

Tidy Towns Competition 2022

Adjudication Report

Centre: Coolgreany - An Cúl Gréine	Ref: 119
County: Wexford	Mark: 303
Category: B	Date(s): 21/06/2022

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2021	Mark Awarded 2022
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	48	49
Streetscape & Public Places	80	42	43
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	41	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	28	28
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	12	13
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	59	60
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	34	35
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	34	34
TOTAL MARK	550	298	303

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

Fáilte go Cúl an Gréine chuig Comórtas Na mBailte Slachtmhara Super Valu don bhliain 2022. Táimid buíoch daoibh as na hiontrála a chur chugainn, agus guimíd gach rath ar bhúr gcuid oibre amach anseo. We welcome Coolgreany Tidy Towns to the 2022 SuperValu TidyTowns competition. We acknowledge and appreciate the challenges for your group in keeping Tidy Towns on the road and submitting the application. Thank you for your succinct entry and for your commitment to your place in these difficult times. Our records show you entered the competition in 2019 and 2021 (Your form says 2018). Either way, we are delighted to see you back this year, despite various challenges. Your active committee is supported by a FAS worker, local businesses and residents throughout the village. You effectively communicate your messages through traditional channels and use of social media including your active Facebook page. Thank you for including your Tidy Towns Plan (2019 – 2022). We look forward to seeing your updated Plan next year. Lean leis an dea-obair. Keep up the good work.

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

The new noticeboard is a welcome addition at the wheelchair accessible picnic area, especially for visitors to the area. Well done to all involved in getting this project completed. The streetscape is presented to a high a standard thanks to all the businesses and residents along this stretch who maintain properties to a high standard and enhance with floral displays. The row of bungalows along the sloping street is complimented by fresh looking businesses, residences and welcoming Community House across the street. We are very sorry to hear you recently lost your post office – certainly a severe blow for the village. We acknowledge your comments in relation to the takeover of the derelict HSE building and hope this happens soon. We agree that signage on the handball alley could be more appropriate - the entire building would benefit from painting. We note that this group is engaging with Wexford Co Co regarding a footpath here. We look forward to an update. We noticed that a national softball competition was coming to Coolgreany – another bonus for the village! The grotto is beautifully maintained and planted – however the dark grey colour on the statue makes it difficult to see the statue itself.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

You continue to monitor recently planted native and fruit trees and carry out maintenance of existing flower and shrub beds. We hope you have some horticultural expertise in your midst to advise on plants and spacing of planting. If not, your local nursery should be able to assist. The planted wheelbarrows add a quirky splash of colour though placing of planters, pots, wheelbarrows or tyres should ideally be preserved for hard landscaped areas as opposed to natural green verges or green spaces where permanent planting is possible. The high bed at Barrack Hill impressed this adjudicator. It is always good to hear of additional native hedging being planted around the

village – in your case whitethorn and holly. We are glad to hear that Gardiner's Farm Shop has replanted flowers on the high wall. We admired the sculpture here. It would be great to see the wall backdrop painted in due course.

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

We love the idea of planting fruit trees around the village. These provide fruit, shelter for wildlife and are pollinator-friendly. We are delighted to hear that you have a resident woodpecker! Coolgreany is surrounded by habitat-rich woodlands and the wildlife can be seen on the various walking trails. You have some impressive signage in place such as the 'Shrubs to attract butterflies and bees' and the 'Birds at the River' signs. We positively note that Coolgreany residents are looking out for the wildlife including birds and hedgehogs – special mention to the Women's group. We saw two plastic sacks of what looked like leaf mould at the river pathway. It looks a little untidy, we weren't sure why it was here? Keep up the good work. Wexford Co Co have been running some very interesting training initiatives around this category so do make sure you are on their mailing list for future events.

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

It is encouraging to hear that the school children are learning how to grow fruit and vegetables. We congratulate them on achieving their 3rd Green Flag on the Water theme. They are collecting rainwater and using various measures to reduce water usage. The school poster competition serves to highlight ways we can all reduce waste, energy and water. Reuse is encouraged – peat from the hanging baskets (have you considered using peat-free compost?). Rainwater is being used by several residents for watering purposes. What about the watering of the public planters and baskets? We are delighted to hear that book are collected for redistribution at Shelton prison. We look forward to seeing a compost area at Croghan View next time.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

We were very impressed with the cleanliness of Coolgreany including the recycling centre. Participation in weekly litter picks and initiatives such as national spring clean help keep this way. There were some items left on the roadside at the turn off to Croghan View Road, near the ball alley. We also noted that the waste collection truck dropped a few pieces on an otherwise spotless street and didn't pick them up when they escaped during bin emptying – something to keep an eye on. We note that two of your bins were removed and you had to relocate others. Perhaps this is a good thing as they are often abused? Did Coolgreany volunteers participate in the 2km road clean up campaign? We thought we saw a sign during our visit
The village presents quite a tidy appearance. Some of the road speed limit signs need cleaning.

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

Residents of Croghan View Estate and Knockgreany are obviously very proud of their areas, with evidence of planting, tidiness and general enhancement. We look forward to seeing the new name stone at the new 'Cnoc Gréine' estate next time. The row of bungalows along the main street are neat and welcoming as are homes/gardens along the approach roads.

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

Directional signage is good, especially to amenity areas outside the village such as Ballyfad Woods. Volunteers have made approach roads bright and welcoming through clever use of planting. We would liked to have seen the attractive namestones include the Irish translation. One of the 'Coolgreany' signs is obscured by rigorous rose bush – not a suitable plant choice in this type of location. Some attractive low-level planting was observed that adds to that sense of arrival. The bridge area is lovely. Fences are in good order. Please also revisit suggestions in your 2021 report.

Concluding Remarks:

We are delighted to have Coolgreany back in the Tidy Towns competition this year. We commend the committee and wider community for all that you do to maintain your lovely village to such a high standard. We wish you well for the future and look forward to seeing you back in the competition next year. Keep up the good work.