Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Monasterevin - Mainistir Eimhín**	Ref:	**379**
County:	**Kildare**	Mark:	**357**
Category:	**E**	Date(s):	**09/07/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	54	56
Streetscape & Public Places	80	39	41
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	44	47
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	45	48
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	26	28
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	54	57
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	44	45
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	33	35
TOTAL MARK	**550**	**339**	**357**

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. Monasterevin is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition for 2025. Thank you for your application and map. The Tidy Towns group is a voluntary board, along with a large number of volunteers, who are working continuously to develop and enhance the town with various projects. Board members are also involved with other organisations in the community. You are also fortunate to have a number of CE workers helping with the general maintenance of the town. Meetings are held regularly for planning, litter picking, landscaping and other projects needing attention. Three large community events are held yearly which involves the whole community helping out. Transition Year students help with various projects and a special word of thanks to Adam and Dara for their help with your application. Ongoing support with advice and funding from all agencies and local businesses is welcomed. Communication to the wider community is through social media, parish newsletters, newspaper and local radio. Transition Year students gain work experience from the various landscaping projects. Your flagship project for this year was a family fun day organised in Moore Abbey Wood, which proved a big success. Many other projects were also completed.

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

The town has a mix of modern and heritage buildings all blending together to form the streetscape of the town. Like most towns and villages there is ongoing development of new homes being constructed to meet the needs of a growing population. There are also a number of unoccupied buildings that will hopefully be occupied in the near future. Monasterevin have done good work in the past year to improve some buildings that are occupied and unoccupied. The Fire Station has been enhanced with a painted facade, as has the Community Centre, which has also seen new windows installed. The new shop front keeping with tradition on Dublin Street, was admired. Other buildings awaiting development, such as the Bank of Ireland, have been enhanced with murals, which is commended. The many businesses of the town were admired and it is positive to see some new businesses opening, which is always good for the town and surroundings. There are a number of public spaces for recreation. The Canal Harbour is one such amenity. New developments have taken place, providing additional seating and availability of drinking water, to make visiting this superb area more enjoyable for everyone. The town looked fresh and clean with plenty of seating to sit back and enjoy the surroundings. Scoil Eimhin Naofa development continues with the first part completed and work continuing on the next phase.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The town has many areas of superb landscaping bringing colour and vibrancy to the streetscape. The well planted containers together with the hard landscaping of the monument, bollards and artistic utility boxes, bring great colour and interest to the streetscape. The community have plenty of walking sites such as Lady Drogheda Garden. Here there is a mix of planting, walks and an area for relaxation. More superb walking areas were noted at Riverside Park and Moore Abbey grounds community space. Native trees, hedging and wildflowers were noted in landscaping which is commended. Some dead trees were noted with others needing attention with staking and tree ties, which should be checked regularly. The area at Killcross graveyard was greatly admired and makes a pleasant area to pause and reflect for those visiting the site. The area around the telephone exchange could be assigned as a wildflower area as noted in other towns, with permission from the owners.

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

The town is rich in biodiversity in the river Barrow, canal, parks and gardens around the town. The management and protection of these habitats and species is important. It is important to keep gaining knowledge in this area, such as attending the biodiversity conference to learn more about local habitats and species. The town has an abundance of trees and hopefully not too much storm damage has been done to the mature trees, which are so much part of the streetscape of the town. Your analysis of cowslips and how their stock can be improved is very interesting. Cowslips have been disappearing from spring flowering recently. Late mowing and better management will hopefully improve cowslip growth in more areas. Your swift project is also interesting. Hopefully the numbers will increase and some of the nesting sites will be utilised. Well done to Jacinta on her sunflower project, the adjudicators favourite summer flower. It is a novel way to get the community involved and helps to bring joy and brightness to the surroundings. What was the height of the winning bloom this year with maybe next year's winner will be even taller? Groups are encouraged to host talks and walks, to show appreciation of local species and habitats. There is no shortage of areas to host such an event in Monasterevin, especially in riverside park and along the canal. Often the community are not fully aware of the many different species that are in their midst so hence the importance of such events. Keep up the good work in this area.

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

In this category groups are encouraged to show how they are making their area more sustainable by their actions. If projects are not recorded it can be difficult for the adjudicator to know what projects are being undertaken. Thankfully this is not the case with your application, with a number of projects included that are helping to make the town and surroundings more sustainable, which is commended. The schools are doing great work, from solar panels to water harvesting and reusing and recycling. The re-turn scheme has proved very successful with fewer cans and bottles being discarded, with many groups donating the proceeds from collections to charity. Walking, cycling and using public transport, with more buses routes up and running is being completed. This is so much better for health and wellbeing and also saves on emissions. Food waste is now collected by most Waste Companies which is good, reducing the amount of general waste. Litter is being segregated and recycled where possible. Well done to Mna Beoga on their project of recycled materials to create a tapestry in honour of St Brigid, which was given much publicity. Is St Brigid's Camino Walk held annually? The town hold a number of events with great care taken to ensure they are sustainable events. Well done on your work in this area.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The town has a good plan in place around tidiness, control and hopefully eradication of litter. You are fortunate to have CE workers to help with the general maintenance of the town. The new refuse bins at the train station help as this is a busy area with a lot of footfall. The Green Kilometre project can sometimes be a good way of getting more volunteers involved, with the community taking care of their own stretch of road. Litter control should involve the wider community and not just a small number. Just like dog walkers taking control and cleaning up after their pets. Do you hold a clean-up day in spring and have you noticed a reduction in the amount of litter collected at such events? Well done on your work in ensuring that no trace of untidiness was left, after the Barrow Bluebell family fun day in Moore Abbey. The use of no herbicides is also commended with manual cleaning of weeds along kerbs and pathways in the woods.

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

The houses along the approach roads and throughout the town are well presented with good landscaping. The housing estates have all good entrances, well maintained green areas and superb landscaping. It shows the residents have pride in their homes and surroundings. The residents continue with this pride by celebrating different festivities, especially at Christmas with a number of Christmas trees erected at different sites. Do you have a best kept estate or garden competition? This helps to motivate residents and also rewards them for the work they do in presenting their homes to such a high standard. The children's playground was also admired on its superb presentation.

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

The approach roads to the town have good entrance signs. These signs could be enhanced more with planting. Verges are neat while retaining a corridor for wildlife. The town is fortunate to have so many mature trees on all approach roads and throughout the town, within the park and other walks. More trees continue to be planted to ensure the tree stock keeps on increasing. Do ensure all trees are monitored after planting. Bridges of the town could also be highlighted more as they are part of the town heritage. Stone walls are also an important part of the town boundary and are generally good. Great colour was brought to the streetscape with murals and the Youth Action Building brightened up its surroundings. Signage was generally good with some in need of painting, perhaps

more street names could be added. Do ensure all encroaching foliage is cut back from signs. The placement of seating at various locations is commended, along the well-kept footpaths. The new pathway at the canal has greatly improved safety for those visiting this superb amenity and has also improved accessibility to the train station. All such improvements take time to acquire but are worth waiting for.

Concluding Remarks:

Monasterevin was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate. You are doing good work with various projects to enhance and develop the town and surroundings and also hopefully progress you onward and upwards in the competition. Keep up the good work and you are wished well in the future.