

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Celbridge - Cill Droichid** Ref: **338**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **389**
Category: **G** Date(s): **25/06/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	54	55
Streetscape & Public Places	80	48	50
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	47	50
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	48	50
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	27	29
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	62	64
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	43	45
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	44	46
TOTAL MARK	550	373	389

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. Celbridge is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition for 2025. Thank you for your application and map. Celbridge has a reasonably small committee but work with a large number of volunteers to develop projects that will help to enhance the town and surroundings. There is also the ongoing maintenance of this ever growing town on a daily and weekly basis. Do you have any workers on the various schemes that helps you with your work? There is good support from Kildare County Council, other agencies, businesses and the schools. Communication to the wider community is through social media, local newspaper, link magazine and community notice board. There is great interaction with the schools through the Green School initiative. Scoil Mochua held a fundraiser at Halloween and donated the funds raised to Celbridge Tidy Towns. Transition Year students also help with various tasks, such as litter picking and some also use their voluntary hours to obtain the An Gaisce award. Entering the competition has helped to instil a better sense of pride in the community, while helping to get the community working together. These projects are of benefit to the environment as well as improving the overall appearance of the town and surroundings.

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

The streetscape of Celbridge is a mix of heritage buildings and more modern builds. The businesses along the Main Street look bright and welcoming with mostly brightly painted facades and colourful floral displays. Visitors to Celbridge are encouraged to visit the many heritage sites with the help of the heritage signs and heritage app, which is available to download. The Arthur Guinness Statue and Castletown House which forms part of the town heritage are important tourist attractions. The Church and grounds are well maintained. The Mill and surroundings, which includes the superb bridge across the river Liffey, is enhanced with well planted baskets and is certainly worth a visit. There are however some elevated baskets in the grounds that were not planted and slightly distracted. Graveyards are well maintained which is a credit to the community. The information leaflets available at Tea Lane graveyard are commended. The Grotto also looked fresh and bright. The main street planting of trees and three tier planters brings great ambience to the overall appearance of the streetscape.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

There are many areas of planting throughout the streetscape and on approach roads leading to Celbridge. The new entrance signs are well planted with a mix of perennial and annual planting. The ground planting of mainly perennials along the Clane/Shackleton road were greatly admired. The area around the Grotto was bright and colourful. Ground planting where possible is recommended, helping to reduce on watering. The pots at Tea Lane

graveyard entrance could be changed to ground planting, also a number of pots at the entrance to St Wolstans school could maybe be replaced with ground planting. The planting of honeysuckle along the entrance wall provides a good source of food for pollinators and also softens the appearance of the concrete. Well done on planting a large number which is more effective. The raised bed planting at the workhouse graveyard is commended. The stone surround of the bed is in keeping with the natural surroundings of the area. The trees and plants complement the mature landscaping of the surroundings. The hanging baskets, window boxes and different shaped planters bring colour and vibrancy to the streetscape. The three tier planters are more accommodating of all year-round planting, bringing life and colour during the dark dreary days of winter. Celbridge continues to build on its tree stock with a continuous planting of trees throughout the town and surroundings.

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

The management, protection and appreciation of local species and habitats is essential and also helps the community to get to know the wildlife that exists in their area. Celbridge is working to a Biodiversity Plan in conjunction with Kildare Biodiversity Network which is led by Kildare County Council. Members also continue to attend events to gain more information and knowledge, such as Hedgerows Ireland hedge walk. The group also work with other groups in the locality to help with the many challenges that arise on a daily and weekly basis. Celbridge also took the time and interest to make a submission to Kildare County Council Biodiversity Plan 2026/31, with a submission mainly focussed on water quality and how it can be improved. This project is being undertaken in conjunction with LAWPRO and the help of St Wolstans Transition Year students. Working with Birdwatch Ireland on the different birds that's can be seen around the town and surroundings and monitoring and recording their movements is also very important. Many groups erect bird boxes and their care and usage is sometimes not monitored and recorded. Planting around the town and surroundings is undertaken to improve biodiversity, as well as enhancing the overall appearance of the streetscape. Hosting talks and walks to celebrate and appreciate local species and habitats is commended. You are presently working on a project and when developed will help create more area for nature walks and add to the many existing superb areas, where wildlife can be seen in their natural surroundings.

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

Making our areas more sustainable by our actions is emphasised greatly to groups and community members. The three main areas where great savings can be made are in transport, energy and water. The waste collection companies are doing their best to encourage people to segregate and reduce their waste by introducing a separate bin for food waste. The harvesting of rainwater by the wider community with the installation of water butts, for watering plants and completing other tasks is also commended. Walking, cycling and using public transport is also encouraged. The NTA are adding more buses on new and existing routes, trying to connect Ireland and this is positive. Local Authorities are helping by installing wider footpaths for walkers and also providing cycle lanes where possible, with more needed. Shopping locally if possible also helps the local economy. Growing plants from seed and sharing plants makes planting more sustainable. Planting of wildflower areas are both attractive and good for pollinators. The use of solar panels on public buildings and private homes is becoming more popular, with grants available to help with installation, thus reducing cost on electricity when jobs are completed. Recycling is ongoing with the re-turn system proving very popular. It shows when people can save money it helps them more to look at how waste is managed and reduced.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

There is a good plan in place in Celbridge in the area of litter control and eradication. There are a number of volunteers with designated roads and areas that are monitored on a regular basis. The Local Authority do their bit by sweeping the streets daily. Litter control should be done by the wider community and not left to a number to do all the work. Bins are provided and litter should be binned and not dropped. There are some issues with litter around the Abbey carpark which takes greatly from this very historical site. Hopefully you will get to resolve this in the near future. Signs are generally good, do ensure all foliage is cut back from signage. The art work or painting of the utility boxes has brought great colour and brightness to their appearance. The re-turn scheme has helped with the reduction of bottles and cans discarded at public spaces and even along hedges on approach roads, which is good. There is a redundant sign at Celbridge Manor that could be removed.

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

The estates in Celbridge are a pleasure to visit. Many have mature trees which softens the concrete builds. Entrance signs are welcoming with good landscaping. The estate competition is a great way of encouraging the residents on the presentation of their areas and also helps to reward them for their endeavours. Well done to Temple Manor on their achievements in the competition. St Patricks Park was admired. The houses along the approach roads and along the streetscape were also admired, with well painted facades and floral displays, brightening up the surroundings. The old housing stock of the town was greatly admired, as they form part of Celbridge before extensive development took place. It is also good to see that you are working closely with developers ensuring old architecture, such as pillars are retained and incorporated into new developments. The planting of native trees and sustainable planting is also encouraged. The awards for the commercial premises are also commended and well done to the winners in this area. The residents are commended on the work they do in maintaining their homes to such a high standard and also helping out with the many projects in the town and surroundings. Play areas were also well maintained and welcoming for the children that use these important amenities.

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

The entrance signs to the town gives a very good welcome to those visiting. Good landscaping of mature trees and pollinator friendly beds and containers were noted. The planting on the Shackleton Road was particularly admired with more sustainable planting. Grass verges were neat while maintaining a corridor for wildlife. The planters on the bridge, the three tier planters and other containers were particularly admired. Traffic flowed well except at the Hazelhatch Road junction, where traffic lights might help to improve traffic flow in this area. The Mill Wheel roundabout on the approach road needs some work to enhance this feature. Maybe the Local Authority might help with this project to enhance this landmark.

Concluding Remarks:

Celbridge was a pleasure to visit as always and adjudicate. Thank you for your good presentation and easy to follow map. It is very helpful to the adjudicator. You are doing good work with the many projects undertaken to improve and enhance the town, surroundings and the environment. Keep up the good work and you are wished well in the future.