

# Tidy Towns Competition 2018

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballinamore** Ref: **422**  
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **309**  
Category: **C** Date(s): **21/06/2018**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2017</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2018</b>
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	47	46
Streetscape & Public Places	50	37	38
Green Spaces and Landscaping	50	45	46
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	50	33	34
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	24	25
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	51	52
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	29	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	38	38
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>309</b>

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

Cuireann an moltóir fáilte roimh Béal an Atha Móir chuig Comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2018 agus chuig Ceiliúradh 60 Bliain an Chomórtais. We welcome you Ballinamore to the SuperValu Tidy Towns Competition and to the celebration of the sixtieth year of the SuperValu Tidy Towns Competition!

You certainly have a lot of support in your committee and volunteer members. It is good to see that the people involved come from across all age groups. You hold meetings once a month during the year, but like every active and ambitious Tidy Towns group you 'step up' the regularity of your meetings during the summer months. You have an impressive list of agencies, bodies and businesses that support you. We are not surprised that you list Waterways Ireland at the head of this list - given your location. It is also impressive to see that you say all town businesses support your endeavors.

You communicate through texting, newsletter, local newspaper and posters. We certainly think that you are correct in considering setting up a Facebook page. Firstly this will appeal to the younger generation, but will also save on paper usage.

Well done on having a liaison officer for the various schools in your area. We also note that you work with the Scouts and with Foróige. Thank you for the photograph of your liaison officer on the school visit with the Tidy Towns bilingual poster and the 'bin the gum' sign.

You actually have not identified any specific project where a particular effort was applied since June last year. We take this to mean that you have applied the same effort across the board to all your projects. We are delighted to know that the competition creates huge community spirit and pride, and this converts to action. It is also great to hear that the work is positive and uplifting for yourselves and your visitors.

Your folder was very extensive. It would have been helpful to the adjudicator if you had a topic/category/page index included. And various entries into your folder would be clearer if they were entered as per the category sequence in the entry form. References and photographs scattered throughout the folder were a little difficult to follow 'over and back' as a result. Another issue is that not all of the photographs referred to projects for this year. Some of them were carried out in previous years. You need to make clearer throughout your entry form also in general in identifying the exact new projects for the current year.

Your five-year tidy towns plan is well out of date. You say that you need to sit down and revise your 2012 to 2016 plan. For such an enthusiastic and active group - we are a little surprised that you have not done this already. We note in your letter that you have had a consultation process in relation to the future development of your town.

Presumably this will form part of your Tidy Towns plan. We know that it is hard to balance the research and 'home work' involved in preparing the plan with the actual work on-the-ground. However it is critical that you are working to a good plan for various reasons. A plan will be helpful to you in deciding how you will work into the future. You should provide a timescale for any projects you consider feasible and suitable over the lifetime of the plan. These should be listed under the various category headings. This will help you to focus on what is good forward planning and also what is achievable from a practical point-of-view. It can also help to attract outside funding or other help in achieving your goals. When people see that you have a plan available they will see that you are serious about your objectives. (And don't forget that submitting a plan will help to gain you extra marks in this category.) You should consult locally in preparing such a plan. You should tell us as to how you went about this consultation. You should also consider any statutory and non-statutory plans applicable to your town in drawing up your work programme.

In your folder you gave us a list of the clubs, organisations, and groups in your town. Certainly this is impressive, and we hope that they are all people that you can call upon. We note that you were about to host the Connacht Fleadh shortly after our visit to your town. We hope that it was a successful week.

Supervalu have kindly given you space for an impressive Tidy Towns notice board within their premises.

The town map submitted is a tourist map of your town, but it did show key buildings and did show approach roads and some housing estates (only). In the entry form guidelines (item 3) you were asked to "please number each new or continuing project for 2018 on your entry form under the correct category. These numbers should be shown on the legend to the town or village map where relevant." Furthermore in item 5 it is stated "when numbering projects your first project under streetscape and public places should be numbered 1 and carry this numeric sequence into subsequent categories". You have not numbered the projects sequentially through the entry form nor have you shown such numbers relevant to the ('mappable') projects on your map. You have simply numbered projects individually under each category heading in the entry form. Nor have you indicated clearly as to whether these are new projects, maintenance projects or future projects. We recommend that you carefully study the guidelines to completing your entry form annually. Do not leave the responsibility of filling in the form to one person - discuss it at a meeting - and do not leave it until the last minute. Sometimes groups get so involved in working on the ground that they rush putting the entry form together. It is very helpful to an adjudicator to have a good clear map showing all the new and continuing projects which relate to the numbered list throughout the entry form. Some projects were inserted under non relevant categories - but we credited them all in their correct category. Next year try to keep the projects in their correct categories.

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

Ballinamore is a very fine town with a bustling atmosphere. The changes in ground level and consequent roof level add interest in views to the town on approaching from Carrick on Shannon and conversely on approaching downhill from the opposite direction.

The Courthouse is one of your most important buildings. You mention (item number four) that a feasibility project has been done on the Courthouse. When was this study carried out? We hope that this feasibility study had the input of a conservation architect. Does your local authority have an Architectural Conservation Officer? If so this is a key person to work with. The Heritage Officer is also important in this regard. We note that work was carried out in 2016 to help ensure conservation in basic ways. We are unsure as to whether the hand written words at the bottom of the submitted typed letter saying that "there will be a new meeting the following week" refers to the time of that letter 2015 or to this year. We assume that the Courthouse cleanup was also carried out in 2016 as it is listed as a February 2016 project. Perhaps sending photographs of a 2016 project is a little confusing. We are looking at projects for the last 12 months and maintenance programs - together with mention of future projects. We understand that you are anxious to progress this conservation case and we look forward to hearing about further developments. As during a previous visit we also admired the local library building which respects the existing street line on both its elevations.

It is great to see that the old HSE clinic has got a new lease of life in the form of a tourism, angling, and business centre - as well as a resource centre. Providing the disability access is critical and well done on that. We felt that the plethora of notices in the doorways detracted from the neat appearance of the building. Could a good external notice board be provided? The boundary wall by the church side - along which the grab rails are sited - needs repainting. We are also glad to see that the old vocational school has now got a new use as a childcare centre.

The Credit Union building is restrained. It provides a good example of limiting external attachments to premises in the Main Street - suggested by last year's adjudicator - and agreed with by this year's adjudicator! Have you made any progress on auditing this issue? The properties on either side of the Credit Union building are likewise well presented - without 'fuss'.

Extending bilingual signage - such as you say you have done at Ceannabo Street, Riversdale complex, the Willows, and Páirc Fea is important work. Incidentally - it was impossible to see the sign at the Cúl Fea estate as it was 'buried' in overgrown grass. The six new heritage and tourism signs are important additions. Do be careful that the signs are clearly visible and located in an appropriate place. For instance - the heritage trail sign at the town end of the Golf Links road can hardly be seen because of competing signs for a shop and a green fingerpost sign. Individually the signs are good but the effect is cluttered.

You are working with Tesco to improve their general area.

The angling centre has been upgraded and we noticed your photograph of the eager anglers getting ready for their four day competition in May. Great improvements have been made at the Canal Bank. You have listed these and given us photographs thereof in your folder. The Locaboat Marina has been upgraded.

Your photograph of the 1916 Séan Mac Diarmada plaque seems to refer to a project carried out before this year - probably in 2016.

Although you mention the painting of the hotel under the Residential etc. category we credit you here with same. Likewise the 'resuscitation' of the derelict buildings on Main Street is credited here under Streetscape etc. - rather than under Residential etc. where you mention it. Finally although you mention the new riverside signage and maintenance thereof under Residential etc. - we credit it here under Streetscape.

The Ballinamore Education Centre was very well presented with artistic floral containers noted. St. Patrick's Boys' School was also well presented, although the clothing bank there was a little rusty. The nature signs were admired on the grounds of the school. A blue gable - (just before the large Canal Store high sign) and the sign itself would benefit from painting before next year's adjudication. The building also (now partly occupied by Lollipops preschool) - as well as its gable needs repainting. Some dereliction was observed across the road from here. At the private marina entrance - Locaboat - holders for hanging baskets which were unused should be removed. This private Marina was well presented - although a faded white sign on the gate detracted a little. Building works were in progress at our Lady of Fatima School/Scoil Bríde. The nearby convent has been sold according to on-site signage - and hopefully will receive improvement works with a new owner. This building is particularly strident in views from the Golf Links approach road.

Like last year's adjudicator we were extremely impressed with the Primary Care Centre. Architecturally the building is very well designed. The landscaping is superb. The signage is appropriate, modern and interesting. The site is in a lovely location with excellent views from the site back towards the town and surrounding countryside. It is also very accessible to those who use the services provided there.

The Community School is indeed a very fine addition to your built environment. The bold choice of the green colour scheme stood out, and the associated street furniture - e.g. signage, bicycle racks, lighting, flagpoles etc. associated with the complex is modern, classically simple and functional. The landscaping is well executed. But a length of the roadside fencing has been left without landscaping - we wondered why. The sculpture/public art is striking - and indeed the motto is equally applicable to a Tidy Towns group - "Ar scath a cháile a mhaireann na daoine." We thought that the concrete seats(?) on the courtyard side of the sculpture looked rather out-of-place.

At the railway square we thought it a pity that uPVC inserts have been placed in the station building. The Cara pharmacy is a good example of a modern insertion into an existing terrace which respects the architectural features already in existence.

Murphy's newsagents shop was well presented. We commend the use of Irish and the lovely bright red painting. Weedy edges around the old St Patrick's church looked poorly, but the great tree outside distracts the eye somewhat from the weeds!

The Catholic Church and the Church of Ireland were well presented. The simple classical shrub planting in simple stone boxes at the steps to the Catholic Church looked very well, and stainless steel railings have replaced the old railings since our last visit some 7 years ago. As on our last visit we particularly admired the infill appropriate development of the solicitor's office above the church and noted its Irish 'Dlíodóirí.' We felt that a nearby red/white hardware premises was cluttered - both on its elevation with signage, flags etc, - and in its footpath display. The Tabhairne an Bhainc name plate looked really well with its use of old Irish lettering.

Well done too on your bilingual signage in relation to individual streets, in relation to native species signage, and on your Tidy Towns signage re taking your litter home.

### **Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:**

Well done on your 35 new perennial shrub plantings on the embankment - this being a work in progress. Similarly at the Carrigallen junction some pollinator friendly planting is taking place. 'Before' and 'after' photographs are very helpful to an adjudicator - so thank you for those before and after photographs at the Tesco site and at the junction of Carrigallen road as well as on St Brigid Street.

We very much liked the library event in relation to looking at the landscape (and the built environment) of your county through the eyes of your famous author John McGahern. You say that this was "keeping John McGahern alive," but it also very importantly gets people to appreciate their environment in all its different built and physical aspects. (It is an event that this adjudicator would have loved to attend and we think it was very imaginative in relation to the issue of Landscaping holistically.)

The Mens' Shed provide you with containers for planting. They are providing train flower boxes and wheelbarrows. A railway theme is appropriate for your town. Thank you for the photographs thereof. You obviously have a very active and talented Mens' Shed group. You also have revived a poly tunnel. We liked the photographs of the large number of people involved in their planting teamwork day - contained in your folder.

Although you mention planting at the new secondary school under Streetscape and Public Places - we credit it here as well - as well as crediting your new perennial planting at the new primary care hospital also. We admired the tree

surrounds of the Supervalu car park. Hanging baskets or other floral arrangements should not be attached to lighting standards or other power poles in the interests of safety.

The railway square area looked very well. The fountain was playing. We agree with last year's adjudicator that the railway signalling needs attention. Some road markings in this area are in need of repainting.

The green areas are strimmed and mowed by the Rural Social Scheme workers and volunteers. We deal with your landscaping work with residents' associations under the Residential etc. category. The transition students of St. Felim's secondary school are to be congratulated for their flower box project.

Waterways Ireland has completed a new canal bank walk to Aghoo, which includes landscaping at the lock gates. Well done to the school with the new community garden. You have ensured that a major new road junction on the approach from Carrick on Shannon has been landscaped. Finally we look forward to the details of the Greenway proposed. Although outside your town speed limit boundaries - the Lock 5 area is connected by the canal walk. The landscaping/ Blueway signage etc. are all in splendid order here. What a peaceful amenity! It was difficult to 'tear oneself away' on a sunny day!

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

It is great to see that you availed of the National Parks and Wildlife service advisory sessions during biodiversity week. You attended a bat conservation talk and walk in May in your own town. Furthermore you had a talk on the history, values, and quality of Leitrim's hedgerows in May. Moreover you have been working on a hedgerow project beside the canal. We hope that you enjoyed your biodiversity Day in May at the Organic Centre.

Like many other groups throughout the country you have the misfortune to have some invasive species in your midst. Thank you for the information on this in your folder. We see that work to eradicate the Japanese knot weed is underway. This is not an easy task, and we wish you continuing success. You have the expert help of Waterways Ireland in this project. Removal is a professional's job - or more harm than good can be done.

Credit is due to the Girls' School and St. Patrick's Boys School for their lovely informative posters of mini beasts, wildflowers, trees and shrubs, and birds. Again we are unsure as to when this project was carried out. We saw the photographs in your folder. Well done to the junior school with its bug hotel, sensory garden, water harvester tank and new signage.

Well done also to the liaison officer who held talks to highlight birds and small animals to the local Scouts group. Two committee members are part of Leitrim Birdwatch. They pass on their expertise to you.

We are delighted that you allow the metre of wildlife corridor along cut areas. The new Greenway will be a haven for wildlife.

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

Although you do not mention the new bus routes linking up with train routes as part of an effort to reduce carbon footprints - this is in fact what you are doing.

Your 'keep cups' project is a good example of how you can prevent waste before it arrives in your town through using a reusable 'keep cup' for your takeaway teas and coffees. We also noted your hession reusable shopping basket photograph.

Well done to all the teachers and children involved in the Green Flag programme in your schools.

It is great that you have requested an e charging point from the ESB and Leitrim County Council. We hope that this will be in situ for next year's adjudicator.

The recycling ensuing from the spring clean is good. Recycling of batteries and lighting is also good -as is the recycling of cardboard and plastic. The Mens' Shed recycle pallets to make boxes for your usage and for other purposes. How successful was the schools recycling drive? You have given us copies of your local authority's recycling advice notes.

We hope that in attending waste management meetings you will find out about very innovative projects which deal with preventing the formation of waste before it arises as waste. Keep in touch with the Environmental Awareness Officer of your local authority.

Would you consider joining the Green Homes scheme? Would your businesses consider coming together and carrying out an assessment of where they can contribute to the reduction of waste before it becomes an issue in each of their own businesses? The Tidy Towns Handbook will also help you to come up with ideas. There is also a local waste prevention website - which you can link to from the Tidy Towns website.

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

It is good to have a litter plan. However it does need updating as 2012 is eight years ago now and things have

moved on a little bit in your town and in relation to litter management generally. We see that you are participating in Leitrim litter management plan meetings. Perhaps you can 'dovetail' an updated litter plan into this county plan. The Rural Social Scheme and Tús workers have weekly litter pickups. And they are helped by volunteers on Fridays. Rehab care service users very kindly provide you with a weekly pick-up on the Golf Links road. You use local radio and local newspapers to highlight your issues with litter. The town was litter free mostly. Well done on being involved in An Taisce annual spring clean on Good Friday. We saw the many photographs of this event in your folder. We notice in all photographs that your volunteers looked very happy - so it is good to see that participation provides enjoyment as well as work!

Well done to the young students who drew up the Keep Ballinamore Tidy posters which you attached in your folder. Well done on organising the colouring competitions for your national schools. You do not acknowledge the author of the Ballinamore gum wrapper poem/song. Well done to the author in any event! We loved the idea also of the Green Flag song - the Boys' National School were the authors/composers of this.

We note that you as the committee and your volunteers attend any event advertised regarding the ethos of Tidy Towns. You attended the litter bug event.

You have tidied up the riverbank along the Fohera River in the centre of the town.

It is helpful always to have fingerpost signage for your recycling banks/bring banks. We note your participation in the 'Adopt a Bring Bank' scheme. It is also helpful to the adjudicator when you specifically explain where the Bring Banks are situated. Well done to the RSS workers who check the site out daily and tidy up any untidiness found. Nonetheless we found that the immediate surrounds of the receptacles needed sweeping on adjudication day. A scatter of small paper litter, a plastic bag etc. were to be seen along the edge of the receptacles on the plinth. The pink clothes banks were quite rusty and a few pieces of cardboard and paper were seen nearby. There were also a few weeds along adjacent kerbing - near the signage. The small brown sign had shrub branches encroaching. The site is exposed on a major approach road and the set-back surface in parts is rough. There is little amelioration of the rather raw siting in the form of landscaping or planting. Your local authority also helps you to keep the banks in good order. You have the banks washed twice yearly. We note your request for another clear glass Bring Bank. A lot of recycled glass consists of clear glass jars for yogurts and jams etc, so this bank does fill up quickly. The location of the banks near the GAA pitch is - as you say an advantage from a convenience point of view. The existence of the pedestrian footpath is also helpful - especially when it allows the children to walk up to the Bring Banks from school. You informed all local residents seven years ago about the Bring Banks, encouraging good use thereof. You provided us with a number of photographs of the Bring Bank site including the new 'no dumping' sign.

The Mens' Shed group do not confine themselves to constructing floral containers etc., but also - we see in your folder - they 'busied' themselves painting the wall at the vocational school

We do not know when your household waste survey was carried out; as there appears to be no date on the covering letter nor on the surveys. We would also be interested knowing if the results have been collated and analysed.

You promote tidiness and the removal of visible debris, old signage etc. Railings on the bridge have been painted. Some fly posting was noted re-support for a Lord mayoral candidate and a festival in a few locations - starting with a poster on the Carrick on Shannon approach.

Christmas signs look very out of place in June. Therefore the Nollaig Shona Dhuit large sign at the Supervalu car park entrance/the end wall of the large block of apartments should be removed. A sign opposite the exit of the Supervalu car park sited against a pole on the footpaths should be removed. A circus fly post was observed on a light pole near a bar.

We noticed what appears to be a defunct poly tunnel beside the basketball court. We saw an empty white pole in the stone wall near the finger post signs just at the town end of the Golf Links Road - near the bridge. If this has no use it should be removed - or its use re-established.

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

Both residences within the town's streets and in estate areas looked cared-for. The new cut stone flower box at Trathnóna will enhance this area. It is a pity that outdoor drying areas were not provided for in this small enclave. Some boundary walls would benefit from repainting in the Lahard estate. In this vicinity we would suggest that you desist from planting in large concrete containers which are inappropriate. Planting sustainably in the existing grass would be preferable.

You are presently working with the Willows estate in relation to landscaping etc.

You hold a best kept road, best kept house and garden and best kept business premises competitions. These competitions must keep you busy. The Mens' Shed is providing planting boxes. There is a representative from each resident's committee on your text alert list. You encourage the painting of houses and the maintenance of good gardens.

The Willows estate has planted trees and got some new public seating. You have landscaped some flower beds for residential areas with perennial planting.

A dead tree was noted close to the entrance to the Na Sailí housing estate. The sign was internal to the estate and not visible from the roadway. Housing estates names should be visible from the adjacent roads as one travels in each direction. The laurel hedging at the entrance looked well. It was impossible to see the sign at the Cúl Fea estate as it was 'buried' in overgrown grass.

It seemed a pity that newly planted trees at the entrance to the Cúl Fea estate appear to be all conifers. It was nice to see the natural hedges included. Manholes were protruding from the roadway.

Gleann Dara estate near the Tesco site appears to have no name sign on the road servicing the site. Perhaps a fingerpost sign might be provided.

There was no name sign on the estate off St. Brigid Street.

Cois Abhainn area was neat. The new wall plantings opposite the apartments looked well.

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

You have applied for funding for a footpath to the graveyard just outside the town. You mention the painting of the bridge again here and the work on the clinic has been dealt with already under Streetscape etc. Cutting verges along the approach roads has been dealt with under biodiversity. The Courthouse has been dealt with under Streetscapes etc.

You engage the TÚS worker in relation to weeding of approach roads. We agree that you have lots of green areas which make a good first impression. You say that pedestrian crossings work well. This is good to hear.

On the Carrick on Shannon approach we admired the nice blue town sign. However two advertising signs in the road margin might be removed. We also noted your town twinning with Brittany sign. Trimming was observed, but not all cut vegetation was swept away. Lock five access was very well maintained and gave entry to the canal bank walk. You showed in your photographs - photographs of the new water pipes being replaced on the main Carrick on Shannon approach road. The road inwards from here to the 50 K pH needs resurfacing after the utility pipe laying. Therefore this area is a little bit untidy. However this is understandable and we look forward to finalisation of these works before the 2019 adjudication period. The uprights of the 50 K pH road signage would benefit from repainting. Some boundary walls along this approach needs repair. We noted the location of the Japanese knotweed problem also. There was an element of traffic congestion as one nears the town close to a garage due to the parking of a lorry and an illegally parked car. Some agricultural fertilisers were stored roadside near a garage. Could the security fencing here be provided with some planting/screening?

On the Stradermot /Aughcashel / Aughnasheelin approach road we observed a broken down fence and a 'headless' pole just inside the 50 kph /town side and some encroachment of vegetation on signage. The Sliabh an Iarainn Walks signage is yellowing/faded at the junction on the Golf Links Road town end. A broken fallen branch somewhat obscured signage at the junction.

On the Golf Links Road An Cuan apartments were very well presented, but a rough area of surfacing with stones and weeds on the town side contrasts with the 'manicured' canal side surrounding. This approach road - which it seems is used a lot as a popular walking route requires a little trimming. We noted a derelict Portakabin. A 'prepare to stop' sign on this approach was somewhat obscured by vegetation. The brown amenity sign at the entrance to the canal/Waterways Ireland site was facing the wrong way on adjudication day. The Ballinamore Waterways Ireland sign was totally obscured by trees. This is a lovely treed approach to the town and footpaths all the way into town from here are weed free. The Ballinamore textile site detracts a lot from this approach being derelict and weedy. Have you any influence in this regard? The lateral wall of a site containing three units needs paint - as does the front gable and the removal of a redundant metal sign. Furthermore the parking of a car on the footpath outside these units blocked the footpath on adjudication day. This looks untidy - but also more importantly is problematic for pedestrians - particularly those with mobility issues or wheelchair users/buggy users. The 'Adopt a Road' sign here needs renewal. It is a pity that these few issues somewhat mar the attractive canal/golf links approach.

On the Killymooden approach grass was being cut on adjudication day at the junction. This approach is a little overgrown in places, but we admired the lovely foxgloves and honeysuckle in the hedges. Apartments opposite this area as one arrives in the town appear to be only partly occupied and the rear elevations face the Supervalu car park.

On the Cloone approach we noted your twinning sign. Several advertising signs should be removed if possible. These were located around the vicinity of the Tidy Towns sign! We also noted fly posting and a trailer sign at the Cloone road junction. Across from this junction the very raw and long green security fencing to the hardware premises should be landscaped/planted if possible.

There were some advertising signs and some fly posting on the Killeshandra approach. A new footpath has been provided on the Killeshandra road which you intend to landscape. It is important to obtain focused advice on such landscaping at a local level because each site is particular to itself. For instance the soil type available affects choices. Overall we would suggest to you to use native varieties of perennial shrubbery which is pollinator friendly - but do get appropriate advice if possible. The new footpaths were completely weed-free.

Considerable on-footpath parking was noted near the basketball court. This is detrimental for reasons already outlined above.

Some advertising was again noticed on the Enniskillen approach road and a number of current circus posters also. Hopefully these would be removed as soon as the circus is over.

**Concluding Remarks:**

As an adjudicator we were looking forward to a return visit after seven years to your lovely town. You have a lot of natural advantages and you have also retained the character of your busy main street. Your significant new buildings are architecturally excellent and will provide a template for future development. You are a hard-working group on the ground. We would suggest that you pay some particular attention to making your entry clearer with possibly less additional information unless it is very relevant .

We wish you continued success this year and into the future. Go n-éirí libh i rith na blianta atá romhainn!