

# Tidy Towns Competition 2015

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kiltyclogher** Ref: **953**  
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **212**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **13/06/2015**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2014</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2015</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	34	34
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	25	26
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	26	26
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	14	15
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	14	14
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	46	47
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	23	25
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	24	25
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>212</b>

### **Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:**

Thank you for the filled up entry form which as you know was late, I read your letter and you have a very good reason for this, and I hope all went well for you. You have a lot on your mind these days. Thank you for the sketched plan and explanation written on it and this gives us a good feel for what has been done over the past twelve months in Kiltyclogher.

I note you have a good sized committee of 10, and plenty meetings are being held to monitor progress and plan ahead.

From the list you provided we are pleased to find that you are getting good support in this part of County Leitrim from the agencies and bodies plus local businesses.

It is positive to work, as you do, with the Foroige coordinator and you could support the local school especially in the green flag programmes. This can be done discretely by just having a short meeting with the local school principal, and simply let them know that you are willing to help them.

Last year apparently was your first entry; we hope you enjoy the experience and that the TidyTowns concept will be adopted in the area.

### **Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:**

There is a lovely entrance to your village coming in from Manorhamilton leading up to the Church which is beautiful in every way. The handball alley is now a historical feature, and great to see it so well maintained. Sean MacDiarmada statue is a prominent feature of the village and it was adorned with attractive flowers at the base. The health centre is housed in a good contemporary house that was fresh and clean. You have a great community centre

The Church of Ireland is very well maintained and surrounded by a great traditional stone wall. Shops and bars are attractively presented.

### **Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:**

I admired the native hedgerow planted in the centre of the village. The trees have been cut back, as you stated, pruned, and my guidelines state that this should never be done. I noticed that it is necessary in a few places due to the overhead power lines, and this is ok, but I believe that the trees under the power lines should be removed all together. Then let the other trees grow on naturally. I hope that this suggestion does not disappoint your committee and wider community, but I believe that you could have a meeting with the county council and get their views. A local supplier of trees such as a nursery company could also give you some guidance on this. The school is very well presented with the lovely mural painted there. Native hedgerows are very good and of course excellent for the wildlife such as birds.

There is a good quality mural at the bring bank. We enjoyed some nice shrubberies in places like at the Garda Station.

### **Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:**

The native hedgerows and all the trees are excellent for the wildlife. To improve the awareness of the people of the wildlife you could arrange for a poster competition to be done through the school, and you could underwrite the cost of it. You will be pleasantly surprised with the results as such competitions work out very well in other locations. The more senior pupils could also become involved in doing a photographic competition capturing images of the wildlife.

### **Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaíthe:**

You made no entry under this category. The EU Waste Management Hierarchy is elimination, reduction, reuse, recycle and there are many ways of doing all of this. Carrying out some sort of waste awareness survey or distributing a questionnaire would give people a starting point in terms of waste prevention. Groups can take many steps to reduce the level of resources used and become more efficient at using materials, while at the same time reducing waste generation. Bulk buying and avoiding disposable products, using local libraries and repairing goods are all ways of being more resource efficient. With the children involved in the excellent green schools initiatives we can study what they are doing in the schools and carry it forward ourselves. All the trees have huge amounts of leaves in the autumn / winter and most of this could be collected and composted. Composting is the way forward and you could further educate the people on how best to do this, by for instance, holding a workshop that demonstrates that to achieve the best results we must mix green kitchen waste with brown waste like hedge clippings, and also by turning it occasionally; more information is available on this from the county council. Compost reduces the amount of waste going to landfill, and produces good material for the vegetable and flower gardens, plus it cuts down on spending money on such like material.

Your little community garden is lovely and great to see the material growing there. This is a very relaxing area. Down Under the tree your strawberries, peas etc have started growing nicely in this rich compost. We enjoyed the herb garden across from the community centre

The collection of scrap metal from householders such as old steel beds, wheelbarrows, bicycles, gates, galvanised iron etc and bringing it to central point could earn money for your activities as there are plenty registered dealers in scrap metal who could buy it from you, and reduce the risk of it being thrown into ditches

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

Congratulations to the school on their successes in the green flag programmes, but the green flags outside are a bit worn and perhaps could be replaced with newer ones. I note your reluctance to the use of roundup where it was previously used in the village. I am glad to report that the tidiness and litter control is very good.

Across from the health centre a house is boarded up which is unfortunate and we sympathise with its owner, it could be great to have it restored to its former glory, in the meantime maybe the owner could do some art work to camouflage the doors and windows or your committee might get permission to do something with it

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

There are really beautiful town houses that are brightly painted. On the outskirts there are some excellent private houses that are adorned with flowers, trees, shrubs and lawns that add colour and freshness to the locality

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

There is a splendid parking area across from the community centre. The roads are all the better with the work that you are doing with the Tus scheme workers. Long stretches of footpaths make for comfort and safety for the pedestrians. The road signage is good.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

The efforts of your community to present Kiltyclogher in such nice condition are very much appreciated, and this makes our visit memorable. Well done.