

Tidy Towns Competition 2022

Adjudication Report

Centre: Broadford - Ath Leathan	Ref: 62
County: Clare	Mark: 253
Category: B	Date(s): 22/07/2022

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2021	Mark Awarded 2022
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	33	34
Streetscape & Public Places	80	36	38
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	34	36
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	27	30
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	8	8
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	47	48
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	27	28
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	30	31
TOTAL MARK	550	242	253

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

Fáilte chuig Comórtas Na mBailte Slachtmhara Super Valu don bhliain 2022. Táimid buíoch daoibh as ucht na hiontrála a chur chugainn, agus guimíd gach rath ar bhúr gcuid oibre amach anseo. Adh Mór... Broadford Tidy Towns is most welcome back to the competition; it's been too long since we've last seen your lovely village and had the pleasure to witness on-going developments. There is a good volunteer base available at 25 to support the committee of 10 in addition to the support received from at least 13 organisations. Engagement with the school is fruitful for all parties and communication channels embrace digital and traditional media effectively. Congratulations on the development of Broadford's new Community Playground made possible by the partnership approach between the Broadford Community Action Group, the Primary School and the Parish Council; this approach reflects Sustainable Development Goal 17 "Partnership for The Goals" and the benefit to the community reflects SDG 11 "Sustainable Cities and Communities". Cognisance has been taken of work accomplished at Doon Lake; it would be helpful for visitors to Broadford if more information on this amenity facility was featured within the village, details such as distance, facilities available and road direction signs.

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

The Country Store premises was particularly admired for its overall presentation in general and its new outdoor dining area in particular; that it is wheelchair accessible reflects SDGs 10 and 11 "Reduced Inequalities" and "Sustainable Cities and Communities". Most premises enjoy good maintenance and presentation, congratulations on the redevelopment of derelict premises and renovation of another, work in progress was noted during adjudication. The colour chosen for the exterior of the Ball Alley was admired. Both the church and school premises and their respective curtilage areas are impressive, the former overlooking the village and its hinterland. The Community Playground was in great demand at the time of our visit, the communications board is a nice touch and the adjoining riverside walk a most pleasant experience.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The landscaped green area at Maloneys Bar looked well and its adjoining car park area is nicely surfaced, this makes a favourable impression on the travelling public on entering Broadford from the Bodyke road which is reinforced upon arrival within the village centre. Container flower displays throughout the village at numerous locations are a pleasant visual feature and good for pollinators too. Spring and Summer planting in the burial grounds of the Church of Ireland is laudable. It is important to have a landscape plan from which to work; an overall Tidy Towns Action Plan for the village should be prepared and feature a landscape element in addition to a Biodiversity Action programme. Work accomplished at Doon Lake for recreation amenity should be detailed in your

entry form next year. The relevant SDG's for your work in this category of the competition are 14 and 15 "Life Below Water" and "Life on Land".

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

As noted above Broadford's short Riverside Walk is a very pleasant experience; all the senses are engaged by sweet fragrances, the sound of running water, the sight of ferns along the river banks moving gently in the breeze in addition to the sound of children's laughter from the adjacent playground. The maintenance of trees along the walk is favourably noted also and the small bridge with its hanging baskets is a charming element too. Both the Outdoor Nature Classroom and the Wildlife Garden are invaluable for biodiversity education and awareness in addition to looking great! An App can be downloaded via the following link that will help assess the success of biodiversity actions. Flower-Insect Timed Count (FIT Count) - National Biodiversity Data Centre (biodiversityireland.ie) Outbursts of wildflowers at various locations were favourably noted however those growing from a stretch of kerb on entering from the Bodyke Road should not be allowed to flourish here for safety considerations. SDG 15 "Life on Land" is pertinent to your work in this category of the competition.

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

The recycling point near the Handball Alley was very neatly presented on adjudication day. SDG 6 "Clean Water and Sanitation" is relevant to work at the Water Treatment Plant noted in your submission however as there are no details provided further comment is not possible. Does the school participate in the Green Schools Programme? If so let us have details. For Broadford's next submission try to offer a project under each of the following headings; Water Conservation, Energy Management, Travel; check out the Tidy Towns Handbook for a range of ideas to get you started. Your work in this category of the competition echoes SDG 12 "Responsible Consumption and Production".

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Bi-weekly litter picks and footpath maintenance within Broadford are having the desired outcome as the village was litter and dumping free during adjudication. If the community comes together for the National Spring Clean include this in your next submission together with any other pertinent information. There are too many signs on the railings facing the top of the Tulla Road which represents 'visual clutter' and distracts from the visual amenity of the wildflower meadow behind the railings to which they are attached. Overhead service cables and dated service poles also represent 'visual clutter' which degrades the quality of the streetscape, the pole and cables on the green area at Maloneys Bar look particularly bad in this respect.

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

The Main Street/Fairgreen Estate featured lovely flower displays at its entrance however weedy kerbs within looked a bit untidy. Two rose gardens on the entrance to Broadford from the Bodyke Road were particularly admired and maintenance of the community green area within Huddleston Meadows is noted. Congratulations on the refurbishment of unoccupied premises. Residents can be encouraged to get involved in sustainability projects such as energy savings within the home and / or nature projects such as a wildflower flower garden or a community herb garden; again you are urged to consult the Tidy Towns Handbook for inspiration!

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

Entrances to Broadford are clearly defined with nameplates and road directional signage. Street furniture in general looks well however some finger-post signage looks a bit jaded and would benefit from refurbishment. Roadside verges feature a variety of wildflowers and grasses and there was plenty of Morning Glory to be seen. New stretches of footpath were favourably noted while some remain to be refurbished. Well done on the installation of the bicycle repair station.

Concluding Remarks:

Broadford is a lovely village with a lot to offer its residents and visitors and its continuous development is noteworthy. A Tidy Towns Action Plan will facilitate further developments by creating a focus, try to include one with next years entry together with a good map, this year's map was not suitable for adjudication purposes. We look forward to next year's visit.