

# Tidy Towns Competition 2017

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Abbeyknockmoy** Ref: **2078**  
County: **Galway** Mark: **240**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **12/07/2017**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2017</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	30
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	38
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	28
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	19
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	14
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	40
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	36
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	35
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>240</b>

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

Many thanks for your entry in this year's Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for participating in Ireland's biggest community project. Welcome back to the competition Abbeyknockmoy after a year's break and we do hope that this, the 6th year of entering for you will be enjoyable and useful for your community. First of all, thank you for the time and effort you so obviously put into your entry form. This is was clear, concise and very useful. You tell your story well and the illustrations really helped too. You describe close relations with a number of groups and that's great. You don't describe any joint projects with the national school. It is felt that this could improve your work if you had some projects running conjointly. Schools are great sources of inspiration as well as artwork!

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

Thank you for the excellent descriptions of the built environment of Abbeyknockmoy. You have carried out some excellent work on your community centre over the last year and it looks just fantastic now. The adjudicator really liked the murals at the front. It is bright and really welcoming. The Roman Catholic Church looked so well. Across the road here a derelict shed is in need of attention. The sky-blue handball alley was admired for colour choice. The national school and its grounds were very neat indeed. Watch out for the worn padding on the goalposts and the basketball hoop has seen a lot of action. The wall will need painting soon too. The Abbey Inn has a lovely old-fashioned sign. The Spar Shop/Petrol station was busy but neat and in good order. The area beside the Abbey Stores is rather unkempt and could be much neater.

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

Well done on all of the work in the graveyard. You have been busy here too on verges and other grassed areas. The polytunnel will be a great asset for you. Some really great work was seen on the day. Especially so at the church and the church car-park and across at the national school car-park. Well done! The lovely stone flower and shrub bed on the corner near the river was admired. You have created a beautiful little picnic area by the river. The information board could hold some relevant local information. For example, on the Abbert River. The 1916 commemoration was admired too. Establishing flower beds in the ground is suggested over flower boxes on the railings. The tractor tyres should go from the unfinished surface on the road here.

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

A good entry here for Abbeyknockmoy as you have carried out work on a number of areas. One of the first things that the adjudicator saw on arriving at the bridge were your lovely new signs. You have also carried out a Spring Clean at one of the more important wildlife sites at Abbey and Abbert bogs. Well done to all involved. The owl

boxes are a great addition to habitat for our owl species. Makes sure that they are well monitored for use! Ask Bat Conservation Ireland for advice on where to place the bat-boxes. Your river is a wonderful resource. The adjudicator spent a few peaceful minutes watching hawk dragonflies and brown trout here. A bat-box was noted on the bridge, very good. Back toward the village, more tree-planting is recommended at the junction - inside the fencing.

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

Congratulations to the national school on its 3rd Green Flag! This is great. They are surely leading the way in water conservation in Abbeyknockmoy. However, is this message being spread and taken up by the householders? That is part of your task now. A lot of your initiatives here are based on the school and the community centre and that is fine. However, we'd like to see how you might get this message out. A good entry here though, with lots of interesting points. Your new polytunnel was noted.

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

Another good entry here, Abbeyknockmoy. Car-borne litter is no doubt troublesome and well done to the CE staff for doing the hard work in dealing with it. Have you considered anti-litter signage? It is often effective. The no-bins policy is a good one. The national school do a Spring Clean - do you help with this? You are discouraging fly-posting. Lots done! Watch out for old circus posters on lamp posts. Watch out for informal signage on poles.

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

You are encouraging householders to take the best care that they can and this is great. Grassed areas are well looked after. You are already using your polytunnel. The Granary Estate was neat. Cois na hAbhainn looks well too with good colours. Cnoc na gCaor was very neat indeed.

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

Works were underway to widen the road at the Galway side. The bridge is maintained annually. You maintain the flowerboxes on the Newtown Road. There are two new sign poles in front of the bridge sign at the Abbert River. Is the river name sign to be moved to these? It should be, but only after it is renewed or replaced as it is rather faded. There are lovely wooden flower boxes here but why not plant in the ground instead? The GAA club fencing is in need of repair.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

This is a lovely little place that is so well looked-after. You are working hard to keep it looking so good. Thanks so much.