

# Tidy Towns Competition 2022

## ***Adjudication Report***

Centre: **Clonmellan - Cluain Maoláin**

Ref: **231**

County: **Westmeath**

Mark: **268**

Category: **B**

Date(s): **24/07/2022**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2021</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2022</b>
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	39	40
Streetscape & Public Places	80	35	36
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	39	40
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	19	19
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	12	12
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	50	51
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	31	32
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	37	38
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>268</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 Cluain Maoláin. Thank you for your entry to this year's competition your fourth in recent years. The work being done by the committee is reflected not just in the environs of Clonmellan but in the list of supporters for that work, well done on bringing so many people and businesses on board. Your newsletter and Facebook page do good work in keeping people informed about Tidy Town activities and are commended. The plans to progress with a junior Tidy Towns in the coming year are welcomed.

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

The ongoing work of the committee and volunteers is reflected in the fine vista of Clonmellan's main street. The shops, church, school, and houses are all well-kept. The old market square, graveyard and refurbished St John's Church are each places that add to the quality of the town's environment. Work on the maintenance of derelict buildings adds interest to the streetscape. The planned development for the old hotel site will hopefully be a positive contribution to Clonmellan.

### **Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasá agus Tírdhreachú:**

You are doing lots of work on planting and landscaping of Clonmellan. The Hedge Maze is taking shape and will soon be high enough for some to get lost in. Your plans for upgrading of the playground are timely. Green space is generally well maintained, verges mown and planting throughout is colorful and attracting pollinators as intended. The community garden is a real asset to Clonmellan, well done to all who work in it.

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

The community garden is a good resource for provision of plant material for the hanging baskets and flower beds as noted. Tree planting and bee hotels adjacent to the playground are a good way to use this area. More native tree species would be an addition to this site.

In future years you should consider how you can increase awareness of the value of biodiversity and the kinds of nature that are found in and around Clonmellan. The school children could be involved in projects to identify birds in and around the town. A survey of how many and which insects are using the plants around Clonmellan could be another idea. The leaflet at this link could be a useful start for a few budding ecologists/entomologists, no previous knowledge required. chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnibpcapcglclefindmkaj/https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/FIT-Count-survey-guidance\_Ireland-2021.pdf

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

Work on the community garden, harvesting rainwater and upgrading of unused areas around the playground are noted. Future projects in this section should focus on issues of waste, energy, transport or aspects of the circular economy. The Tidy Towns handbook has a wealth of guidelines on possible projects and you could start with simple surveys such as the Green Home Survey (<https://www.greenhome.ie/>). This information can then be used to look at where people can make savings and reduce energy use and waste in coming years.

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

Your work on litter management is paying dividends, Clonmellon was virtually litter free on the adjudicators visit, well done to all who contribute to the efforts to pick and control litter. The reduction in collected litter over the past four years is a good indicator of how effective your control measures are.

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

Continue with your plans to run a best garden competition in the coming years. There are some nice gardens and frontages around the village and a competition will also help with awareness raising. Residential areas at Cluain Mhór, Shantobar, Carrraig Mhór and Raiskeen Place and Killallon Close could work on developing the entrance areas to their estates. The houses and gardens were generally well maintained in each of these areas and some planting at the entrances would be beneficial.

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

The stone wall at the Kell's road entrance has been colonized by a range of plants that add to its character. This entrance to the village reflects the work on the well, bedding and verges down to the old Isaac's well. The approach roads to the village are generally well managed, verges tidy and signs clean and visible.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

Well done to all involved in Clonmellon's Tidy Towns entry this year. Keep up the efforts in coming years. It was a pleasure to visit your town and I look forward to returning in the future.