

Tidy Towns Competition 2018

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carbury** Ref: **1189**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **275**
Category: **A** Date(s): **03/07/2018**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2017	Mark Awarded 2018
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	42	43
Streetscape & Public Places	50	34	36
Green Spaces and Landscaping	50	35	38
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	50	23	24
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	15	17
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	48	50
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	31	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	32	34
TOTAL MARK	450	260	275

Community – Your Planning and Involvement / An Pobal - Pleanáil agus Rannpháirtíocht:

Cuireann an moltóir seo fáilte roimh Carbury Cairbre chuig Comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2018 agus chuig Ceiliúradh 60 Bliain an Chomórtais. Carbury Village Tidy Towns is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition 2018 your 4th year in succession entering the competition. Thank you for your comprehensive application form, wonderful photographs and booklet on the history of the village, which was most interesting. The laminated A3 size map provided with your entry was very clear and well put together. However, it would be helpful if all newly completed works could be pinpointed on the map with a full description, as well as a number referring back to the submission. The Carbury historical booklet has a good location map showing all the important noteworthy features of the village and perhaps the Tidy Towns map could in some way be merged with this. Your Committee of ten members and twenty volunteers represents a large number to be involved in Tidy Towns, for a village the size of Carbury and indicates a strong sense of local commitment and community spirit – this is confirmed by high attendance figures at the Village Annual Summer BBQ, Christmas Party, Easter Egg Hunt and Vintage Tractor Runs. The Santa visit event seems to be a great success - Well done to all involved in organising these events. Your Committee meets monthly and monthly litter picks are undertaken and landscaping working groups meet regularly on evenings and at weekends to undertake various necessary works around the village. Your activities are supported by a range of local organisations and you communicate with the general public through Whatsapp groups, text alerts, Community Noticeboard, leaflets, Parish Newsletter, newspapers and Public meetings. The WOW 'Walk on Wednesdays' is a lovely idea to get those young children, who attend the local Scallywags Montessori Pre-School, interested in their surroundings and helping to nurture a sense of pride and respect in their community. It is heartening to note that as a result of the participation of Carbury in the Tidy Towns Competition in recent years, the Community as a whole now has a deep interest in how the village will develop in future years. You are to be congratulated for winning the Endeavour Award in 2016 and the Merit Award by your CE worker and it is clear from the walk around your village that the spirit of togetherness and collaboration, which gave rise to these Awards, is very much still in evidence in 2018.

Streetscape & Public Places / Sráid-Dreach & Áiteanna Poiblí:

As previously mentioned the Historical Trail booklet is a wonderful resource for your village and provides a platform for the further development of your heritage features and making them more accessible to the public. The old graveyard at Templedooth has particular heritage interest and the Baconstown Heritage Group have done a wonderful job in surveying the graveyard and collating the gravestone records, including photos of individual gravestones. Carbury Hill and Castle as well as the various heritage buildings in the village core could be highlighted as part of a Heritage Trail with individual signs and markers explaining their historical importance to visitors. The Castle Inn was particularly well presented with very colourful floral displays and is a highlight in the village. The treatment of unoccupied dwellings in the village was superb and the presentation of the former Garda

Station with the purple door was particularly admired. Could this building be refurbished for use as a Carbury Heritage Centre and Community facility? The car park at the Church requires some maintenance. Perhaps this could be upgraded and used as a starting point for your future Heritage Trail. Seating in the village is well maintained and is of a very high quality.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The entrance to Carbury is very impressive and the vertical sign made from Bog Oak and the floral display around the Carbury Tourism Sign, provide an excellent first impression. The Fairy Garden adjacent to the Mural Wall is a wonderful feature and enhances this part of the village and the Hostas planted against the timber fence also looked well - well done to all involved with these projects. Floral displays in the central core of the village did not disappoint and really conveyed the impression that Carbury village that is cared for and it's presentation is very important to local residents. The village pump has a splendid floral setting with appropriate landscaping. The overall standard of maintenance in the village is superb. This standard is carried through the year, as evidenced in your enclosed photographs, with Daffodil and other bulb planting displays providing a delightful splash of colour at Springtime.

Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality / An Dúlra agus an Bhithéagsúlacht i do cheantar:

It is noted that you have created a 'Hedgehog Village' at the rear of the Castle Inn car park. One wonders whether this attracts many of our spiny friends? You continue to work with the Kildare Branch of Birdwatch Ireland in providing Bird and Bat boxes in the village. Are these well used and are any unusual species occupying them? This could be a good investigative project to undertake. It will be good to see the swift boxes erected in the village in 2019.

Sustainability – Doing more with less / Inmharthanacht - Mórán ar an mbeagán:

The greening of your BBQ event during the Summer months by reducing the amount of plastic used is a worthy development. It is good that the Christmas Tree lighting has moved to an LED system which requires significantly less consumption of energy. Well done on the installation of Community Rainwater Butts at strategic locations in the village although they may have been empty for long periods this Summer! Water conservation is an important theme under this category and perhaps the use of water butts in private garden situations could also be encouraged. With regard to sustainable transport, it would be good to explore a pilot car-pooling initiative for the Village or provision of extra bicycle parking facilities. Electric vehicle charging infrastructure needs to be expanded around the country and perhaps a charge point could be installed at a suitable location in Carbury village?

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The village of Carbury is very neat and tidy and there are no major problems of clutter or litter to report thanks to your monthly litter picks and annual Spring Clean. The overhead power lines are intrusive on the streetscape and in the longer term should be placed underground, subject to significant finance being available. You have done a wonderful job in relation to the presentation of derelict and unoccupied premises which are painted on an annual basis.

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

Private houses and gardens in Carbury were generally presented to an excellent standard. In places this spilled over onto adjoining margins which were also tastefully planted and caught the eye. The residents in Carbury are to be commended for their continued efforts in this regard.

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

The roadside margins on the approach to Carbury are very neatly maintained and footpaths, road signage, markings and surfaces are generally well presented. The stonewalls which form boundaries to many properties add great character to the village and enhance road frontages and these were particularly enjoyed. It is important to ensure the preservation and protection of such boundary features, as they are a very significant element of the built heritage of Carbury.

Concluding Remarks:

Carbury has made great strides this year and your Committee, volunteers and local residents should be very proud of what you have achieved as a result of all your hard work. You are wished well in your future endeavours.