

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carbury Village - Cairbre** Ref: **1189**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **348**
Category: **A** Date(s): **02/07/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	52	53
Streetscape & Public Places	80	44	46
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	48	51
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	32	35
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	22	24
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	58	61
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	35	37
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	39	41
TOTAL MARK	550	330	348

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. Carbury is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition for 2025. Thank you for your application and map. The village of Carbury has a committee of thirteen members and a large number of volunteers, working diligently to maintain this beautiful village, with the many projects developed. Meetings are held monthly to organise a number of community events that are held during the year. These events include a Summer BBQ, Christmas, Easter and Halloween events for the children and community. These events are proving very successful, creating good community spirit, which is good for newcomers to the area. The lighting of Carbury Castle in green for St Patricks Day proved very successful and hopefully will become an annual event. Many other events were held with the GAA celebrating their centenary, being one of them. There is ongoing support from Kildare County Council, all other agencies, businesses and sporting clubs with advice and funding for the various projects undertaken. Communication to the wider community is through social media, newsletter, village noticeboard and public meetings. You are currently in the process of forming a youth council which is commended. Taking part in the competition has helped to enhance and develop the village with various projects and has also helped to create a better community spirit.

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

The village community centre has been one of your prime projects. Working in conjunction with the County Council the committee have taken over as caretakers of the new community facility, which was formally the old disused dispensary. The Council have refurbished the building with the committee and the community centre is now an excellent facility for all the community to enjoy. The buildings looked pristine along with the adjoining grounds. The Castle Inn with its well painted facade is certainly the focal point of the village and is bright and colourful. The carpark and excellent planting at the rear of the building was greatly admired, so too was the friendly grey cat that helped the adjudicator this year. Well done to the Castle Inn on their Pride of Premises award for accessibility. Accessibility is so important in every public building. The Pre-School is an important facility for the village and I am sure the children must love the nature walks, with the many colourful sites of interest to be explored. The Church of Ireland surroundings and graveyard are part of the village heritage and are well maintained. The bins, seating and planters are well presented and are in keeping with the village surroundings. The bright colourful murals of wildlife at the community centre bring interest and colour to the surroundings.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The natural surroundings of the village are complemented by the many areas of landscaping noted, brightening up

the natural stonework of the village. The landscaping creates interest with great thought put into the arrangements. The wall mounted troughs are superb and are in keeping with the natural surroundings. The fairy garden is a place where the children surely enjoy. The hard and soft landscaping of the village blend very well together, such as the water feature, sheep themed bike stands and planting at this point. The private house adjacent, was also admired on their variety of plants in their well-maintained garden. The landscaping of many perennials and wild flowers at the rear of Castle Inn is superb. The Irish entrance sign in box is the focal point at this junction and was greatly admired. The type of planting used ensures the village looks bright and colourful all year round, which is commended.

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

The village has many areas of natural habitats for wildlife in the trees, hedging and stone walls of the village perimeter. As you mentioned in your application the crevices in the stone wall allowing plant growth, birds and insects to develop, is commended. The planting of many pollinator friendly plants in landscaping was also noted. Grass areas are designated to wildlife and signs erected to create awareness among the community. Bird and Bat boxes are erected and monitored on their movements. What a special bug hotel. The mural at the community centre creates awareness of wildlife through art. It is good to note that the Pre-School enjoy walks, learning about nature. Groups are encouraged to host walks and talks to appreciate local species and habitats in their area. Your 1k walk would make an ideal location for such an event where no doubt the community would see many different species.

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

In this category groups continue to try and make their area more sustainable by their daily actions. Carbury are certainly working well in this area. The provision of a water dispenser in the village is one way of saving, by reducing the number of bottles used and also saving the walkers money. Harvesting of rainwater by installing water butts, for plant watering and other tasks which can be adapted by the wider community, is commended. Continuing to use reusable items and shopping local for food is also good. Buying local also helps the local farmers and the economy in general. Walking, cycling and using public transport where feasible are good for health and the environment. Thankfully more buses routes are coming on stream especially in rural Ireland. Planting more perennials and using cuttings and seeds if possible are all ways of saving. Charity shops are a great outlet for many items no longer needed, but could be just what someone in the community wants at a much lower cost. Do ensure that all projects in this category are documented so they do not go unnoticed.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The village has a good plan in place around the control and hopefully eradication of litter. The community are involved with a general clean-up in spring which includes the approach roads as well as the village. On these clean-ups have you noticed a reduction in the amount of litter collected? If you see a reduction, this is encouraging and shows your plan is working and people are getting the message that dumping of any kind is not welcomed. Regular daily litter picks are done by the residents around their own property and also by the CE worker who looks after the general maintenance of the village. Bins are clean and colourful signs encourage dog owners to clean up after pets. Railings are painted and boundary walls are generally good, all adding to the tidiness of the village. The removal of weeds from the cobble lock paving also adds to the overall clean appearance.

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

The houses along the approach roads and throughout the village are well presented, which shows the community have great pride in their homes and surroundings. Houses have colourful painted facades and superb gardens. The outdoor gym equipment is clean and presented in a very accessible site for everyone to use. It is also good to see the old Garda Barracks, which is a prominent building in the village looking so good, with work to the outside given it a new lease of life. The residents are commended on the work they do in presenting their homes to such a high standard while also helping with projects to enhance the village.

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

The approach roads to the village had plenty of interest in the signage and boundary fences, giving a very good first impression to those visiting. The roundabout is complemented by three flag poles highlighting the Cairbre sign in box. The well treated wooden paling, trees and hedging also add to this site. The Bog oak which is unique as a village name sign, together with more timber fencing gives a good first impression at this entrance. Verges are neat while retaining a corridor for wildlife. The stone walls with their natural green growth clearly visible, adds more charm to the streetscape. Well maintained ground and container planting adds its own colour and interest to entrance roads to the village.

Concluding Remarks:

The village of Carbury are doing excellent work in enhancing the village and developing community needs such as the community centre. The natural surroundings of the village are special and it is good to note that they are being retained. Keep up the good work and you are wished well in the future.