

# Tidy Towns Competition 2017

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Hollywood village** Ref: **2109**  
County: **Wicklow** Mark: **261**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **03/07/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	34	35
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	33	34
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	35	37
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	24	26
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	13	15
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	51	52
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	30	31
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	30	31
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>261</b>

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

Hollywood 'The Gateway to the Garden County' is very welcome to the SuperValu Tidy Towns Competition 2017. Well done to Hollywood Tidy Towns for participating in this year's Tidy Towns Competition and you are heartily commended for all the work you have undertaken this year. Thank you for the clear and concise and very informative Application Form including photographs and excellent Map of the village and surrounds with numbered key – these were very helpful to the adjudicator in finding the various features and works undertaken by Hollywood Tidy Towns in the village. Your committee meets monthly and you have 12 Members with 10 volunteers for various tasks. You have strong links to a range of local bodies and groups who provide essential funding and support. You are fortunate to have some horticultural expertise on your committee and this is clearly evident in the quality of the works undertaken around the village. You have a dedicated school liaison Officer on your committee who communicates directly with the green school coordinator, Principal and Junior Tidy Towns Committee in the school. This is only your fifth year entering the Competition and you have achieved a lot in a short timescale. It is wonderful to note that the Tidy Towns work has brought you closer together as a Community. Your work carried out by Hollywood Tidy Towns over the last number of years has also fostered a great sense of pride in the Community which is clearly evident from any walk through the village and from the many photographs you have enclosed with your application. You communicate with stakeholders through text and Facebook as well as local Newsletters, Newspapers and school notes. Reference was made in last year's adjudication report to the preparation of a 3-5 Year Tidy Towns Plan for Hollywood Village. One wonders whether any progress has been made on this? A plan of this kind is quite simple but can be very useful in that it provides a blueprint for tackling priority issues which you have identified under the various Competition Categories and for the effective implementation of projects and maximising the use of scarce resources.

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

34

Hollywood, 'The Gateway to the Garden County' is a delightful village nestled between the hills and lakes of County Wicklow. Saint Kevin's National School was visited and was very well presented showing newly painted walls along the road frontage. Hollywood Post Office is a charming building as is the adjoining house which bears the name of 'Boley'. It is noted that plans are in place to convert the post office to a coffee shop and museum. The granite arch on the Old Forge building near the post office with the date inscribed -1878, was particularly admired. Some work however, may be required to repair the crack on the wall of this building. Saint Kevin's Church and graveyard were visited and were delightfully presented - a credit to all the community. The stone walls on both sides of the road through the village add great character and charm to the village streetscape. The work on the restoration of the old phone box was admired particularly the new steel window frames -well done to all concerned with this project and its future use as an Information Point is a good idea. This adjudicator has come across a similar restored phone box

in a village which has been used to house a 'Wee Library'- this is also a good sustainable use possibility, which perhaps might suit Hollywood as well? The stone fronted property and front garden located opposite Corrigan's Craft/The Céile House site, was particularly admired as was the Hollywood Inn premises and Tutty's bar – these are buildings of great aesthetic value and character in the village and are a key element of your built heritage. It is noted that you have plans to establish a marked historical walk in the village and to relocate the map for the St. Kevin's Way away from the junction on the Glendalough Road – great proposals and we wish you well with these. The Church of Ireland graveyard was visited and the presentation of the grounds were admired and repair works were in progress on the wall adjoining the road.

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

The planting at the junction of the Hollywood Road and the L8361 at Tyrell's Cross was particularly admired and you have a range of pollinator friendly plants here showing good all year round colour effect. The name-stone designating the approach to Hollywood village opposite Daly's newsagent shop is very welcoming and presentable. It is noted that you have replaced the rose beds in the Parochial Garden with colourful pollinator plantings and have planted along both sides of the 'Quarry Road' to enhance the stone wall boundaries here. You have carried out maintenance works on the old Yew trees in the Church of Ireland Graveyard. New planting works have been carried out along 'Dinny's Lane', 'Dragoon Hill' and along the 'School Ditch' to Tyrell's Cross and spent mushroom compost has been used as a mulch to aid the establishment of the plantings. A great Tidy Towns initiative this year was the distribution of a bag of daffodil bulbs to each family in the National School followed by a bulb planting demonstration.

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

The Wildflower Remembrance Meadow opposite Daly's Shop at the junction of the N81 and the Dunlavin road, was probably your headline project under this category. There were a host of different insects and pollinators feeding on the lovely wildflowers growing in this plot on the day of adjudication. The establishment of this site as a wildflower meadow was no doubt a major undertaking and congratulations to all concerned for a very successful outcome. It is noted that you monitor the flora and fauna and the condition of the stream running through the village. The schoolchildren might assist with more detailed survey of the aquatic life here in the future. The Vintage Meadow at the Church of Ireland graveyard was noted and we admired the 'No Mow' signage and maintenance regime and the range of wildflowers which have developed. The quality of the maintenance signage here was excellent. The planting on both sides of the Glendalough road leading to the Church of Ireland Church was admired and the 'no mowing' primrose banks were noted positively as well. The use of timber stakes with natural slate cappings to create bug hotels at various locations in the village was greatly admired.

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

Your Village Allotment in the field beside the Community Centre was visited and it was great to see all the vegetables growing so well - the sign which was created using recycled materials looked well. This is a great educational resource for local children. We wish you well with your harvesting event during the Village Fair in August. It is noted that you are introducing herbs and vegetables into some of your general planting schemes in the village. A recycling vehicle collects recycled waste from the village every month and you recycle Christmas trees after the festive season. You have a water collection tank for harvesting rainwater which assists you with watering plantings during the summer months. You liaise with the Local School in relation to the Green Flag Committee and Junior Tidy Towns and have hosted a sustainable living and Journey to Zero Waste workshop at the school. You segregate waste collected from litter picks. It is noted that you propagate plants from cuttings and make compost from collected leaves. You have made great strides under this category this year. For future years under this heading you might consider some further initiatives such as encouraging local people to engage in further sustainable waste, water, energy and transport actions e.g. car- pooling and extending walk- to-school initiatives, providing cycle parking facilities in the village, greenways and cycle routes to lakes and upland areas, encouraging the development of small solar farms on appropriate sites, the use of solar panels on roofs, heat exchange units to reduce energy consumption by households/businesses, use of water butts for watering gardens, organising stop food waste seminars etc. The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland website has good information in relation to the development of Better Energy Communities. You could also speak to the Environmental Officer at the Council on possibly participating in the European Week for Waste Reduction which takes place in November each year. Visit [www.ewwr.eu](http://www.ewwr.eu) for more information. [www.stopfoodwaste.ie](http://www.stopfoodwaste.ie) is a website that you may also find helpful. The Green Home Programme may also be of interest to your Group ([www.greenhome.ie](http://www.greenhome.ie)). Grant funding may also be available to provide energy efficiency upgrades for community and commercial facilities. A 'Free Wee Library' project could also be considered for the Phone Box site.

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

The presentation of Hollywood Village on the day of adjudication was very neat and tidy and thanks are due to your dedicated team of litter pickers who work tirelessly to keep your verges and approach roads litter free. The Road-signs around the village were found to be very clean although the signage near the planting at Tyrell's Cross would benefit from some cleaning.

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

Residential properties were presented to a high standard in Hollywood and residents are to be commended for the efforts made to ensure their gardens and house frontages enhance the visitor experience.

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

The hedges and roadside margins on all approaches to the village were found to very well maintained. You are maintaining grass margins along the approach roads in a sustainable way. It is noted that hedgerow maintenance operations (sensitive to wildlife and wild plants) has been carried out during the Winter months in the interest of traffic safety. Some spraying of herbicide was noted in the vicinity of the new houses along the Back Road.

**Concluding Remarks:**

It was a great pleasure to visit your lovely village and Hollywood Tidy Towns Committee can be justly proud of all your achievements this year. You have made great strides across a range of Competition categories - keep up the good work.