

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Asdee - Eas Daoi** Ref: **322**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **292**
Category: **A** Date(s): **28/07/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	43	44
Streetscape & Public Places	80	36	37
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	37	38
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	27	28
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	15	16
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60	62
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	32	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	33	34
TOTAL MARK	550	283	292

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

Fáilte chuig Comórtas Bhailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2025. Go raibh maith agaibh as bhur iarratas a chur isteach. Maith sibh don obair atá déanta agaibh in bhur cheantar go dtí seo - guímid gach rath oraibh i bhur dtionscadail amach anseo. Ádh mór.

Thank you, Asdee Tidy Towns, for your 2025 Entry form and map. We note the three-year plan which we suggest requires some additional input. You could increase your monthly winter meetings to allow you prepare a more detailed schedule of things you want to do in the coming years and you can include your regular work too, such as National Spring Clean or the County Clean Up and weekly litter picks. Try to identify at least one project under each Tidy Towns category as advised by last years adjudicator– start with easy-win ideas and progress to more challenging ones. The plan then becomes a detailed document of your planned work and can be shared with your community to encourage their involvement. Make use of the SuperValu Tidy Towns website – there are handbooks on all categories there to provide you with ideas you could adopt or adapt to suit Asdee.

<https://www.tidytowns.ie/competition/handbook/>

Your committee of 7 and additional 5 non-committee volunteers, have the support of Pobal and Kerry County Council but you do not list any local agencies or businesses. Are you in contact with your local LEADER company? They often have supports for community groups, so reach out to them. You attended the Kerry Tidy Towns seminar too – what a great way to pick up new ideas and also to mingle with other like-minded people.

Congratulations to the school children and their teachers on their involvement in the Green Schools initiative and it is heartening to note the children also assist with the County Clean Up – developing pride in their locality is so important at a young age.

We are so sorry to hear that your group has suffered sickness and loss this year. We wish you all good health and we extend our sympathies to the families and friends of those who have passed. Now with 9 years of Tidy Towns activity, your community has embraced the ethos of taking pride in its environment and surroundings. Have you any way of showing the community what is being achieved – do you put any information into your church bulletin? Try to share your plans, clean-up events and other items of interest somehow. Can you get a note into a local newspaper a few times a year even? For a very small community, you are already achieving much and your work is highly visible across the length of the village – well done and keep up the good work.

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

Asdee has a simple, linear layout with all the main community buildings contained in close quarters in the centre of a primarily, residential village. It was heartening to see the two bungalows near the church being redeveloped as vacancy has become such a significant issue in all towns and villages in recent years. The residence next to one it is beautifully presented and indeed the majority of the housing stock was looking very well maintained, on the periphery and within the village itself. Painting, planting, gardening and general upkeep is of a very good standard

and we are thankful to your whole community for putting in the effort. Public buildings are also maintained to a high standard, especially the school building with the muraled wall and decorated windows and blossoming raised planters. The entrance/exit is well set up with safety in mind and the playground is extensive which must allow for lots of energy releasing activities. St. Marys Church is a lovely building and is set on a landscaped site with the church bell of a matching design and finish. The community centre, set at a remove from the main street is well presented but less interesting than the other two buildings. As there is no space to plant in front of the building, could you dream up a mural for the front wall as a way of improving its aesthetic impact? The little garden at the back of the school/community centre is a lovely addition to the green space and the sensory play objects were admired (and tried out). Your primary outdoor public space is opposite these buildings and there are a lot of useful and beautiful elements located there. You have coloured and brightened the space with planters and murals and the fresh furniture, bike stand and water pump all add a little extra to this clean and useful space. Adjacent to this is the Grotto which was also looking very nicely maintained during adjudication. It appears that only one public house is operating at the moment (Jessie James pub did not look like it was just closed on that day but please let next years adjudicator know what the situation is) and it seems your Post Office is closed also? The grocery shop on the Listowel /Ballylongford road is still operating and this is important – every village needs a spot to catch up with whats going on.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

There are a number of greenspaces that you have taken responsibility for improving and maintaining, particularly at the road junctions at either end of the village. Keeping your support of biodiversity in mind, you are planting to benefit nature while also providing a colourful display for locals and visitors to enjoy. The importance of these areas is in creating a good first impression for visitors (and adjudicators). Your name signs are all in good condition and are highlighted by the planting under and around them. The various raised planters were all bursting with colour and texture so well done on your plant selections. It would be good to repair the edging/barrier at Laceys Cross. Or just remove the timbers that have dislodged. There are a lot of signs located here too – with the brown wayfinding ones barely legible. Does the wide grass area opposite need to be mown? Or is this being done by the residents nearby? Some repair work is needed there to even the surface – maybe that could be in your three/five year plan. It will only need a mowing strip of a meter or so. The novel planting into drainpipes on the bridge top was admired as was the planting against the white wall of the handball alley. The planning application notice here confirms there are plans to develop this space for the community – it seems like a fantastic development. Is your group involved in this at any level? Add any involvement to your plan and entry form for next year too. The church grounds are also landscaped nicely and the grass is well kept. Your attention to the advice on colour co-ordinating is paying off as the uniformity of colour in different areas is really impactful visually and is preferable to a scattergun effect (though this can be done well too in some cases).

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

The hand-weeding practice you undertake is not only good for your own health but is also helpful to the wildlife in your locality – thank you for putting in the extra effort. Himalayan Balsam is a problem in your area, but it is reassuring to see the signage which indicates the problem is recognised and is being managed properly. Have you carried out any awareness raising events or created resources to ensure the whole community are aware of the challenges, especially those who are involved in ground works or earth moving work? Your planting choices reflect your dedication to supporting all that is native and wild in Asdee as does the decision to not mow all areas of grass similarly and allow for varying maintenance regimes, supporting various animals, birds, insects etc. It is intriguing to read that you can actually find ladybirds, to collect and use on your plants. How novel! Be sure to add the locations of your bird boxes and bug hotels to your map to help the adjudicator find them easily.

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

The bottle bank is well maintained and it is great that Kerry County Council are prompt in their support for keeping the area free of dangerous materials. How many Green Flags has the school achieved to date – you should include this information for next years adjudicator to consider. Are any parents or staff on the Tidy Towns committee? Can you collaborate and support each other on a project in the year ahead in support of the next Green Flag? The school have installed solar panels – an excellent move and one that will educate the children in matters outside of the curriculum, no doubt. Well done to you for growing your own flowers and for reusing trays and pots – sustainability starts with not buying new things and then reusing what is already available. The clothes swap is an excellent initiative and hopefully it will go from strength to strength and become a norm in the village before too long. You could extend this to the school and local sports clubs to get uniform and gear swaps going on too – again, another life lesson for the youth of the village. The hand weeding practice is excellent to note and ensures a safe environment as well as reducing costs, preventing pollution and much more.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

You are very active in this category and the results are easily seen in Asdee as the village was spotlessly clean when adjudicated – a great achievement for you all. The regular visits by the KCC street sweeper is a great boost to your own regular efforts to maintain the area so well. The County Clean Up is another opportunity that you avail of to ensure a litter free environment. Have you seen any reduction in litter since the ReTurn scheme was introduced? Do you track the numbers of bags collected annually? Weeding is well done and there are only a few small areas that require some additional effort. Walls and facades are generally well painted and maintained and planting schemes are maintained appropriately. As noted in Greenspaces and Landscaping, the clutter of signs at Laceys Cross might be improved in the coming years if you start a conversation with KCC now – it is likely they can advise on what signs could be amalgamated, removed or relocated within the space available. A number of farm

gates are located within or very close to the village – could you undertake to paint these? As with the planting, choose a single colour. Check with the owners in advance but this is a simple way of making a big impact

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

As noted earlier, the redevelopment of the house near the church will improve the residential amenity of the village and hopefully bring a new family to the area. It will also support the two adjoining properties as both are very nicely maintained. The second renovation seems almost complete and provides a good visual amenity to the village too and again, maybe a family (and potential new Tidy Towns members). The residences that are visible from walking and driving around the wider Asdee area showcase a sense of pride of place as many are well kept, with good landscaped gardens and well-maintained boundary treatments, including hedging, fencing, gates and walls.

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

Your approach roads have had quite a lot of input by your group and you have created welcoming and interesting bookends to Asdee. Rural roads approaching the village are bounded mainly by trees and hedging and your planting and maintenance compliment this but also indicate proximity to the town through the addition of raised beds, colour and grass maintenance. The Welcome to Asdee signs in Irish and English are impressive though again I would suggest that the one at Laceys Cross is somewhat obscured by the other directional signage here.

Concluding Remarks:

Well done on all your projects to date and we hope that you are all enjoying participating in Tidy Towns initiatives. Your work is highly visible and is positively impacting on the village. We wish you all the best in the year ahead and we look forward to your entry in 2026.