Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Ballymore Eustace - Baile Mór na nIústasach**	Ref:	**357**
County:	**Kildare**	Mark:	**393**
Category:	**C**	Date(s):	**06/07/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	58	60
Streetscape & Public Places	80	47	49
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	53	56
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	51	54
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	26	28
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	61	63
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	40	42
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	39	41
TOTAL MARK	**550**	**375**	**393**

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

Fáilte chuig Comórtas Bhailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2025. Go raibh maith agaibh as bhur iarratas a chur isteach. Maith sibh don obair atá déanta agaibh in bhur cheantar go dtí seo - guímid gach rath oraibh i bhur dtionscadail amach anseo. Ádh mór. Ballymore Eustace is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition for 2025. Thank you for your detailed application and map. The town is continuing to embark on different projects that are helping to develop and enhance the area and also helping to cater for the growing needs of an increased population. These goals would not be realised without the assistance of an active committee of twelve members and a large number of volunteers, who are constantly working to source grants and attend meetings, that will benefit the wider community. As a result of your work support for all your endeavours is ongoing from Kildare County Council, all other agencies, schools, sporting clubs and businesses. This support is very important in completing many of your projects. You are also fortunate to have secured workers, Oleg and Vlad to help with the general maintenance of the town on a daily basis. Your work has not gone unnoticed with awards been granted under Climate Action National Age friendly and Tidy Towns, for which you are commended. Funding was also received for team building training for all groups in preparation for future town centre planning. Communication to the wider community on your activities is through social media and celebration of seasonal festival days, which is wonderful for the community and also highlights your good work in the community.

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

The streetscape is a mix of heritage and modern builds, all blending together bringing their own charm and character to the surroundings. New developments are being constructed and you are consistently trying to ensure the natural heritage of the town is preserved. An example of this is ensuring old stone walls are retained in new developments. Stone walls are a superb asset for towns and villages as less maintenance is required. The village square is the focal point of the streetscape and was bustling with activity on day of adjudication. This area was presented to a high standard. St Mary's Church and grounds were well presented. The Bell was also admired on its presentation. The boundary wall of the Church could do with freshening. St Marys graveyard was also admired on its presentation. The Resource Centre, an important facility for the village looked pristine from its recent painting. Recent work to the health centre of ground planting was admired. The streetscape looked clean with some freshly painted facades, adding colour and vibrancy to the surroundings. Places that impressed were Paddy Murphy's Pub, Country Kitchens and the Old School House. Heritage is important to the town and it is positive to note work on the mill has commenced. Bridges are also an important part of the town adding greatly to the overall heritage of the town boundaries. The information board on the history of the bridges is commended. The town is fortunate to have the River Liffey in such close proximity. The walk along the river is bright and colourful with added yarn bombs decorating the trees. Seating and information boards are also part of this superb walk, that is safe and enjoyable.

This is a great facility for the school children to explore and learn about nature from an early age, as well as getting plenty of fresh air and exercise.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The superb natural surroundings of the village of mature trees, hedging and natural areas of wild meadows, are complemented by the superb areas of ground and container landscaping seen throughout the village. Trees and hedging which included fruit trees are being added to the landscaping each year. After care of trees is important until they are established. There is a noticeable increase of all types of trees across the country needing attention, which creates more work in having them replaced. As recommended your ground planting at the health centre was completed, which is more feasible. Ground planting where possible is always encouraged as it reduces some of the work and provides more space for plants to mature. The type of containers that are in keeping with the surroundings, is also encouraged. Stone, wood or recycled plastic is always a good start. Planted containers help to brighten up an area needing attention. The landscaping throughout was admired with the hanging baskets especially drawing attention. The planted boats were also admired, even though you are thinking of replacing them.

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

The management and protection of biodiversity and nature are particularly important to the village, with particular emphasis on the rivers, lakes and ponds which you are fortunate to have in your midst. It is good to note that all groups are working together to share knowledge and continue to create awareness of biodiversity. You are working to a biodiversity plan to ensure all projects developed are making the area more wildlife friendly and that all habitats and local species are properly managed and protected. Showing appreciation of these is important and groups are encouraged to host walks and talks, to educate the community of the wonderful nature that is in their midst. This type of exercise is done in the village with a walk during biodiversity week. The school children are fortunate to have such superb walks adjacent to the school that they can learn about nature. The information boards provide detailed information on all wildlife and plants. The tree trail is another magnificent learning experience which will be added to over time. The arched bridge with the natural growth attached is superb. Your treatment of invasive species is also noted. Great work is being done to manage, protect and appreciate nature. The adjudicator looks forward to future projects. Keep up the good work.

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

This category is about communities working to make their areas more sustainable by their activities. From your application it is noted that you are undertaking good work in this area and have been rewarded for your efforts, which is commended. Communities are now fortunate to have an improved transport system in place, with more bus routes becoming available. Cycling and walking are also more popular with more cycle lanes being provided together with greenways, which are good for walkers also. The Council are helping greatly with this. Solar panels are also becoming more obvious on buildings throughout the country with electric cars and charging points now more obvious in towns and villages. The re-turn scheme has been a great success in reducing the number of bottles and cans been discarded. It has now become a fundraiser for many sporting clubs. Harvesting of rainwater with water butts erected, such as you have done at the health centre are on the increase. This is something the wider community can also do for watering flowers and indeed other tasks. Recycling and reusing are done on a large scale in men's sheds who make nest boxes and other items from used materials. Charity shops also take in items which are resold on and reused. The list goes on. Do keep working on your projects in this category.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The village has a good plan in place around the control of litter and general tidiness, which was noted throughout the village. There is the clean-up day in spring, which creates awareness and helps get the community motivated. Regular litter picks are held along approach roads and along the streetscape. Businesses are good at maintaining around their premises. Well done to the school on their continued achievements in the Green School initiative. They receive great knowledge through this and are helpful to the wider community. Keeping the village clean and tidy has to be a community effort and this seems to be working in the village with the wider community helping out. Dog walkers are encouraged to clean up after their pets when out for walks. The removal of weeds is completed manually, refraining from the use of herbicides, is greatly commended. Seating and a variety of bollards from pencil shaped to white topped all looking fresh and clean. You have looked at signage and hopefully at reducing some in the village. Do continue this as there still seems to be signs that look cluttered and maybe could be improved. Development work is ongoing and it is positive to see progress. The recycling area was neat and the utility boxes were greatly enhanced by art work.

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

The village has a mix of builds, from the old housing stock of the village which was greatly admired, to new modern housing estates which have blended into the overall village appearance. The houses along the approach roads are well presented with neat gardens and good floral displays. The housing stock of the village streetscape had well painted facades and colourful handing baskets, brightening up their surroundings. The housing estates all have entrance signs, superb landscaping of green areas, mature and newly planted trees and hedging. Landscaping includes pollinator friendly plants. The residents are fortunate to have such superb walks amid well landscaped surroundings. There is good interaction with the Tidy Towns and residents, which is applauded. Well done to Liffey Heights on their achievements in the pride of place and you are wished continued success. The residents are commended on the work they do in maintaining their homes and surroundings to such a high standard and also helping with projects throughout the village. The village is wished well with its new playground project which is due

to commence shortly.

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

The approach roads to the village have splendid entrance signs except on the Baltinglass road, perhaps it was missed. The Naas road consisting of stone entrance sign, wild flowers and trees was particularly noticed and admired. The streetscape at the school had well-presented footpaths with good markings and bollards all in keeping with health and safety. Barrack Street entrance also impressed with planted boats, the highlight at this junction. Tinnycross was also noted and admired. The villages have a number of linked paths and they are a pleasure to explore. They are bright and colourful with information boards and seating, if the walker needs a rest or to relax and enjoy the surroundings. The village footpaths were good, traffic flowed freely and there was ample parking on the day of adjudication.

Concluding Remarks:

Ballymore Eustace was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate. It is definitely worth a return trip. You are doing good work with many projects to develop and enhance this beautiful village to cater for the needs of a growing population. Keep up the good work, which is helping you to gain marks in the competition each year. You are wished well in the future.