

Tidy Towns Competition 2022

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Killyon - Cill Liadtain** Ref: **510**
County: **Meath** Mark: **304**
Category: **B** Date(s): **22/06/2022**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2021	Mark Awarded 2022
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	35	37
Streetscape & Public Places	80	36	38
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	40	42
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	27	29
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	17	19
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	70	72
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	32	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	33	34
TOTAL MARK	550	290	304

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

Fáilte chuig Comórtas Na mBailte Slachtmhara Super Valú don bhliain 2022. Táimid buíoch daoibh as ucht na hiontrála a chur chugainn, agus guimíd gach rath ar bhúr gcuid oibre amach anseo. Killyon is welcomed to the Supervalú Tidy Towns Competition 2022. Thank you for your application. Killyon has a committee of 15 members and a number of volunteers all willing to develop projects that will enhance the area. There is good engagement with all the agencies, bodies and businesses that provide you with support and funding with various activities. Meetings are held bi-monthly to discuss your work plan for the area. Communication to the wider community is generally through social media and parish newsletter. There is also a bi-annual newsletter distributed, outlining the work completed and planned in the community. There is good community spirit with the school, parent's association and the community working together on various fundraising activities such as walks or runs. The anti-litter league is also an important competition for the community to compete in. Killyon is taking part in the Tidy Towns competition for sixteen years. It is a way of bringing the groups together creating a better community spirit. It also gives the group a focus and motivation to develop projects that will enhance the area. Your major plan for the future focuses on the cow park/community lands. This will provide a superb amenity when developed for the community and you are wished well with this project.

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

Killyon extends over quiet a large area which includes Hill of Down. The village is fortunate to have the River Deel and the Royal Canal as part of its structure. The adjudicator started at the picturesque setting of Langan's Cross. It was then on to the distinctive bridge with the black fish emblem over the picturesque setting of the Royal Canal. Situated in this area is a shop, pub and post office, all important facilities for the community. This is also an important walking area for the community to enjoy leisurely walks. This walk is part of the National Famine Way and remains an important part of local history. The Church of Our Lady and St Dominic and surroundings were admired. The well-presented National School and clearly marked parking areas were also noted. The graveyard also looked pristine from the recent developments of the concrete paths in the cemetery and the painted entrance walls. New signage was also noted. The old graveyard was also well maintained. The pump needs freshening and maybe fresh flowers. The facilities of the Hurling Club were also visited. This is an important amenity for the community. Do refrain from the use of weed killer as burnt long grass looks untidy. The site for your new future project was also noted.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The natural setting of the village of mature trees and hedging sets the tone for the landscaping of the village. The planting of bulbs and pollinator friendly plants will complement this natural setting and provide all year round colour

and interest. Planting of areas of wildflowers is also encouraged. Planting of fruit trees in this rural setting would also be encouraged. Ground planting where feasible is recommended. Planters placed on hard surfaces to brighten up a dull area is also encouraged.

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

In this category groups are asked to show how they appreciate and enhance nature and biodiversity in their area. The village is rich in biodiversity and natural habitats. It is good to note that you appreciate this and are enhancing the natural surroundings in your planned projects. The graveyard is one good example of this. Leaving areas not mowed where wild flowers can flourish is admired. The planting of native hedging and trees together with wildflowers complements the existing landscaping in the village. The area at Langan's Cross is a natural setting where children can play and appreciate the surroundings. The Bird boxes at this site could be monitored and records of the birds using them retained. Groups are encouraged to host walks and talks to celebrate and appreciate nature in their locality. Langan's Cross would be a perfect site to visit. It is also positive that you are working with the school on the progress of their biodiversity school garden. You are also commended on obtaining funding to employ an ecologist to look at a study of the village areas and also at the cow park.

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

In this category groups are asked to show how by their activities they are reducing waste generation, by more efficient use of their resources. The three common areas to make savings are transport, water and energy. Harvesting of rainwater which can be adapted by the wider community is a good means of saving water. Using low energy bulbs and switching off unnecessary lights is also encouraged, certainly today with the increased cost and perhaps shortage of electricity. Cycling and walking and using the local link bus are also encouraged. This is helping to save and is helpful for keeping fit. Planting vegetables and flowers from seed saves on transport, packaging and is more economical. Composting of grass, leaves and tree cuttings can be used as compost on flower beds. The reduction of weed killer is commended. Recycling and reusing where possible is also commended. Do ensure to list all projects developed in this category otherwise they may go unnoticed and not get the recognition they deserve.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The monitoring and control of litter must involve the wider community. Taking part in the anti-litter league competition creates awareness among the wider community and helps to get them involved. Killyon has a long spread of roads to maintain. Thankfully you are achieving good results. The green Kilometre where the community look after that section of road, is also a good way of getting more people involved. Signage needs cleaning and in some cases poles of signage needs painting. The barrier at the hall could do with reflective paint for health and safety.

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

The houses along the entrance roads to the village are well maintained with colourful floral displays, brightening up their facades. Green areas are well maintained and gardens are bright and colourful. The Royal Canal Greenway is a fine amenity to have in the village where leisurely walks can be enjoyed by all. The residents are commended for the work they do in maintaining their homes to such a high standard and also for the work they do throughout the village area.

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

The entrance signs to the districts of Killyon and Hill of Down were admired. Mature trees and hedging along the roads were also admired. The maintenance of green areas is commended. Langan's Cross is a good focal point with the historic well and mature trees, which makes this area an interesting play area. Verges are neat while maintaining a corridor for wildlife. The layby could be enhanced more with planting. The bridge an important part of the village structure could be highlighted more with flowers.

Concluding Remarks:

Killyon is doing good work to enhance and develop the area while maintaining the natural rural setting of the locality. Your new project of the cow park will create a great amenity for the wider community. You are wished well with this project. It was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate this splendid rural setting. You are wished well with future developments.