Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Leixlip - Léim an Bhradáin**	Ref:	**376**
County:	**Kildare**	Mark:	**390**
Category:	**G**	Date(s):	**16/06/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	60	61
Streetscape & Public Places	80	47	49
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	51	53
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	47	50
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	25	27
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60	61
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	44	46
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	41	43
TOTAL MARK	**550**	**375**	**390**

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. Leixlip is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition for 2025. Thank you for your application and map. Leixlip are entering the competition for over sixty years and have achieved good results with varied projects, that have helped to develop and enhance the town. There is also a greater community spirit, with greater pride in the town, making it a better place to live in and visit. Helping to achieve this is a strong committee and a large number of volunteers all willing to help with various projects. Meetings are held regularly and there is ongoing support from advice to funding from Kildare County Council, all other agencies, businesses and sporting clubs. There is good youth involvement from the schools and scouts, who interact with their parents and even grandparents on various projects. The school take care of the school garden and are part of the Green School initiative, which is commended. Communication to the wider community is through local papers/newsletter and social media. The public notice board is a superb way of advertising all your activities. Your presence on the streets is more noted with your new logo on specially designed green jackets, worn by the committee members promoting “Keep Leixlip Green”, which hopefully you got sponsored. The work trailer is visible, as it is brought around the town on various projects, helping to highlight your presence in the town and the great work you continue to do.

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

The town has a mix of many heritage buildings which are being preserved and are included on the heritage trail. More modern builds are also noted that are helping to cater for an increase in population. The iconic building of The Wonderful Barn is one of your most popular heritage buildings and provides space for inside entertainment and also plenty of space for recreation in the grounds. What a brilliant idea to illuminate the buildings on two important feast days. Ongoing improvements continue to enhance this superb amenity. The main street looked fresh and welcoming with many newly painted facades, brightening up occupied and unoccupied buildings along the streetscape, together with freshened bollards and superb landscaped planters. Hopefully less buildings will be unoccupied in the not too distant future. Your work in this area is commended. The Churches are well maintained and landscaped. Public spaces are included in all projects developed, such as the seating at the Plaza and information board, signage and landscaping at the Arthur Guinness Square and Linear Park. These are all popular places where the community go for recreation and relaxation. The Library and Community Centre are two important amenities of the town and looked fresh, with well painted facades and landscaped grounds, providing a nice welcome to those using these facilities. The Garda Station building also impressed and the surroundings greatly enhanced by the colourful cart and landscaping. The GAA Complex on Clonee road is an excellent sporting facility

for the community. The Fire Station also impressed on its presentation. The town is fortunate to have a number of areas of public spaces for the community to visit. St Catherine's Park is one such space with many visitors present on day of adjudication. Parking spaces for motorists and cyclists was noted.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The welcoming signs of Leixlip planted in box are iconic and improve each year. The new edition at the roundabout in Gaeilge was also admired. The hard and soft landscaping complement each other. All welcome beds have a mix of plants which includes a lot of perennials. It sets the tone for the landscaping that continues at various sites throughout the town and parks. The planting around the Church is superb. The inclusion of more pollinator friendly plants as part of the landscaping is commended. Planters at various sites were bright and colourful, brightening up the streetscape and surroundings. Mature trees and hedging were also admired. It is good to see ongoing planting of trees being completed, to build on the superb tree stock of the town and surroundings. Some dead trees were noted particularly at St Catherine's Park.

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

Leixlip is rich in biodiversity and natural habitats. There is a good plan in place around the management and protection of biodiversity in the town and surroundings. The town is fortunate to have the canal, River Rye and of course the River Liffey in close proximity. There is good appreciation of local species and habitats, with walks and information signs displayed, to inform the community of different species that can be hopefully seen along the routes. Bat boxes are erected and checked on annually and celebrated with a bat information walk, which is commended. Landscaping throughout complements the natural mature planting that already exists in the town. Wildflower meadows are sown and areas of grass left to grow, to encourage natural wild flowers to blossom, especially in spring. This is particularly noted at St Catherine's Park and Green Lane. You are also fortunate to have a sponsor, such as Intel to help keep on developing more aspects of biodiversity, such as the monitoring of the River Rye, which has resulted in a biodiversity study been published and circulated.

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

Most groups are working to make their area more sustainable by their actions and Leixlip is certainly playing its part, with a number of projects ongoing under different headings. Recycling has become even better with the introduction of the re-turn scheme with more bottles and cans being returned and not just discarded. Reusing of materials particularly by the Men's Shed, making them into planters and nest boxes continues. Items no longer needed by the community members are being donated to charity shops and become useful for some other member of the community. Cycling is becoming more popular with more safe cycle lanes and greenways made available. Walking is also encouraged and the use of public transport, with more bus routes now available. Harvesting of rainwater with the installation of water butts, which can be done by the wider community to help water flowers and other tasks, is also on the increase by most groups. Reducing the amount of grass mowed and allowing for more spring flowering plants to bloom, creates food for the bees as well as saving on fuel. Solar panels are becoming more noticeable on many homes and business, helping to reduce the cost of electricity. The smart seat sponsored by Intel, enabling walkers and cyclists to charge their phones while out for recreation, is a superb smart project. Do continue to document all projects in this category so they don't go unnoticed.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Having a good plan in place around the control of litter, which also includes getting the community involved is important. You are fortunate to have a number of volunteers willing to help with litter picking. Hosting a spring clean-up event helps to create awareness among the wider community to get involved, as it should not be left to a small number, but the wider community helping to ensure the town and surroundings are clean. Passing traffic creates a lot of residue on bollards and as you rightly state the bridge, which needs ongoing maintenance. The removal of weed growth along kerbs manually and not using herbicides is time consuming and your work on this is commended. Graffiti can be a major problem but you are dealing well with it. Giving the artists involved a space to explore and practice their habit is also good. You are fortunate to have the Council helping with road sweeping on a regular basis. Captains Hill car park looked untidy with some litter noted and also the entrance barrier could do with painting, to enhance the surroundings. The Pay phone looked dreary, is it still being used? Recycling centre at Lidl was neat and tidy.

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

Like most villages and towns, the population of Leixlip has grown over the last number of years, resulting in more housing estates and services being built to meet the growing needs of the community. Thankfully the estates have all blended well, with bi-lingual entrance name stones and well-maintained green areas. Careful consideration is given to biodiversity with planting of wildflowers and pollinator friendly plants included in landscaping. One of the more mature estates, Ryevale Lawns contains a large area of the towns tree trail, has a lot of work ongoing around tree maintenance, which is important. The Best Kept Estates competition has been running very successfully. After a short break in the competition last year, there is a new format for the competition in place for this year, which will hopefully see an increase in the number taking part. The competition encourages the residents in maintaining their homes and surroundings and also helps to reward them for their efforts. Houses along the approach roads and throughout the streetscape are generally well presented with brightly painted facades, neat gardens and floral displays, from hanging baskets to window boxes, brightening up the surroundings. Mill Lane houses were particularly admired. The residents are commended for the work they do in presenting their homes to such a high standard and also helping with other projects throughout the town.

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

The approach roads to the town gives a very good first impression to those visiting the area. The entrance signs are bright and welcoming, from the town name and Slan bed in box, to KIlmacredock roundabout, with the magnificent horse sculptor, all adding their own interest and welcome to those visiting. These beds are all enhanced with additional planting. All entrance roads have good landscaping and neat verges while maintaining a corridor for wildlife. Stone walls and weed free kerbs give a tidy look. Bollards and seating are generally well presented with the handrail at Captains Hill greatly admired. The artistic decoration to the service points, also brings great interest and colour. There are a number of connecting lanes that are also well presented leading to walks and connecting to the streetscape. The Pump at Gallivans cross also deserves a mention. Less planted containers would suffice and help to reduce on your work load. The bridges are also part of the town heritage and are highlighted and well presented.

Concluding Remarks:

Leixlip was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate. Great work is being done to preserve and appreciate the heritage sites of the area, making them easily accessible with good signage. The Wonderful Barn is unique and greatly admired. Keep up the good work and you are wished well in the future.