

Tidy Towns Competition 2018

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Castletown-Kilpatrick** Ref: **298**
County: **Meath** Mark: **316**
Category: **A** Date(s):

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2017	Mark Awarded 2018
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	40	40
Streetscape & Public Places	50	37	37
Green Spaces and Landscaping	50	45	45
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	50	27	27
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	18	18
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	70	71
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	36	37
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	40	41
TOTAL MARK	450	313	316

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

Cuireann an moltóir seo fáilte roimh Baile an Chaisleán chuig Comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2018 agus chuig Ceiliúradh 60 Bliain an Chomórtais. We warmly welcome Castletown-Kilpatrick to welcome to the 2018 Supervalu Tidy Towns competition – it was a pleasure to visit your lovely village for the first time. Please note that the adjudication visit was conducted without your entry form to hand as on arrival at the village, we noted that it was a 2017 application. This report, however, was written with the 2018 entry form to hand by which time we had discovered the sketch map in the 2017 envelope. We would recommend that you make such a crucial part of the entry form a bit more obvious to the adjudicator. Please mark any new visible projects on your map each year. Photos of your recent work would be helpful to the adjudicator. Your committee of 8-10 members has the support of the wider community for specific events and tasks. Your varied means of communication (including Facebook) ensures that your messages are being conveyed to all. We are delighted to note that the students of Castletown N.S. continue to assist your efforts. It is encouraging to hear that Tidy Towns in Castletown brings the community together in a social way. We are delighted to hear that Castletown is a role model for other similar villages. Keep up the good work.

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

The new cemetery is beautifully maintained. Flynn's Centra/Pub appears neat and fresh as does the red and white pump house across the street. The nearby water pump painted in county colours, makes an attractive feature. All is nicely maintained at the pitch & putt club. Both the school and church have attractive grounds.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

You are performing well in this category and take great pride in your village landscaping. Planted stone beds give a welcoming first impression to the village. The beautifully maintained 'FAILTE' sign is another highlight. You have a good mix of trees, shrubs, perennials and bedding plants. We loved the perennial bed to the rear of the 1916 garden. The latter has become well established. We look forward to seeing the new water feature next time. The standard of maintenance at all planted areas was quite high. The shrubbery over the wall from the 1916 garden just needs a little weeding. Is there a reason for the green plastic sheeting on the ground? It looks a little untidy. The loose brick here should be removed. We loved your stone planters but would kindly suggest that in the future, you save them for areas of hard landscaping and not grass areas where permanent planting is possible.

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

Castletown has some fine hedgerows on approach to the village. It was nice to see that they are not

over-manicured. Do you have anybody in the community with a knowledge/interest in this area? Why not google the National Pollinator Plan (Community Actions) to pick up some simple tips that the committee and Castletown residents can take on board in order to assist our struggling pollinators? Simple initiatives like less mowing or leaving certain back areas unmown can make a difference. Do also please tell us if the school children are carrying out any surveys or other projects related to this category, particularly if they are working on their 5th Green Flag for Biodiversity. We would like to have a green schools update for 2018. You mention a 'Junior Tidy Towns' for the first time under this category. Is this the same as the green schools committee in school or a separate group? We look forward to hearing of further progress next time. You might also consider seeking some advice with regard to pollinator-friendly planting for any new landscaping schemes.

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

This category encompasses how we can become a more sustainable community in terms of saving waste, water, energy and travel. You are conscious of the need to conserve water and now have three water butts in assist with your summer watering programme. The community is well versed in recycling of various household items. You now have three water butts to assist with your summer watering. Well done to all the teachers and students involved in Green Schools activities – we would like to have had a current update in relation to this category. In the future, you may wish to consider plant choices that require less watering and/or are more wildlife-friendly. Have any committee members attended any workshops or events hosted by the Environmental Awareness Office of Meath Co Co? Your mulching lawnmower provides you with a more sustainable for of grass cutting. We look forward to hearing of further progress next year.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The cleanliness of the village is impressive -. there is an air of pride about the place. Well done to all. Your weekly litter patrols are paying dividends and preventing any litter building up. We must also give credit to the Junior Tidy Towns committee for their commitment in keeping the village looking its best. Your efforts to clean up approach roads four times per year are commended. The picnic area behind the church was spotless apart from one piece of litter. (Hillside Drive) although the brightly painted bin was approaching full.

Castletown presents a tidy appearance. Weed control in beds and along kerbs is very good. We would like to see bus stop timetables in their allocated slots. Please see a couple of minor items under 'Landscaping' above.

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

The standard in this category is high and there is a feeling of pride as you pass the many village homes – mostly neat and fresh. Hillside Drive is neatly presented as are the many private homes along your approach roads. We admired a fine display of roses in one garden on the Slane Rd. Well done to all the proud residents of Castletown-Kilpatrick and keep up the good work.

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

Your approaches are well-defined, particularly the Navan road, where 'Welcome' signage and stone flower bed sets the tone for what lies ahead. We noted a flower bed under construction on the leafy Nobber Rd. The church/pub car park was in good order.

Concluding Remarks:

It is heartening to hear that participation in Tidy Towns has improved the appearance of your village. We would like to see a little more focus on how you encourage your residents to live in a more sustainable way. You have a lovely village that you are rightly proud of. Well done Castletown-Kilpatrick Tidy Towns and keep up the good work.