

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre:	Narraghmore - An Fhorach Mor	Ref:	304
County:	Kildare	Mark:	292
Category:	B	Date(s):	09/07/2025

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	43
Streetscape & Public Places	80	37
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	34
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	27
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	16
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	63
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	35
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	37
TOTAL MARK	550	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. Narraghmore is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition for 2025. Thank you for your application and map. Narraghmore Tidy Towns is a sub group of Narraghmore Development. There is a large committee and volunteers working on different projects in the village. The focal point of the village is the Old Hardware. This is a social enterprise project funded by the Town and Village renewal scheme and is run mainly by volunteers and two CE workers. This is a meet and greet point where locals and visitors can enjoy local cuisine. It is also a location for local craft people to display their produce. It is an important information point to learn about the happenings of the village. The village gets great support from Kildare County Council, all other agencies and businesses with funding and advice. Communication to the wider community is via social media and notice boards. There is good support from Forogie, especially with litter picks and landscaping projects. The village hosts many events during the year, one of these events was the launch of a Little Book of Brigid which Sabina Higgins kindly attended. Taking part in the competition has created a greater sense of pride in the community, which has resulted in a number of projects completed that have helped to enhance the village and surroundings.

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

The streetscape looked bright from the newly painted facades of a number of premises. The Band Hall and the Credit Union, all looked pristine. Mel's Pub which stands on an elevated site looked bright and welcoming. The outdoor dining was also noted. The pump which is part of the village heritage was admired but could be enhanced more by the addition of a colourful planter. The Church of the Holy Saviour and grounds were well presented. The Hardware shop which is an important focal point of the village has a well painted facade and was busy with many customers on day of adjudication. The outdoor dining area and hard surface makes it more accessible for patrons to access the Hardware shop and Mel's Pub if they wish to do so. The Post Office still retains the sign of its use and is now well maintained as a private residence. The 1798 memorial stone is an important indication of the village heritage. The lanterns of the streetscape were admired. The provision of recreation facilities, especially for younger members of the community with more projects planned is commended. St Lawrence's GAA and Camogie Club is the nearest facility which is a great amenity, particularly for GAA enthusiasts, but it is good to have some local recreational facilities for the community to use.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

Trees and hedging are an important part of the village boundary along the approach roads and throughout the

village. There are a number of planted containers noted throughout the village. Ground planting where possible such as completed at "the big tree project" is recommended as less watering is needed and plants have generally more room to grow. Some of the containers needed attention. Also trees when planted need to be staked and carefully monitored to loosen ties as trees mature and removed when they reach a matured stage. Along the bank at the hardware would be an ideal area for wildflowers and would enhance the whole surroundings. The planting of pollinator friendly perennial plants is recommended with the addition of annuals to bring that extra splash of colour to the streetscape. Your new project of the sensory garden will be welcomed and we look forward to its completion in the future.

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

Local species and habitats are important, so too is how they are managed and protected. The removal of the Leylandii trees which were replaced by native hedging and trees is commended. Have you thought of completing a biodiversity plan for the area? There is funding available for such projects which can be very helpful in planning projects that will enhance the biodiversity of the village. Erection of bird boxes and monitoring the movements is also a good learning tool especially for children on birds and nature. Groups are also encouraged to host walks and talks to show an appreciation of local species and nature. Maintaining a corridor for wildlife along approach roads and planting of wildflowers is also commended. Art work on the utility boxes does two things enhances the boxes and creates an awareness of wildlife.

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

In this category groups are looking at ways to make their area more sustainable by their actions. Recycling and reusing are top of the list with most groups. With more and more charity shops operating, almost all unwanted articles can be deposited and can be reused by someone. Recycled plastic is used in the manufacture of most seating and picnic furniture. Harvesting of rainwater with the installation of water butts can be used by the wider community. Walking, cycling and using public transport is also encouraged with more bus routes being introduced into rural areas. Energy saving with the installation of solar panels on more homes and businesses and of course the use of hybrid and electric cars. Planting and use of local produce, such as the project being developed by Mel's Gastro Pub is also good. Taking cuttings and savings seeds is also another way of saving. It is good that local craft people can display and sell their produce in the Hardware Shop while encouraging other crafters. Do document all activities in this category otherwise they may go unnoticed and not get the recognition they deserve. The re-turn scheme for tins and bottles has proved very successful with less bottles noted around public spaces such as GAA pitches. The cash on return is the incentive.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The village has a good plan in place on the control of litter with annual spring clean-ups which creates awareness and gets the community motivated. Thereafter there are weekly clean ups which the community get involved in. Foróige are also very helpful with all litter picking events. Dog owners are also encouraged to clean up after their pets when out on their recreational walks.

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

The presentation of homes and gardens is commended. Houses along the approach roads and throughout the village look bright and colourful with neat colourful gardens. The housing estates are also well presented with entrance signs, green areas and landscaping, all helping to enhance the surroundings. It is good to see a WhatsApp group in place to organise different events. It is also good to see the old heritage buildings of the village being protected. The residents are commended for the work they do in presenting their homes to such a high standard.

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

The entrance signs on approach roads are very important and give a very good first impression to those visiting the village. They also help to define the village boundary. It is important to ensure all signage is cleaned and any encroaching foliage is cut back. Good bright landscaping is also encouraged. Grass verges are neat while retaining a corridor for wildlife. Trees and hedging on approach roads were also admired. There was some good ground planting and superb containers noted. The containers were in need of attention. Seating was also noted and admired for those out for a stroll or even longer walks to be able to take a rest.

Concluding Remarks:

The village are commended on the work they are doing to enhance the surroundings and develop projects to meet the needs of the community. The Old Hardware is greatly admired ensuring the community can avail of much need facilities as well as giving local crafters an opportunity to display and sell their produce. You are wished well with your future projects and keep up the good work.