

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glanworth** Ref: **651**
County: **Cork(North)** Mark: **265**
Category: **C** Date(s): **11/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	35	35
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	33	34
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	32	34
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	29	29
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	13	13
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60	60
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	29	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	30	30
TOTAL MARK	450	261	265

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Welcome once again to the Tidy Towns competition. Thank you for acting on the adjudicators remarks from last year and adding a map to your submission. To improve on this further for future years, please put the list of projects on the map saves going back to the submission each time. Maybe also include just a few of the main landmarks to ensure that it is easier to orientate from the start. You could use a photocopy of the map from this year and just hand write in the landmarks and projects to the side. The aerial photo supplied really did help to give an overall view of your village. We realise that the work behind the submission takes up a lot of time but we also want to ensure that all of your work is highlighted while trying to minimise the work involved in the submission itself.

Although your plan listed some great projects they would have more impact with some before and after photos. This would be especially true of your project on improving some derelict buildings. Maybe even just put the photos onto a sheet. The adjudication takes place in summer so it would be wonderful to see a picture of projects that impact in other seasons e.g. the daffodils in bloom in spring.

Overall your efforts with working other groups in your community especially the younger members are really shown in so many aspects of your village.

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

Rarely have we come across a place large or small that has such an array of historic structures within literally a stone's throw from each other. The medieval castle of Glanworth dominates the landscape with great views of Glanworth church and the abbey behind. It was a very interesting experience driving over your 13 arch bridge, the narrowest and oldest public bridge in everyday use! We noted that the old mill/house beside the river is up for sale and it would be truly wonderful to see life in that place again.

Derelict buildings are a problem in an increasing number of streets in Ireland, both large and small. You are to be commended for trying to improve this in your locality. We realise that Rome wasn't built in a day and the problem of derelict buildings cannot be solved overnight. In the future, you might also consider the building beside the nicely painted Fitzgibbons pub for a derelict updating. (we do realise that co-operation is not always forthcoming). You didn't mention in your report how many you did this year but some of the buildings we noticed were the two houses opposite "The Local" pub that look well in two contrasting colours of blue and yellow. The three buildings opposite the church look well. It doesn't even always have to be the entire building. The stone building diagonally across from the church had just its boarded up windows updated with new colourful signs, which made a big difference. Your wide streets were free from clutter and in good condition

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

We noted the nice open vista beside the church with good seating and planting. It always enhances a village having

a place where people can just sit and meet. The Christmas tree must have looked well here. The grotto is well maintained. Combined with the newly painted graveyard wall these provide a lovely impression. The area outside McDonnell brothers is well tended and colourful. While the boat did not appear to have "docked" at the marked location on the map on adjudication day, we did see the wonderful new local pump. The bright colours of green and gold really highlight this especially when this is mirrored in the same colours on the road marking. The flower planting on the adjoining wall adds to this brightened up area. The main street has a nice section of trees that are kept in good order interspersed with colour. The post office and shop is well maintained and provides colour with its green frontage. The black stands holding up the flowerpots were nicely maintained and added to a good finish. Your campaign to get a new playground and sports complex would be a fantastic resource for your entire community. The already completed new seating area and trees are a lovely start. We wish you well with this.

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

Your biodiversity plan mentions the hedges of whitethorn, hazel crab apple and ash which line the fields. The value of these for biodiversity could be highlighted to the community to help protect and expand this natural resource. You listed the work you were involved in with educating children about the various aspects of wildlife and the owl was noted on your photo outside the school. Well done on inspiring the next generation. When something is valued it is generally respected more.

The Tidy Towns competition is not just meant to get communities to provide new projects on improving their wildlife habitats and natural amenities; it is also about being aware of what you have and the value of it. The grassy former courtyard of the castle has created its own wildflower meadow hosting an array of wild flowers such as buttercups, clover, daisies etc. Maybe a small sign highlighting this and the value of them to pollinators would ensure that their value is recognised. You could maybe use the notice board on the old community centre opposite the church to inform locals.

You mentioned your connection with a local fishing club and your plans to learn more on river wildlife. They should hopefully be able to provide you information not just on the fish but on the other flora and fauna needed to ensure a healthy river and riverbank. You have such a beautiful riverbank. You mentioned that you cleaned the stream of weeds. This could prove a win-win partnership for both groups.

Best of luck with the application for funding from LEADER for the proposed installation of a nature trail along the river to St. Dominics well. It would be wonderful to see your community realise that enormous benefits accrue environmentally and socially as well as maybe economically to having a walk which celebrates nature and educates.

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

You didn't list any projects under this category. We did notice a well-kept bring centre which also looked like it is used regularly by local residents. It included glass, cans as well as clothes recycling. Last year's adjudicator mentioned that this area had been spoiled by discarded rubbish. Your Anti-dumping signs(and probably more your CCTV camera) has certainly made a positive impact here.

You might find locals are very receptive to other suggestions. Check out websites such as <http://localprevention.ie/tidy-towns/> for a helpful list of projects under various categories as well as the Tidy Towns booklet. Your local county council would also be a valuable resource for assistance.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Dawn patrols of litter are proving very effective with very little spotted on day of adjudication. There were only some stray pieces. We also hope that your talks on litter to the schoolchildren are helping with this to ensure you have even less to clean up.

We did notice some Dog Fouling signs and only 2 spots had some dog fouling. The footpaths were clear of any clutter.

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

The green area at Arbour Mews is very well kept as are the houses with the different colour doors providing a splash of colour combined with a lovely stone wall. As they are on the main approach road from Fermoy, they add to a very good impression of the village.

It is unusual and very welcome to see a sign for an estate and its named roads solely as Gaeilge and not bi-lingual for Parc na gCrann. This estate is aptly named as it has a nice mix of trees and colourful shrubs. The milk churns with the nice motif are a lovely touch just outside the estate.

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

The approach roads in general are very good with well-cut verges and nice natural wild flowers on the edge. The speed signs and two Glanworth signs could do with being cleaned.

The row of stone houses on Fermoy road provides a lovely entry to the town. Obviously the old stone bridge provides a very unique entry point.

Concluding Remarks:

Glanworth's unique historical heritage is truly amazing. But it is the work you are providing with you maintenance and other projects that help with enhancing your community. Well done.

