

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clane - Claonadh** Ref: **368**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **391**
Category: **E** Date(s): **25/06/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	60	61
Streetscape & Public Places	80	45	47
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	53	56
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	47	49
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	24	27
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	62	64
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	43	44
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	41	43
TOTAL MARK	550	375	391

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. Clane is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition for 2025. Thank you for your application and helpful maps. Clane has a committee of fourteen members and a large number of volunteers working to enhance and develop the town, with ongoing projects. Clane Tidy Towns work closely with other community groups in the area, which includes sporting organisations. Meetings are held regularly, with Monday evening designated for work, during the busy months of April to September. Litter management groups work on a continuous year round plan on the control of litter. Kildare County Council are very supported of your work and help with funding and advice for many projects. This also assist with civil works, such as footpaths. Communication to the wider community is through social media, notice board and local radio. Your participation in the competition has helped the community to develop and enhance the town to meet the needs of a growing population over the years. Receiving your first gold medal in the competition last year was special and celebrated at the annual St Patricks Day celebrations. It is positive to note that the schools show great interest and help with many projects, such as biodiversity and litter control. The Abbey Garden of Remembrance is one of your special projects.

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

The buildings along the streetscape look bright and welcoming with mostly well painted facades and colourful floral displays. The premises of Jaz Manzor has superb floral displays which certainly brightened this entrance into town. Clane has a number of historical sites, the main one being the Abbey and it is certainly worth a visit. The landscaping and information boards display a lot of worthwhile information for visitors to this well maintained site. The community also enjoy a first class community space in the historic building. The Church of St Patrick and St Brigid is well maintained with the historic bell moved to a more open visible space at the front of the Church. Your future project of a new Library will complement this area when completed. Scoil Phadraig has been completed together with landscaping and roadworks. This ensures this modern school build provides great safety for students travelling to school. The stone bridge which is part of the town's heritage was greatly admired. The town Stream Park is a superb amenity which has been refurbished with new benches, paving and landscaping, adding tranquillity from the busy traffic close by. The children's playground was bustling with activity.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The mature trees and hedging noted on approach roads and throughout the town are complemented by the pollinator friendly planting. This was noted in the ground planting and containers at different locations throughout the town. The businesses do a superb job in brightening up their premises with hanging baskets and window boxes

which brings great welcome and ambience to their surroundings. The Garden of Remembrance and the John Sullivan Monument, to name but a few of the many areas of superb planting which was noted and admired. The planting along the Stream Park complements the surroundings with pollinator friendly planting. The choice of containers used in planting was also admired as they were in keeping with the surroundings.

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

Clane are working to a Biodiversity Plan which ensures the protection and management of habitats and species is followed. Working closely with the Action Plan Network on biodiversity helps to address any problems that may arise and also to share ideas. Planting of native trees, hedging and pollinator friendly plants was noted, adding to the biodiversity of the town. A lot of work has been done to remove invasive plants at the Nature Park along the Liffey, with ongoing monitoring in conjunction with other bodies, on the elimination of this invasive plant known as Himalayan Balsam. It is commended that the GAA are getting involved in green club initiatives. The football grounds are an area where there is a lot of footfall and any planting such as the wildflower meadow will be noted. The planting of native plants as noted and the reduced mowing allows for many spring flowering wild flowers to grow. The wider community are getting more involved in this type of planting such as the housing estates and this is commended. It is important that local habitats and species are appreciated and admired by hosting walks and talks in the community. Otherwise the community may not be aware of the nature that is in existence in their town or village. The provision of information boards as noted is also important. Biodiversity week is an excellent date to host such walks and talks. The birds are not forgotten with the erection of bird boxes and working closely with Bird Watch Ireland, to record any sightings of birds, particularly any rare species in the locality.

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

This is an area where most groups are working hard to help make their area more sustainable by their actions. The three main themes where big savings can be made are transport, energy and waste. Wider footpaths and cycle lanes are being installed to ensure safety for cyclists and pedestrians. This will hopefully help to reduce the number of cars on the roads where possible. There are also more buses now available on all bus routes to help improve public transport, which is commended. More solar panels are being installed on businesses and private homes to help with energy savings. The re-turn scheme has proved to be very successful, reducing the amount of plastic bottles that were been discarded along hedges and in public areas. Most waste companies are encouraging the public to use food waste bins and segregate waste. Harvesting rainwater by installing water butts can help with watering plants and other tasks, is also encouraged. This can be implemented by the wider community. The new planters in the town are a good example on how to reduce watering. These containers are also made from recycled plastic. Perennial planting, saving seeds and using cuttings helps to make more worthwhile savings. You are doing good work in this category with the various projects you have listed, helping to make your area more sustainable and reduce environmental impact.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Clane has a good plan in place around the control and hopefully eradication of litter. The schools are involved in all aspects of the plan. The students maintain the school grounds and also help with litter picking in the town and surroundings. This is very good for the students as they learn from an early age the importance of keeping the area clean. The elimination of herbicides in weed control is also commended. Some groups find the use of vinegar and salt helpful to control weed growth. Weed growth along kerbs can be a laborious task to manually remove. The use of dog fouling stencils along the pavement creates awareness and encourages walkers to clean up after their pets. Have you noticed a reduction in the amount of waste that is collected at clean up days? Hopefully this will start to improve and this is an indication that your plan of encouraging no litter is working well. Keep up the good work.

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

Clane's Tidy Towns competition for best kept estate has proved very successful in helping to promote sustainability and biodiversity practices in the estates. Well done to the winners in this competition. It encourages the residents to maintain their estates and rewards them for their efforts which means everyone is a winner. The estates have good entrance signs, green areas, trees and superb landscaping. The houses along the approach roads and along the streetscape are all well presented with well-maintained gardens and good landscaping. The play area was well presented with many children enjoying this amenity and adults were enjoying some relaxation in the park. Do ensure all signage which is very important in particular for those visiting the town is cleaned and all encroaching foliage is cut back.

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

The approach roads to the town have good entrance signs and neat verges while retaining a corridor for wildlife. The landscaped beds bring colour and interest while well maintained hedging and trees were also admired along the entrance roads. Many new areas of footpaths were noted and more being developed to ensure better safety for pedestrians. Parking was good and traffic flowed well.

Concluding Remarks:

Well done to Clane Tidy Towns for the projects that have been completed to improve amenities for the community, while continuing to develop and enhance the town. Future projects will be looked forward to and you are wished well with all your endeavours.

