

Tidy Towns Competition 2022

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Grange - Gráinseach** Ref: **1161**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **332**
Category: **A** Date(s): **23/06/2022**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2021	Mark Awarded 2022
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	49	50
Streetscape & Public Places	80	40	41
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	40	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	36	36
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	20	21
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	68	69
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	35	36
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	38	38
TOTAL MARK	550	326	332

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. Thank you for your entry form, a map with all of your issues in black and white, draft plan for Tidy Village Work/Projects for 2020-2024 and photos. In addition we have again the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. You know about them so you do not need to be briefed about them. Your organisation name is Grange Tidy Village Group. You have a committee of 6 and 10 volunteers. You hold committee meetings monthly. These are mostly held outside due to Covid considerations. You communicate through local newspapers, Tipp FM, email, text a group, text a parent and the parish newsletter. You have the benefit of a local horticulturalist advising you on what shrubs, trees and wildflowers to use in the village. The residents committees in the area also provide support in maintaining their estates. You list a number of bodies that provide you with support – Grange Development Association, TUS worker, Grange Community Council, Supervalu, a local landscape professional etc.

There is an active Junior Tidy School/Green School's committee in the local school. They make sure that the community fields and approach roads are kept clean and tidy. It is noted that the school is very involved in litter collection throughout the year. Well done on the school achieving 5 green flags.

Your specific project for this year is the water pump. A lot of hard work has gone into clearing all the overgrown vegetation from around the pump to make it accessible and return it to its former glory. It is a good project to get the community involved in. This project can be fully adjudicated when it has been completed.

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

Please note that only projects and work that was carried out between May 2021 and May 2022 can be adjudicated on in this report. The noticeboards at Grange School were erected in 2017 and the signage at the entrance to the community field was erected in 2019, therefore cannot be considered in this report. The new directional and safety signage was noted for the school and community car park area. St Nicholas Church was looking well on adjudication day. It was clean and tidy and well maintained. The idea of using the Christmas tree as a "Memorial Tree" was a good initiative.

The wildflower area in the new cemetery is a good initiative. The signage looked well. There are plenty of pollinator friendly shrubs to attract bees and insects. The village green was clean and tidy and looking well on adjudication day. This adjudicator used the seating area in the village green to have a little rest while adjudicating the village. The new signage around the village was seen and noted. The 3 stone seats in the community field and seen and admired. They are a good idea for those needing a rest while out walking. The children's games on the tarmac surface on the community walkway was seen and admired. Hopefully we will get some good weather for the children to make full use of these.

Please let us know in next year's entry form if the planned lighting for the walkway has been achieved.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The grass areas, hedging, trees and shrubs on the entrance roads to the village are well maintained. The planting around the Failte signs on the approach roads looked well. The flowers in the hanging baskets were in full bloom on adjudication day. The flowers in the window boxes looked well at the community hall. Putting in two raised beds under the trees in the village green was a good idea and makes the area look tidy. It is noted that the school children sowed plants in the tyre bed at the back of the school and also helped plant spring bulbs in two new raised beds at the front of the school. This all helps the children take pride in their community. Well done to all involved. The church grounds and graveyard are well maintained and the hanging baskets add an extra splash of colour. The new cemetery is well maintained and the wildflower bed is a good idea. Turning the old tree stumps into bug hotels is a good way of reusing and recycling. If any progress is made on the curved wall at the village crossroads please let us know in next year's entry form.

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

Please let us know if and when any owls take up residence in the owl box at the water tower at the school. The new raised beds at the front of the school and the bug hotels were dealt with in the previous category. Please let us know in next year's entry form if you have been able to reach an agreement with the Council in relation to the development of a nature walk. The information from the biodiversity study was seen on the noticeboards in the village. The new wildflower area at the new cemetery was dealt with in the previous category.

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

Your spring clean-up was a success this year. It is a good idea to separate the waste collected in the clean-ups. It is noted that you collected 8 bags of litter which is a reduction from 12 bags collected in the previous clean-up. A lot of the items listed in this category belong in other categories like Tidiness and Litter Control. In next year's entry form you might consider how you can reduce your community's impact on the climate and local environment.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

As previously noted your spring clean-up was a success with the collection of 8 bags of rubbish. As stated these were mostly collected from approach roads which goes to show that the local community are keeping the village clean and tidy but that maybe passers-by are not so considerate. Well done to the school children for taking part in the clean-ups. Hopefully they will continue to be involved for many years to come. It is good to see that you are keeping in mind the recommendations of your biodiversity report when it comes to cutting verges along the community field and walkway. The bottle bank and can recycling area was clean and tidy on adjudication day. Illegal dumping is a problem all over the country but hopefully the CCTV that has been installed will act as a deterrent. Well done to all the volunteers who have helped out in the tidying, weeding and litter picking around the village and on approach roads. The village was litter free on adjudication day.

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

Grange only has two housing estate in the village – Theresa Ahearn Close and Grange Park. There is good interaction between your committee and the residents of the two estates, with a representative from each estate on your committee. The residents of both estates keep the areas around their estate looking lovely. The fruit trees at the entrance to Grange Park were seen and admired. Hopefully they will be there for years to come. Well done to the residents of Theresa Ahearn Close for tidying up and replanting around the trees.

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

The approach roads to Grange were all litter free on adjudication day. The verges were neat and tidy and the planting around the bilingual Failte signs were lovely. They all made a good first impression of the village. The road markings at the Ballindoney Castle/Ballindoney roads junction were clear and easy to navigate for an outsider coming into the village. The wall at the village centre can be dealt with in future entry's when the project has been completed.

Concluding Remarks:

Overall Grange village was looking well on adjudication day. We wish you good luck in the future.