

# Tidy Towns Competition 2022

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kenagh - Caonach** Ref: **909**  
County: **Longford** Mark: **314**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **15/06/2022**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2021	Mark Awarded 2022
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	43	44
Streetscape & Public Places	80	42	43
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	40	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	33	35
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	20	22
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	55	56
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	33	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	38	39
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>314</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. Adh Mór...

Thank you for your detailed application form with some excellent photography. Congratulations on another great year of activity and enhancement despite the challenges of recent years. You appear to be maintaining a strong committee, active volunteer team and support from the community. Clearly you are providing leadership and addressing the important issues that need to be addressed. It is a great advantage to have representation from the housing estates and the schools with green flags are already working towards similar aims that link well to the UN SDGs. The school garden that also provides access to adult members of the community is a great example of "doing more with less" Your communication strategy is working well and your collaboration with other organisations has enable you to access funding and leverage your ability to achieve more

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

Your streetscape is impressive with an array of buildings that are functional, historical, important for hospitality, health, prayer, and everyday living and learning. The clock tower is a unique asset, and the ground works and repairs were completed to a high standard. It is also interesting to learn about the weekly winding and the impressive history. The addition of bench seating and the new coffee hut are small but important contributions to your build environment. The repair and painting work at St George's church and all the painting of planters and containers are important adding to the overall impression of care and attention to detail. The walks and talks for new members used to educate others on the history of the town are a great idea and one that could be copied in many places across the county. Your efforts made to encourage business owners and others to paint, and repair have succeeded as there were very few buildings in need of TLC and only a few needing gutters cleaned. The schools project at St. Dominic's NS is most impressive and well done on all who supported the project or participated in its development

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

We salute your approach to move away from the highly manicured approach and moving to a lighter touch landscaping. The reduction in labour and resources is significant and the benefits to biodiversity are beyond measurement. 10 barrels and 10 troughs is still a high number and identified some locations on the edge of the town where it would be possible to plant directly into the soil. Where you had to remove large overgrown shrubs in some locations suggests that the wrong shrubs were planted in the first instance. It is always wise to make careful plant selections. There is a plant for every location and shrubs/trees that provide year-round interest are a great addition to any landscape. Having natural landscapes such as rivers, bogs, and forests close to hand ensures that your

community members have access to the best that mother nature can offer. This reduces the requirement for planting interventions in your commercial and residential areas except to augment or adorn your built environment.

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

The survey of biodiversity on the canal and the accompanying photography is very interesting. You are lucky to have this level of detail from this devoted nature watcher. We hope that it is shared with everyone in the community. The preservation and protection of the Daubenton bat and the monitoring of invasive species like the New Zealand Flatworm are important interventions. Great to hear that the ducks are settling in, and that lichens and mosses are in abundance, an important indicator of clean air. Elsewhere in your application you have alluded to the actions that you are taking to support biodiversity and we were happy to see that you are also “walking the walk” on the ground, with minimal use of chemical spray and the inclusion of wilder areas where biodiversity can expand

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

Well done on a wide range of activities under this heading. We particularly like the idea of calling out to the community for unused hardscape materials and left-over paint. There are many sheds filled with half cans of paint that will never be used and there are many paving and building materials lying around unused or dumped with general waste. The challenge is to store these materials centrally and to use them appropriately. If you are successful in doing both and you are saving money this is no mean feat. The waste minimization survey must have given home and business owners food for thought and if you can include some metrics and targets with potential financial savings in your next project i.e. the waste reduction suggestion leaflet, this will be a huge achievement. This is a great initiative as you can broaden the discussion to transport, energy, food, etc. Be careful not to print too many leaflets.

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

Well done on all the hard work and perseverance, particularly with regard to the R397. We observed very little litter despite the volume of people and traffic. It is good to note that you are inspecting behind walls and areas that are out of sight. While not a visual issue there is no such place as “away” and wildlife will be impacted by this sort of hidden accumulation of waste materials. We noted the clean signage and freshly painted troughs and your work on derelict buildings is certainly having a positive impact for visitors. The pooper scoopers must be working as we did not encounter any issues and best of luck in your recontinued endeavours to have all electrical cables moved underground. While it may take time and patience to source the necessary funding it is a worthy use of your time

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

Thank you for listing and commenting on each housing estate. As you say most are very impressive with residents taking great care and pride in their shared greens and planted spaces. While some are older estates with more done others are making progress too. Those that are negatively impacted by the issues you highlighted have a impact on everyone both residents and visitors. It is heartening to hear that you are in discussions with the relevant bank and that these matters are in hand. Clearly these homes are needed, and we sympathise with all who are impacted.

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

We noted the broken pedestrian crossing and the poor condition of some footpaths. Keep up your discussions with the relevant parties. No doubt you will have these issues addressed before long. We also observed the painted gates, new benches and copper beech and many attractive and well-maintained aspects of your approach roads. The approach roads were well presented, and we admired the well-mown margins and colourful planting at signposts making us feel very welcome

### **Concluding Remarks:**

Well done on your entry and all the hard work over the year. Your marks are on the up again reflecting the great efforts and time invested by everyone on your committee and volunteer team. You are tackling issues head on, collaborating with all interested parties, and bringing the community along with you. Keep up the great work