

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre:	Mountcollins - Cnoc Uí Choileáin	Ref:	463
County:	Limerick	Mark:	336
Category:	B	Date(s):	05/07/2025

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	43	44
Streetscape & Public Places	80	45	46
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	46	47
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	42	44
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	22	22
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	62	63
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	34	35
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	34	35
TOTAL MARK	550	328	336

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.

Thank you for this year's application and map which was easy to follow and welcome back to the competition. It would be great to see a few photos of your activities during the year and to see the spring colour in your pots and beds from your application. From your application we can see you have great plans for the future. With 14 on your committee and 10 other volunteers you hold regular meetings, and you have those that help out whenever you're holding of an event. You organise regular litter picking evenings you communicate via website, local paper, church newsletter, Facebook and Instagram. You've been involved since the 70s in Tidy Towns competition. You have plans including working closely with Coillte to reforest with native woodland and include recreational walkways, seating etc. and also to restore of your river walk and you have a site secured for a playground. We wish you the best of luck with these great projects. It would be great as was requested by your adjudicator last year to have a small three-to-five-year plan and include these future projects. Keep the main body of the application for activities that completed in the last year or on-going maintenance.

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

Mountcollins is a mix of traditional two-story houses and single-story houses which are positioned beautifully, nestled among the hills and rolling countryside. It is a very peaceful tranquil location. The views were breathtaking as you come down the High Road. Many of the houses are retaining their traditional frontage with a few keeping their old shop fronts like D. E O'Connell's which is lovely to see. The traditional Irish shopfront is an important part of our built heritage. The community centre area is maintained well. The Church and Graveyard looked well-kept and nicely maintained, neat and had some hanging baskets along the front which add a dash of colour to the area. Some nice acknowledgements of your heritage are visible at some of the village buildings. This included signage telling the historical uses of buildings such as all the trades in one house and the old post office with its photographs and details. You have had some upgrading to the footpaths through the village. These were noted during the visit although it did seem like some sections of the foot paths were still in poor repair.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The landscaping behind the grotto is beautifully maintained with some pollinator friendly flowering shrubs which is great to see.

As you drive into the village there are many flower boxes on the long wall. I counted 19 in total. They do include

some pollinator friendly plants which is great, and they certainly add colour to the area, but it must be difficult to maintain all these containers. Perhaps it might be better to move over to 4 or 5 large planters that wouldn't need as much maintenance and watering. The wildlife garden has some beautiful flowers in it and some nice signage at the front explaining the flowering plants of Mountcollins. It has great potential as a wildflower however the paths are impeded by overgrowth of brambles and other shrubs which does impact accessibility. The two signs in the garden itself have been water damaged and are difficult to read. As you enter the village on the lower road just passed the welcome to Mountcollins sign there's quite a bit of snow Berry which is an introduced species classified as a low impact invasive by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. It forms a thicket that prevents our native hedges from growing. The beds at the community centre could do with a little bit of a weed and the trees have been topped which doesn't look great. There are some nice hydrangeas either side of the little old water pump.

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

The wildflower area beside the church is very nice with lots of colour in the flowers. It would be nice if it was accessible for people to sit and enjoy, Perhaps you could add a path through it and a little seat area. Well done to Mountcollins community on blocking the planning for Sitka spruce plantation. This is such a great win for Biodiversity as these types of forests are truly lifeless places. Compliments to all involved. Wonderful to hear that you reengaged with Coillte and a reafforestation with natural woodland was proposed and agreed on and is currently in the planning stage. We look forward to hearing about the development of this. It will be great for biodiversity in the area.

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

You didn't fill anything in in this section other than your recycling centre at the community centre. There are lots of other small projects that you could do in this section to encourage recycling reuse and repurposing. This is a great area to engage younger members of the community. Examples of small projects could include making unwanted helmets available to younger members, the children gathering batteries on at the school, the Tidy Towns groups gather fallen leaves and using wire cages to make leaf mould which is a wonderful soil enhancer or even harvesting water for the down pipes in the village to help water the plants. There are lots more that can be done with the children and residents in this section to reduce our negative impact on the environment. There are many great suggestions in the Tidy Towns Handbook, and you are encouraged to look there for ideas and guidance also.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

You do regular litter picks and participate in Team Limerick Clean Up. Well done. These efforts are obviously working as Mountcollins was mostly litter free on the day of my visit. There's a little bit of clutter with posters not being removed and lots of tape on the electricity poles. There is some old and damaged signage around the place. For example the sign at the Caher River is damaged, the sign broken off for the High Road and as well as the water damaged signs in the Wildlife Garden. Main Street was rubbish free and weed free and Recycle Centre was neat and tidy except for the clothes bank which is overfilled and there was a bag of clothes just left there. The bench at the grotto is badly damaged.

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

It is obvious that residents of Mountcollins take pride in the appearance of their homes. In fact during my visit there were people out cleaning and power hosing their properties and another painting their house. The house on the left-hand side as you approach the village from the community centre at the stop sign is beautifully presented. The garden is very colourful and along with the house make a very attractive display. Some lovely gardens throughout Mountcollins village too with lots of pots and window boxes to be seen adding colour in the village. Well done to all.

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

I loved the Cead Mile Failte on the side of the road as you enter the village. All your approach roads are indeed lovely country lanes that are havens for nature and looked very well on the day of the visit. There was no litter visible. As you got closer to the village road markings were clear all and road signage was clearly visible.

Concluding Remarks:

I enjoyed my visit to Mountcollins and surrounding areas. It really is a beautiful part of the country. Thank you for participating in Tidy Towns competition and we wish you best of luck for the future.