

# Tidy Towns Competition 2021

## Adjudication Report

Centre: <b>Castledaly - Caisleán Uí Dhálaigh</b>	Ref: <b>221</b>
County: <b>Westmeath</b>	Mark: <b>301</b>
Category: <b>B</b>	Date(s): <b>25/07/2021</b>

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2021</b>
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	43
Streetscape & Public Places	60	41
Green Spaces and Landscaping	60	44
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	50	32
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	14
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	33
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>301</b>

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

Fáilte Chuig Comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2021. Táimid buíoch daoibh as ucht na hiontrála a chur chugainn. Go raibh maith agaibh as ucht bhur dtacaíocht le linn na paindéime. Lean leis an dea-obair. Congratulations on your new three-year plan for Castledaly which will be invaluable in guiding Tidy Towns activities for Castledaly. Covid activities which included the meals on wheels service each Wednesday and also the Lockdown Blanket where each member knitted small squares which was later sewn together and donated to fund raising for cancer treatment is commendable; there is obviously strong community spirit in Castledaly. Also noteworthy is the sponsorship received for the new planters made from recycled materials and youth involvement in Tidy Towns activities. Congratulations on the acquisition of the new community garden potting shed also constructed from new and recycled materials. The attached photographs are excellent, thank you.

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

Clever treatment to the derelict site/old shop/petrol pumps is noteworthy and is of special significance in that it not only enhances the appearance of Castledaly but it also provides a habitat for a number of species of wildlife. It's good to note the committee's liaison with Westmeath County Council regarding this site and again thank you for the excellent photographs. The relocated seating installed in the graveyard is commendable and the playground located within the GAA pitch appears to be receiving appropriate attention also. We wish you every success in developing the proposed (seasonal) Community Walk where the natural environments can be experienced by all.

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

The strategic placement of twenty-four planters within Castledaly must enhance visual amenity significantly, your adjudicator looks forward to seeing these at a future date. Congratulations on the creation of the Community Herb Garden, it is good to note how invaluable this has proved to be for the Wednesday Club Meals-on-Wheels food preparation. Consideration might also be given to the creation of a Sensory Garden and / or Community Orchard being sure to plant native when possible and keep pollinators in mind; all new developments should feature universal access.

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

Well done on the emphasis on wildlife in both the memorial area and the old picnic area, this echoes Sustainable Goal 15 "Life on Land" together with initiatives such as the Bug Hotel, bird boxes and the swift nesting box and calling system at the National School; thank you for the links to the relevant videos. How fascinating that wasps are acting as a natural pesticide which leave salad leaves and lettuce intact! The distribution of ash seedlings to

residents for their gardens is a superb idea! Allowing the seedlings to grow at the back of the school for later distribution throughout the community is a very creative initiative as is your Facebook competition with prizes of 20 insect boxes to promote biodiversity! Again Sustainable Goal 15 “ Life on Land” is complemented.

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

The successful partnership between the Tidy Towns group, the DRCD and Westmeath County Council and business and household sponsorship which funded the potting shed, raised beds, and planters ties in with Sustainable Goal 17 “Partnership for the Goals” and is to be applauded. We wish the committee every success in further fundraising to extend Castledaly’s composting facility; water harvesting is favourably noted. also noteworthy is the installation of the energy efficient lighting systems at the GAA premises. We acknowledge the plan to install bicycle racks within the village next year.

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

How frustrating it must be that most of Castledaly’s litter is Take-Away materials from neighbouring centres which is thrown from vehicles along approach roads to the village; all involved in the clean-ups are to be praised for the civic mindedness! It is reassuring to note that the committee is engaging with Westmeath County Council on the issue of household dumping, hopefully this will be resolved. The segregation of litter for recycling is invaluable

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

It is laudable that all residential areas are well maintained and residents are supportive of Tidy Towns activities. The Ash seedling initiative for gardens will make a significant contribution to both visual amenity and wildlife as they mature in the coming years. Castledaly’s Facebook page could also be used for involving households in wild bird identification in the garden.

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

Further congratulations are extended on the acquisition of bi-lingual name plates, we look forward to seeing these in future adjudications. The flashing speed reminders alongside your slowdown road signs is of immeasurable value for road safety and no doubt for the quality of life for residents. Regular clean-ups and maintenance of roadside areas and the designation of one approach road as part of the Green Kilometre initiative is favourably acknowledged.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

An enormous amount of work has been invested in Castledaly’s townscape which will surely translate into an enhanced quality of life on many levels for both residents and the travelling public, well done!