

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Nurney - An Urnai** Ref: **1965**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **330**
Category: **B** Date(s): **04/07/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	47	49
Streetscape & Public Places	80	42	44
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	46	48
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	31	34
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	23	24
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	64	65
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	32	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	30	32
TOTAL MARK	550	315	330

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. Nurney is welcomed to the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition for 2025. Thank you for your application and map. Nurney have a small committee and a small number of volunteers developing projects to enhance the village and surroundings. Meetings are held monthly with weekly meetings being held for work such as litter picking or other projects. There is ongoing support from Kildare County Council, all other agencies, school, scouts and businesses. Communication to the wider community is via social media, parish newsletter, local newspapers and posters. Your AGM was held in April where a new Tidy Towns development plan was discussed, with full community participation. There is a strong working relationship with the school and also the scouts. The school are developing a new wellbeing garden at the school with ongoing engagement from the Tidy Towns. Taking part in the Tidy Towns competition has helped the village with a significant number of projects, such as footpaths and the village park, to name but a few. It has also helped to create a greater sense of pride in the community, in the improvements to the overall appearance of the village.

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

The village is undergoing a number of developments with roadworks ongoing on the day of adjudication. Some have been completed, such as the work to the graveyard, which has greatly enhanced this section of streetscape. The new signs on the entrance piers and the presentation of the entire graveyard was greatly admired. The village green was also admired. This is a superb amenity to help meet the needs of a growing population. Do try and ensure that picnic benches are placed on hard core surfaces if possible. The old graveyard is also commended on its presentation. The Montessori school looked bright and welcoming. Scoil Bhride and grounds was admired on its presentation. The Church of the Sacred Heart and grounds on an elevated site was well presented, so to was the carpark opposite. O'Brien's premises were bright and welcoming with a well-maintained carpark. The playground was buzzing with activity. Nurney bridge over Tully Stream is an important part of the village structure and this area was well cared for. The Spar shop and surroundings were well presented, an important amenity for the village.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The village green is the focal point of the village and has been your prize project for the few years. This is a splendid amenity area for the wider community to use and it also enhances the village streetscape. Planting of native trees and hedging is commended. Planting of wildflower areas and also ground planting where possible is recommended. The project to commemorate St Brigid, to plant a large number of bulbs, will bring more colour and interest to the village for the community and those visiting. This was a superb project which will bring a lasting

impression on the village and surroundings. The containers noted around the village are bright and colourful and are significantly more efficient for watering. The bi-lingual entrance stones have good planting. Do ensure that foliage is cut back so that these important features of the village are clearly visible.

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

Well done on your continued efforts to secure funding to engage an ecologist to work on building a biodiversity plan for the village. The management and protection of local species and habitats is important. With the help of a plan for the village any projects proposed will be guided and protected by an expert. The planting of native trees, hedging, pollinator friendly planting of wildflowers and other perennials is all adding to the natural biodiversity that already exists. The river is also another area that's needs protection and management. Groups are also encouraged to host walks and talks that show appreciation of local species and habitats. This can be a talk on bats or birds working in conjunction with Bird Watch Ireland and the local school.

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

In this category groups are encouraged to make their area more sustainable by their actions. Your group are doing good work in this area. Recycling is one great way of saving, such as your accessible recycling site to charity shops that take in unwanted items that can be reused. Well done to the members who attended the composting and food waste course, resulting in a number of composters purchased for use on domestic waste, this is commended. The waste companies are now encouraging food waste bins to be used by most households. Most groups have mulcher's attached to mowers that mulch the grass reducing on the need for composting. Harvesting of rainwater is popular with many groups and the wider communities, by installing water butts to collect water that can be used for watering flowers and other tasks. The new planters that you have purchased in the village reduces on watering which is good. Other areas where major savings can be made include energy and transport. More bus routes are becoming available throughout Ireland which helps to reduce the number of car journeys and saves on emissions. The community are becoming more aware of saving electricity with many saving measures being put in place. Do remember to document all projects in this section so they do not go unnoticed.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Your plan on litter control is working well with a reduction in the amount of litter being collected. That is a question often asked of groups that when they do spring clean-up days, is the amount of litter collected getting less. As you rightly state people are less likely to throw litter in a clean street. Your talk to the National School also helps to create awareness at an early stage on the damage that litter can do to the environment as well as making the area untidy. The recycling area was well maintained.

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

Most villages and towns continue to grow with new housing developments taking place which increases the population and the needs of the community. Nurney is one such village with work being completed on a housing development that was unfinished and a new development completed. Thankfully there is more assistance with a lot of projects from the Tidy Towns committees, ensuring that the green areas are in line with the village biodiversity plan. This can include planting of native trees and hedging. The houses along the approach roads and throughout the streetscape are well maintained with neat gardens and colourful floral displays. The housing estates also looked good with superb entrances, green areas and landscaping which included an area for wildlife. The residents are commended for the work they do in maintaining their homes to such a high standard as well as helping with various projects in the village.

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

The approach roads to the village have superb bi-lingual entrance stones with colourful planting. The steel entrance sign on the Athy Road needs attention. Do ensure that the planting and any background foliage does not encroach on these signs. The colourful landscaping which highlighted the pump was admired. Verges are neat while retaining a corridor for wildlife. Footpaths in the village are being developed with work ongoing on day of adjudication. Trees and hedging are part of the village boundary and are well maintained. Stone walls are also part of the village history with restoration work completed, enhancing the areas involved. The new stone wall at Castle Raven complements the natural stone walls of the village and will require very little maintenance.

Concluding Remarks:

Nurney are doing good work with a number of projects in progress. The natural surroundings and heritage of the village is being retained with new developments required to meet the needs of a growing population. Keep up the good work and you are wished well in the future.