets for public use.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Overhead service cables and a service pole marking the entrance to the village from the Killarney Road noted above present visual clutter. The undeveloped site in the Business Park looks really bad, are there plans for its future? Weed growth along the kerb of the footpath out by the airport was unfortunate given an otherwise excellent presentation here. Litter control in Farranfore is excellent given that in excess of a million people pass through your village each year! Well done to all concerned, the contribution of the RSS is acknowledged in addition to the community participation in the National Spring Clean. Approaching businesses regarding their signage is excellent and will reduce visual clutter if acted upon into the future.

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

Hopefully the gable walls of two properties located across from Centra will not feature outsized advertisement hoardings into the future. The Park View estate looks really well and on-going cleaning and maintenance here is paying dividends. Roadside areas to boundary walls on the Currow road could be improved as these are instrumental in forming a first impression of Farranfore. We look forward to completion of the proposed amenity park on the site of the Garda Barracks. OPW work at the old barracks has enhanced this section of the village considerably.

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

The entrance to Farranfore from the Killarney Road is beautifully managed and offers an excellent introduction to Farranfore; oak trees planted here are acknowledged favourably. The entrance from the Furies Road was left in its natural state at its roadside edges which is fine however one speed limit sign was almost overgrown and no name plate was noted! Perhaps it was overgrown too? Grass margins along the Tralee Road are neatly maintained to the roadside edge which makes good provision for pollinators and other wildlife. Name-stones and nameplates noted look very well indeed and it is good to note bi-lingual signage. A new stretch of footpath is noted, hopefully negotiations regarding additional footpaths will be successful. We note the successful change of location of the Mobile Library to ease traffic congestion. Plans to landscape the layby at the speed limit sign on the Killarney road are welcome.

Concluding Remarks:

Farranfore is a very busy village with fine amenities and facilities for visitors and a lot of through traffic; nevertheless, it managed to look really well for adjudication and no doubt throughout the year given its strong sense of community.