Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Calverstown - Baile an Chalbhaigh**	Ref:	**360**
County:	**Kildare**	Mark:	**356**
Category:	**B**	Date(s):	**03/07/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	51	52
Streetscape & Public Places	80	45	46
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	48	49
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	27	29
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	20	22
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	68	69
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	44	46
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	41	43
TOTAL MARK	**550**	**344**	**356**

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. Calverstown is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition for 2025. Thank you for your application and map. Calverstown has an active committee and a number of volunteers working to build community spirit. You are working on a project of acquiring a site for a community space, which is hoping to see greater participation from the community. The opening of the local shop has given a lift to the village as these amenities are so important to community life. The village are working closely with Kildare County Council and Pobal and are thankful for the grants they have received to support them with various projects. Communication to the wider community is through social media, local newspapers, posters and WhatsApp. Working with the wider community through the resident's associations ensures that the children are involved with different projects. The local school is in Ballyshannon and they also help with advertising community events. Your main project for this year is the purchase of a vacant site which required a lot of fund raising and grant assistance, which you are grateful for. This purchase is almost complete and you are wished well with its development. Your participation in the competition has helped create a greater sense of pride in the community, from the visual impact of the various projects completed. Events at Christmas and Easter have involved the community coming together to create enjoyable festivities. These events will certainly grow in strength leading to more joyous occasions.

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

The village consists of a mix of heritage buildings and more modern builds, with the green the focal point of the village. Gove Villa now in private ownership is an important heritage building, serving as the Coach house and local forge. It is good to see this building looking so well preserved. The local shop is now open and hopefully the Stream Inn will be back in business by next year. The vacant site which will be used as a community space, will also be at development stage by then, which is all positive. The information board on the village green is important for visitors and also for the community to remind them of their heritage. It is good to see unfinished developments being completed to meet the growing demands of a rise in population.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The well maintained village green with its superb landscaping is the focal point of the village. The stone name sign is well planted with sustainable pollinator friendly plants. Trees and native hedging including apple trees were also admired. The planting of wild flowers and bulbs is always encouraged to provide interest and colour all year round. The landscaped beds are well maintained with mulch to compress weeds, which is commended. The removal of

grass from the green edge manually and avoiding the use of herbicides is also commended. Good landscaping was also noted at the housing estates and private houses of the village.

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

It is good to note that the village is aware of the biodiversity and nature that exists in the area. The management of the green areas and road verges to ensure that wildflowers, particularly in spring are let blossom with a delayed mowing plan in place, is commended. Planting of native trees and hedging in new projects complements the existing mature trees of the village. Many areas of perennial planting which includes pollinator friendly plants were admired especially at the green landscaping. The housing estates are certainly increasing biodiversity with the areas of wildflowers and fruit trees planted. Beds of lavender were buzzing with bees and butterflies. The colourful bird boxes were also noted. Have you monitored those boxes on their usage and perhaps hosting a talk with a member of bird watch Ireland with the children involved, would help identify the nesting birds? Events like these helps to show an appreciation of local species and habitats.

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

The projects undertaken in this category, aim to try and make the area more sustainable. Transport, energy and water are the three main themes where groups can make savings. Re-using and recycling are all ways of saving. The re-turn scheme has proved very successful with fewer bottles and cans being dumped. Growing your own plants such as the chestnut trees from seeds and cuttings are also good. The schools through the Green Flag initiative gain a lot of knowledge on ways of saving, which also helps the wider community. Transport is improving in rural areas with more bus routes being established, which is positive. Walking and cycling is good for health and wellbeing but must have safe pathways to follow. The use of led lighting and the installation of more solar panels at homes and businesses is increasing. Harvesting of rainwater with the installation of water butts. which the wider community can do is also becoming popular. Mulching grass and reducing the area mowed, particularly along approach roads, saves and provides more area for wildlife. Do ensure all projects in this category are documented otherwise they may go unnoticed.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The village has a good plan in place around the control of litter and general tidiness of the village, which seems to be working well. An Taisce spring clean creates awareness and helps motivate the community on the importance of keeping the village and approach roads free of litter. It is important that the community help with their own areas and this is happening in the village. Sometimes litter can be dropped from cars passing through which is annoying. Litter collected is segregated and recycled where possible. The litter bins provided are maintained by the committee. There are no CE workers to help. In most villages the council sweeper comes a couple of times during summer and cleans the streets. They also help with litter collections, which is hoped you will see happening in your village soon. Pet owners are encouraged to clean up after pets when out walking.

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

The houses along the approach roads and throughout the streetscape are bright and colourful with neat gardens and floral displays. The estates are also well presented with good entrance signs, landscaping and maturing trees. Each estate has their own resident's association and look after their own areas. The estates were a pleasure to visit and admire on their presentation. The erection of bird boxes, planting of apple trees and other colourful areas of interest were noted. The residents are commended on the work they do presenting their homes to such a high standard and also helping with projects to maintain and enhance the village.

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

The approach roads of neat verges, hedging and trees gives a very good first impression to those visiting your beautiful village. Stone walls are also an important part of the village boundary. The stone village sign is very much in keeping with the village heritage. Tread softly sculptor on Narraghmore road adds interest and colour to its surroundings and was greatly admired. Landscaping which includes perennials plants and bulbs ensures the village has colour and interest throughout the year. Road surfaces are generally good.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate this beautiful village. The village is being developed and enhanced with different projects while retaining its natural heritage. You are wished well with your future project of a community space and other projects. Keep up the good work and you are wished well in the future.