

Tidy Towns Competition 2018

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Coilldubh** Ref: **279**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **233**
Category: **B** Date(s): **12/07/2018**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2017	Mark Awarded 2018
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	28	29
Streetscape & Public Places	50	30	31
Green Spaces and Landscaping	50	33	34
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	50	18	19
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	12	13
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	44	45
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	32	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	27	28
TOTAL MARK	450	224	233

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

Cuireann an moltóir seo fáilte roimh Coilldubh chuig Comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2018 agus chuig Ceiliúradh 60 Bliain an Chomórtais. Coilldubh is very welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition 2018 your 21st year entering the Competition. Thank you for your application and hand-drawn map. It is good to mark on the map the work that you have completed over the last year with a key legend so that the adjudicator can assess your projects from year to year. You have a loyal Committee of approximately 9 members who meet regularly, with a further 6 Volunteers who assist with your work. You receive support from the wider community, Kildare County Council and the local school and you communicate directly with local residents and through social media. Have you approached the local GAA club who may be able to assist you with some of your work initiatives in the future?

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

Coilldubh is a very attractive village characterised by pleasant green areas and handsome trees, overlooked by a well-appointed housing estate, built in the early 1950's. The Coilldubh namestone located in the centre of the village looked well. It is great to note that ten seats and litter bins have been secured for placement around the village. A number of these were spotted and will be a great addition to your community. The stone wall at the entrance to Woodlands Grove is very attractive. However, a damaged section of the wall needs to be repaired. It is presumed this will be arranged shortly. The credit union building was well presented and maintained with good quality landscaping. The front gate could be painted and additional flower displays provided at the entrance to the premises. The Community Centre was visited. Some planting could be carried out on the grass margin located to the front of this building.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The green areas along the road in the Centre of the village are well maintained and presented with wonderful amenity tree planting. Individual houses are well kept with some properties adorned with wonderful floral displays. Consider creating some beds of herbaceous perennials or bulbs around obstacles or trees located on the open space areas, as this creates visual interest and cuts down on future maintenance requirements. A small children's play facility would also be suitable here and would encourage greater interaction amongst local residents.

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

You have not been in a position to achieve great things this year under this category, For next year consider installing more bird and bat boxes around the open spaces in the area. A Bug Hotel in the village or in the school grounds would also be beneficial. Are there any sites locally such as wetlands, streams or hedgerows which are

considered good habitats for wildlife. A wildlife walk or talk in conjunction with the local school could be organised in this regard

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

You may wish to initiate the development of a community garden in the village or else encourage the school to build one, if they have not done so already, to show the children the techniques for growing vegetables and herbs etc. Local residents could be encouraged to insulate their houses to save on Winter energy bills and to reduce CO2 emissions, Grants are available from the SEAI for this. The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland website has good information in relation to the development of Better Energy Communities. The installation of water butts should be encouraged to aid the watering of garden plants and to reduce drinking water consumption.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Congratulations on your 'Lily White Clean Up' event which appears to have been a great success with John Doyle former Kildare GAA player in attendance. Coilldubh is generally neat and tidy but one presumes litter is often generated from passing traffic and regular checks and pick-ups are needed to maintain a clean environment. It is good to remain vigilant and arrange to remove litter when it arises, as litter left lying tends to generate more. Some road signs along approach roads need cleaning.

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

Estates in Coilldubh are presented and maintained to a high standard. Residential dwellings in the centre of the village are very well presented with attractive gardens, boundaries and floral displays. The tree-lined access into Willow Lawns estate was admired. Pay attention to estate entrances as the first impression when one enters an estate can be very important and colourful plantings provided around name-stones etc. indicates that the area is well cared for by local residents.

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

Condition of the road surfaces and road markings on the approaches to the village were good. The footpaths and road edges on the approaches to the village would benefit from some upgrading works. Hedgerows and trees should be maintained in the interest of encouraging wildlife, unless there are safety or sight line concerns. It is good to have prominent Village name-stones installed with floral displays determining the boundary of the village, as this assists the passing motorist and visitor and enhances the approaches to your village.

Concluding Remarks:

Coilldubh is a unique style of village which is intrinsically beautiful. Relatively minor improvement works, carefully planned and considered, could make a great impact on the environs and presentation of the village. Keep up the good work.