

# Tidy Towns Competition 2022

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Moville - Bun an Phobail** Ref: **707**  
County: **Donegal** Mark: **346**  
Category: **C** Date(s): **10/07/2022**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2021	Mark Awarded 2022
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	45	46
Streetscape & Public Places	80	49	50
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	44	46
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	40	42
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	21	23
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60	61
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	39	40
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	37	38
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>346</b>

### 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. Bun an Phobail. Welcome Moville to the 2022 SuperValu TidyTowns competition. Thank you for your comprehensive entry form with accompanying photos. We would advise you to omit details on individual projects out of the community section and include them under the relevant competition categories to streamline your application and ensure no information on individual projects gets overlooked. Your committee of 11 have been hard at work this year. It is fantastic to see that you received support from local business and agencies including Local Sports Clubs – Moville GAA, Moville Celtic Football Club and your Moville National Schools including Scoil Eoghan, Gaelscoil Cois Feabhail and St Columbs NS. Moville Community College and especially their transition year students also support your work. It seems your groups connections allow MTT to successfully collaborate and sharing information with other community groups in the town especially through your Moville Tidy Towns Facebook page. Thank you to Councillor Martin Farren for the particular support he gives to your group for the benefit of the wider environment of Moville. You have included your towns 5-year plan. It would be great to see projects to address each of the 8 competition categories. This will ensure you can gain maximum marks in this Ireland's biggest community project. Also consider putting a timescale against each project so you can have the pleasure of ticking them off as completed and to see how your projects are progressing. Aim for a mid-5-year review to assess which projects are no longer feasible and those that have been successful. You also submitted 2 hand drawn maps, with clear keys and these were a great help in our stroll around your lovely coastal town. As there are many projects listed in this year's entry not all will be mentioned in this report but rest assured all have been considered during the judging process.

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

This was these adjudicators first visit to Moville and we very much enjoyed our time in your coastal town with its array of architectural gems and variety of open spaces. The array of well-presented homes in the town core along with key commercial premises lent a well-kept air around the town square. The twin seating at Maguires made for nice opportunities to chat and people watch. Although empty the Foyle Hotel was well presented. The smart Moville town sign and map by the big tree was well presented. Can the old, tired map actually in the raised tree bed here be removed as it is looking very tatty and not required if information is duplicated nearby. Be sure to remove any old sign if new signs are installed to reduce street clutter. Keep a consistent graphic language with the new sign at the graveyard by Cooley Cross for consistency and to build on the towns brand identity. The bright blue paint was very distinctive in Moville and related well to your seaside setting. Thanks to all your volunteer for the painting work to the historic seats in the town. Take care to address upper floor where old signage, tatty satellite dishes and such can detract from well-kept ground floor uses. The enlarged car parking is welcomed and have bike stands been provided. If car parking is improved here could some spaces in the town core be reallocated for pedestrian use or

more cycle stands? This adjudicator was struck by the number of lanes in Movice and felt there are great opportunities to enliven these with planting or murals perhaps? They make for nice car free walking routes and could be a unique element of the town and very child and age friendly if properly maintained and presented. We recognise the problems that derelict properties can bring to a town and appreciate all you have done to bring these areas to the Local Authorities attention. We hope there will be action on them soon. Town road signs will be addressed in the approach road category.

### **Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:**

The work done by the Movice collage Transition Year students to upgrade the plain blue plastic tiered planters in the town has certainly made them more appealing. They were so eye-catching with a range of colourful plants including lavenders which were buzzing with bees and hoverflies. The students collected a range of resources to upcycle and they took the initiative to liaise with local businesses and MTT for support. Well done to all involved. They certainly added splashes of colour to the town core. We note that you painted tree guards, but some of the street trees here are beginning to be damaged by the blue tree guards and these should be removed if the tree has established and perhaps used elsewhere if new street trees are proposed. Replant any gaps. The Green is Movice's largest open space and a delight to visit. The raised planting bed by the car park was admired with a range of coastal appropriate planting. A gem for you all. It has huge scope for future enhancement. From a changed mowing regime to reflect the advice in the all-Ireland pollinator plan (as has been done to open spaces in a similar seaside aspect in nearby Buncrana) to seeing how access arrangement and resting spots could be added to make the space more accessible for all ages and abilities given its topography. Talk to your local Councillor to see if any active travel or accessibility funding would be available for your area. Be sure to get expert advice when tackling invasive species. Residential green spaces will be addressed in the relevant category.

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

There are a wide range of projects listed in this category and they will all combine to improve the area for all biodiversity. Have you an overall habitat or biodiversity plan for Movice to assist future planning. Movice should map all the areas listed such as the work by the Men's shed, bulbs along the Greencastle Road, and the landscape areas in the Movice Community College and Scoil Eoghan. A Special mention to the SEN group and the SNAs who joined the Pollinator Partnership bulb planting of grape muscari, tomasinus crocus and alliums in December 2021. This will help you proactively plan to create ecological corridors through the town to join up green spaces using pollinator-friendly planting. This whole-landscape network approach is hugely valuable to biodiversity and could be considered by MTT. This will also help birds, bats and all types of other wildlife. Work on mapping and logging all your actions on the biodiversity data centre website for next year. As noted above there is lots of scope to enhance biodiversity in the Green and the bug hotels are a good start. In time aim to be able to enter The Green for the Green Flag for Parks Pollinator Award which is jointly run with An Taisce Environmental Education to support the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Look at past winner for tips how to manage your green spaces.

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

The "Bring Your Own Cup" was a big project for you this year and we saw signs for the initiative in the window of a shop with the added benefit of asking residents for feedback on how to reduce waste in Movice. We hope you see a change to local behaviour as a result of this campaign. The Transition Year students work on the planters has been noted and was very much admired on the day of the visit. As a group you have a good understating of the concepts of the circular economy. The focus on local foods is great to see. We visited the Movice community garden, and it seems to be a great success with waitlists to join. Are there other spots in the town a new garden could be established to meet demand? Consider holding an Environmental Awareness Day with a focus on food waste, a huge issue. Congratulations to Movice Community College students on their participation in the 'Junk Kouture' contest and they had an entry in the Northern Regional final for 2022.

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

The National Spring Clean day is a big cross community events for MTT and covers not just in the town itself, but as far east as Shroove and as far North as Carrowmenagh. Your weekly litter collections are so important as they are a very visible element of your work. You also meet informally after the weekly Saturday morning litter pick over a cup of tea which adds a social dimension to this work. Thanks to the Sea Scouts for their litter picks on the shore path and their input into the Leave No Trace campaign. The recent Waste and Sustainability survey carried out by MTT and MTT committee will aid this. We wondered has a survey of bins in the town been carried out. One or two near the shore (blue with metal bands) were full to overflowing while others seemed out of place and could be removed? The sign at the primary care centre needed washing. Good luck with the manual removal of weed. A regular road sweeping can help prevent the build-up of organic matter which weeds then root into, if this could be discussed with the local area management?

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

You seem to have a great rapport with residential groups in the town and this is such an important part of the work of tidy town. Public open spaces within residential estates are a key part of this category and the work being done by the residents of Ard Foyle, St Fininas Park and at Ard na Gula Duibhe to maintain and enhance their spaces is applauded and much appreciated. We felt the green at St Fininas could accommodate more trees if any trees were available from the Inishowen Rivers Trust which you say are being distributed around the community for planting. The blue Ard Foyle sign in the grass areas here might be more eye-catching if surrounded by a planted bed? Makes for easier mowing too!

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

How fantastic that your display of daffodils was so popular, and the addition of more pollinator friendly builds is great to hear. Be careful with temporary signage as this can add clutter. The corner at the coast road near the Circle K was particularly cluttered. The new footpath past the coastguard station will we hope to promote active travel along the coast. Could a native hedge be planted to the new timber post and rail fence here to enhance it as an ecological corridor as well? As you say beds along the approach road are sponsored and maintained by different businesses in the town. A great way to get support for your work. The new black Merville town signs could benefit from a bed of bright mono colour planting to the base in red or yellow to catch the motorists eye and maybe the asphalt paths at the one by Glencrow could be broken out to allow a patch of planting.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

As a first-time visitor I was impressed with the work your group has carried out and your shoreside open spaces, with such a fantastic setting, were a delight to visit. You have such a range of projects listed and carried out that we can only image the time and effort it takes. Thank you for your entry Merville and we wish you well in future projects for 2023 and beyond.