

Tidy Towns Competition 2022

Adjudication Report

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| Centre: Glenamaddy - Gleann na Madadh | Ref: 197 |
| County: Galway | Mark: 301 |
| Category: B | Date(s): 03/07/2022 |

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2022 |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Community – Your Planning and Involvement | 80 | 36 |
| Streetscape & Public Places | 80 | 42 |
| Green Spaces and Landscaping | 80 | 43 |
| Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality | 55 | 35 |
| Sustainability – Doing more with less | 55 | 22 |
| Tidiness and Litter Control | 90 | 52 |
| Residential Streets & Housing Areas | 55 | 35 |
| Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes | 55 | 36 |
| TOTAL MARK | 550 | 301 |

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. Thank you very much for your application to this year's competition, and for providing a map, your Five Year Plan, as well as so many photographs showing all the work that you are doing. With 8 full time members of your Committee as well as an impressive number of 40 additional volunteers that you can call on you obviously have a very strong community spirit in your village. There is also great engagement with a large number of government organisations, sports clubs and local businesses, as well as engagement with your schools and very regular communications through a wide range of mediums. It is a good idea to focus on a particular project each year, and you have done this to great success with the work that you have done on the improvements to the Square, with some assistance from Galway Co. Council through the Town and Village Enhancement Scheme, and these types of projects always work best when there is good stakeholder engagement which you have done in this instance with very good consultation with those who live and work in Glenamaddy.

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

The Glenamaddy Streetscape Enhancement Project seems to have borne great fruits, some great work here with some extremely attractive buildings to be seen throughout the town. Some of these that particularly stood out were Potters Hardware and Garvey's. The public art mosaics were absolutely gorgeous, and I really enjoyed seeing various randomly placed art works on the ESB utility boxes. There are some empty buildings to be seen, but you are managing this issue well by displaying various TidyTowns notices, plans and awards etc. Regarding public buildings, the Town Hall, Garda Station and Church all looked well maintained, and the work on the Square as mentioned before is really well done. Good work also on the Kilkerrin Road Enhancement Scheme.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The landscaping scheme at the Square looked beautiful on the day that I visited and created a lovely oasis of visual interest, and great to see that you made sure to include perennials as well as pollinator friendly plants. There were some lovely planters to be spotted around the town which created great pops of colour as you walk around the village.

The trees along the Creggs road looked very attractive indeed, some great work here.

The Pollinator Garden at St Bridgit's Close was admired, with some really nice planting including hydrangea, hollies, as well as cherry trees.

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

It is great that you have a Biodiversity plan for Glenamaddy and this will help you increase your marks in this category. Work that you have done in this area includes hosting bird talks for World Wetland Day, as well as getting the Turlough included in the "Wetland of North-East Galway Digital StoryMap". You have also had demonstration of planting herbs for biodiversity and pollinators, a really useful and practical thing to do, and you make sure to use as many pollinator and perennial plants as possible. Fine work also on the planting of the Hawthorn on the Kilkerrin Road and the tree saplings on Ballymoe Road. Also great work on your work to plant a wildflower garden in tandem with the new pharmacy.

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

A lot of good practical initiatives being done to be more sustainable. These include the following;

- Rainwater harvesting to use for watering the many planters to be found in the village as well as the polytunnels.
- Recycling of waste including the Bring Bank as well as segregation of litter on your litter patrols.
- Tree Planting Programme which will help with climate change.
- The 'Conscious Cup' campaign, which not only reduces the need for single use coffee cups, this can also often reduce the litter to be seen from these being strewn on the ground. (is there any plans to have a campaign for refills of water to reduce wastage from plastic bottles? perhaps this is something local cafes or bars could get involved in).
- Composting which you make your own at the Community Centre.
- Participation as a SEAI Community Group, and we will be very interested to see the Energy Master Plan for Glenamaddy when this is complete.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

High score here as you are doing very well in keeping litter under control. There was practically no litter to be found in Glenamaddy on the day that I visited and the Bring Bank area was spotless. This is no doubt to the huge effort you are putting into this through your weekly litter pick ups, raising awareness through social media such as your Facebook page and links with Galway County Council. Great work also in trying to remove visual clutter such as poles and redundant signage etc. an area that can often be overlooked and can have such a negative impact on the appearance of a town or village. It is heartening as well to hear that you have such support from the community at large and that there was support for your annual An Taisce Spring Clean and that residents facilitate work such as moving cars to assist the road sweeper.

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

Overall the quality of residential areas in Glenamaddy was really good, and a lot of work and pride obviously taken by the community in looking after their local areas.

The fine historic houses opposite the Town Hall Theatre were admired, it is fantastic that these have been renovated and kept as housing stock. Some of the housing estates visited included St. Brigid's Close which looked really well as did Dudley Heights. Do you have any competitions or maybe spot prizes for best house or residential estate? perhaps even using a theme such as wildflower garden or biodiversity in order to introduce a bit of friendly rivalry and improve their areas even more.

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

The new cast iron Welcome to Glenamaddy looked very smart indeed and creates a great first impression to the area. I have mentioned the Lime trees on the Creggs road already, and how well these look, and the approach here looks really attractive. A lot of work also has been done on the Kilkerrin Road and the new grass verge and fencing here really enhance this approach.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure to visit your beautiful town, it is a while since I was last here and in particular enjoyed seeing all the improvements through the Streetscape Enhancement Project, we wish you the best of luck in this year's competition and all your future projects.