

Tidy Towns Competition 2022

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Moycullen - Maigh Cuilinn** Ref: **966**
County: **Galway** Mark: **290**
Category: **C** Date(s): **20/06/2022**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2021	Mark Awarded 2022
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	41	42
Streetscape & Public Places	80	41	42
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	34	35
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	23	24
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	16	17
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	59	60
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	35	35
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	34	35
TOTAL MARK	550	283	290

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 so much useful additional material such as the Pollinator and Biodiversity Plan, map as well as your Five Year Plan. You have a healthy number of people involved in your work with 8 people on your Committee, as well as a further 10 volunteers, and there is good communication with regular Zoom calls, WhatsApp, as well as in person meetings when you can, as well as involving local resident's associations. There is great engagement with a wide range of organisations and clubs, with everyone from the Men's Shed, Galway County Council, local businesses, as well as local Girl Guides and the Connemara Beekeepers Association, and many others, all helping out in some way or another. Your Five Year Plan was very clear and concise, and thank you very much for linking the work that you do with the Sustainable Development Goals, this is much appreciated.

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

The Church and surrounding area was immaculate with some nice planters, likewise the graveyard was in good condition and the old bell in the wall was admired. The old stone well (An Tobar) was lovely, though two sandwich signs beside it did detract from it slightly.

There are some very attractive and well kept premises in the town including The Forge Bar, Regan's Bar and Grocer, An Bodhrán Buí, Míly Jean Atelier, White Gables, though there were many others. The Heritage Trail signs to be found around the town are very informative and interesting and make for a good point of interest as you spot them.

It is great that you are also conscious of accessibility and have plans to relocate trees to make it easier for people to move around the town, as well as eradicating possible damage to footpaths from their roots.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

You are doing a huge amount of work to promote pollinator friendly plants which is terrific, the Bee garden is beautiful, and the pollinator zone at the entrance to the village really advertises the fact that this is something you take very seriously. Great work is being done by the TÚS workers to manage your village green spaces, and the planting area at An Cearnog Nua is very well done. We note your engagement with Coillte in relation to Killrainey woods, this could be a fantastic amenity for the town, and we look forward to hearing how this develops in the future.

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

The Bee Garden at An Fuarán Green, is absolutely charming, and fantastic to read that this piece of land was gifted to you to use by a local businessman, and the information sign courtesy of Connemara Bee Keepers Association give a wealth of facts about our pollinating friends. The pathway from tree trunks is a clever, sustainable, and very attractive option for using as stepping stones, and you have a good use of plants such as pollinator friendly Alliums, Sea Holly, Tall Verbena, and Pheasant's-eye narcissus.

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

Plenty of work being done in this category, many practical things being implemented such as your 'No paper policy', your walking to cycling rather than using cars, as well as avoiding the use of weedkillers, continuation of the 'Travelling Library' education on the role of the bogs and climate change as well as locally made compost, and used coffee grounds to feed your plants. It is fantastic to read about how engaged local businesses are in reducing their waste and carbon footprint, with The White Gables, Replenish and Craobh Cafes, and many other businesses doing their bit.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Overall the village was extremely clean and litter free, unfortunately however, there was some litter around the Bring Bank/Recycling area with some rubbish and a black plastic bag dumped just to the side of the clothes bank, but this does not detract from the fantastic work you are doing in managing your litter management and prevention. You have regular clean ups, and well done to TÚS for all their work in this, and great to hear about the huge turnout that you had for your National Spring Clean this year. In common with many other towns, there are issues with dog fouling, but you are doing your bit to discourage this with your dog waste bag dispenser, and a great idea to leave refuse bags at Killrainey Woods so that hopefully people will use these rather than just tossing on the ground.

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

I really liked your idea of having 'champions' for the various residential areas, a great way to include everyone in the Tidy Towns ethos and encourage residents to keep their own areas clean and tidy and to be conscious of environmental practices such as rainwater harvesting, pollinator friendly planting as well as maybe leaving parts of common green areas to be left 'wild' to encourage biodiversity. Like many towns throughout Ireland you suffer from some dereliction, but you are doing good work on improving the visual impact of these by cleaning them up, including the mural on the building near the crossroads. Housing estates visited included Elmwood, Woodlands Park, Glenlusk and Pinewood, as well as the new An Garraí Gabhain, and overall, they looked well maintained and cared for.

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

The approach roads to the town were overall well maintained to a very good standard, and your regular 'patrols' are doing a great job in keeping these spruce and tidy. Great to see the one metre outer strip to be left unmown to encourage wildflowers and support biodiversity in the designated areas, as well as your engagement with Galway County Council to ensure bee friendly landscaping to be incorporated into the bypass. You are doing good work to encourage cycling with the inclusion of cycle lanes along the 'Moycullen Prom' and your support of the greenway project. I also really liked the giant bike sculpture near the entrance to the Industrial Estate, very eye catching.

Concluding Remarks:

It was an absolute pleasure to visit Moycullen, and to see the huge amount of work you are doing and the pride you take in it, no wonder that led you to being chosen to represent your county in the 2019 All Ireland 'Pride of Place' competition. We wish you the best of luck in this year's competition, and all your future projects.