

# Tidy Towns Competition 2017

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Knightstown** Ref: **342**  
County: **Kerry** Mark: **320**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **22/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	46	46
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	43	44
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	42	43
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	29	31
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	20	20
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	64	64
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	32	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	39	39
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>320</b>

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

Welcome to the SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition and thank you for your 34th entry, and your continued participation, we enjoy our annual adjudication visits. Thank you for your Tidy Towns plan and map; the latter would have been more helpful if projects had been colour-coded on the map as well as linked numerically to the entry form details. It is pleasing to read of the strong level of community involvement in the development of your lovely island and the good working relationship between the committee and relevant bodies. The committee might consider creating a Tidy Towns Facebook page to complement the Parish Newsletter as a means of circulating Tidy Towns news and events. Creating universal accessibility in the playground is a commendable goal and we look forward to taking it into account in next year's adjudication.

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

The new visitor tourist sign by the Town Clock is a great bonus for those visiting Knightstown. The majority of public and private buildings are well presented and both churches were admired in respect of their grounds as well as the buildings themselves. Saint Deraca's Hall on Peter's Street looked a little jaded and the Hostel at the end of the street is weather-stained; colourful flower displays in window boxes at the latter premises might improve its visual amenity. Business premises enjoy a good presentation and the Heritage Centre looked well too

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

The grounds of Saint James's / Saint John the Baptist church offer an opportunity for quiet time and reflection; The Fairy Trail installed here is charming, imaginative and fun. Container plants near the entrance to the Altazimuth Walk are too small for a strong visual impact. Well done on the planting of the eight new trees in Reenard View estate, hopefully they will survive to maturity and enhance the bio-diversity of this area; the creation of two new flowerbeds is favourably noted too. The large stone enclosed field with rusted metal in its centre (on the Altazimuth Walk) looks like a lost opportunity! Interpretation on the Altazimuth Walk is excellent. Try to create universal accessibility into all your amenity developments. Visit [universaldesign.ie](http://universaldesign.ie)

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

The identification and treatment of Gunnera and Japanese Knotweed is applauded; we note from your entry form that the latter is almost eradicated. Try to contain Montebrecia and fuchsia to their existing sites as these are invasive too and will undermine native species eventually if allowed to spread unchecked. Has there been a species survey on the area designated for wildlife and pollinators as there was nothing much to see there on adjudication. The development of the children's playground, playing fields, and outdoor gym provides for fine

recreational amenity opportunities in Knightstown and again we applaud your plan to provide for universal accessibility in the playground later this year. All waterfront areas enjoy good maintenance and presentation.

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

For optimum performance under this heading select projects that (1) focus on the prevention of waste at source and (2) achieve efficiencies in water and energy management. The community bus is a good example of energy efficiency, can you quantify savings? Let us have the figures next year even if just good 'guesstimates', the same applies to water management.; well done to those householders that have installed water butts, hopefully this will spread throughout the community. How wonderful that much of the Knightstown's fresh food is produced on the island! Log onto [localprevention.ie](http://localprevention.ie) to find out what other communities are doing.

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

The regular emptying of refuse bins by volunteers and taking them out of service October – May in Knightstown plays an important role in its litter free appearance complemented no doubt by participation in the National Spring Clean and regular patrols. An untidy site at the end of Peter's Street appears to be a work in progress that will hopefully be remedied upon the completion of work. Remaining overhead service cables and timber poles will be removed in due course presumably. A number of curtilage areas, side areas and forecourt areas are in need of resurfacing. Weed control is good and congratulations on the removal of abandoned cars in addition to your 'gum free' status; let us know of your success or otherwise with the dog fouling problem.

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

Beautifully painted houses on each corner of Peter Street were admired. Other residential on Peter Street looked well too but some roadside boundary walls need improvement. Work in progress on a new residential development is noted. Reenard View residential enjoys a beautiful presentation with its new place names. We note the high level of maintenance to green open spaces within residential developments. Dwellings on the Chapelstown approach road are a nice introduction to Knightstown. Well done on work accomplished for unoccupied premises and their walls.

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

Bi-lingual signage throughout Knightstown is laudable as is maintenance. Street furniture is nicely presented too and the water pump amenity is a handsome feature. The Failte stone at the Chapelstown entrance was admired also. Hopefully the car park at the playground will be resurfaced by next year's adjudication

### **Concluding Remarks:**

All features in Knightstown enjoy good interpretation and your adjudicator had a pleasurable time in the sunshine on your beautiful island.