

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre:	Edgeworthstown - Meathas Troim	Ref:	714
County:	Longford	Mark:	352
Category:	D	Date(s):	13/06/2025

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	49	50
Streetscape & Public Places	80	48	49
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	46	48
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	45	47
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	28	30
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	61	61
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	27	27
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	39	40
TOTAL MARK	550	343	352

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, Edgeworthstown Tidy Towns committee, (ETT) for entering the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition, for 2025. This is your 15th year of entry and you're most welcome to this year's competition. You are a hard -working committee of five, with a volunteer base of sixteen.

You work in tandem and in cooperation with statutory. And local groups such as the County Council, the Edgeworthstown Community Alert groups and the Edgeworthstown Development Association. You are also working with the Men's Shed, which is newly formed, who are working with you regarding upcycling materials for Tidy Towns, Planters etc. You are a very socially inclusive group. You are involving with the local refugee people in your community by welcoming and working with them.

Regarding your Tidy Towns publicity, you communicate with the community through your website and Facebook pages, with which are very active. You also advertise through the local notes in the Longford Leader and in the Church Parish newsletters. You also display notices in the shop windows and at the new electronic library board. You are very involved with the annual clean-up and it is refreshing to see that young people over the age of 16 participate on this with you. You also communicate formally and informally throughout the year with the various community groups. You also are very involved with and participate in local events, such as the Maria Edgeworth Festival and the Heritage and Literary trail, which is very important to your town.

As a committee and volunteers, you are very active. For example, on weekends, you're out early Sunday morning at 7:30, working hard on the N4 bypass during your litter pick. During the month of May to August, you can be seen planting flower beds, painting, weeding and hedge cutting. This is very often done, if not once a week, but on occasions twice a week, and the results of this good work can be seen in the town.

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

For the traveller arriving into Edgeworthstown by train, they are greeted by an impressive railway station building of the 1850 era. It is quite a pleasant architectural building. The station itself is very clean tidy and well painted. There is no litter present or debris on tracks etc, but it would be more colourful if there were more floral decorations at the station. There is quite a big car park in use and it is obviously used for commuter traffic.

The fire station in Edgeworthstown is well presented, neat and clean with some recent shrub planting. The library is an impressive new building. clean and tidy. Saint Mary's Church is an impressive architectural building, gothic-like with nice stained-glass windows.

St. John's School is a lovely building which is well maintained and nicely decorated. Sure, who wouldn't want to go

to school here? The streets in Edgeworthstown are well maintained with wide spaces allowing free flowing traffic. The road surface is also good for cycling on.

Shop facades are very good, for example, Johnny's Barber Shop, The Sportsman End, with its lovely green painted shopfront work. Goldsmiths also has a very nice stonework facade in front. The corner house is a lovely white building with red windows, decorated with nice window boxes. The murals at Fresh Today "As she moved through the fair" are very apt for such a shop. The civic centre at the Green, exhibits lovely new murals, of birds and animals and is very well painted, bright and colourful in their setting.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The green is a fantastic park like green space with very good amenities and facilities to be enjoyed by park users. The area is well landscaped and cared for with good perennial planting and pollinators dotted around the park. There are some verges left not mown, some of the sites are on an incline and this is a good idea, as they are harder to mow because of a slight slope and are ideal for letting wild flowers grow. There are some fine matured and maturing trees here, which you state have been identified and catalogued by an expert, which is a very useful exercise. Perhaps with this information you may put up storyboards or QR codes near the trees of interest for public information as tree identification. However, please do take care of recently planted trees in relation tree ties and stakes.

There are good planting schemes around the town with some nice planters displaying trees and pollinators.

A few businesses and town houses display their own colourful hanging baskets and window boxes.

Some estates have lovely planted displays. Charlottes Row has a lovely coloured planting scheme in a linear stone bed.

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

This is a category in which you are putting a lot of effort into. Thank you for your plan which is very well put together and well informed.

You state you are working with a local ecologist to improve the habitat of the Green, for wildlife and to support biodiversity. Projects like leaving the bank of the river left uncut to support wildlife and the river habitat is good biodiversity advice and management.

Members attending an A Public Consultation Meeting on Longford County Biodiversity Action Plan in your library is excellent training and information session to inform and educate yourselves on the subject.

Plants in front of the School house whereby each plant can be identified by a QR label which can be read by a mobile phone is an excellent way of informing people, particularly younger people about interesting plants.

Your project on the swift boxes and population monitoring is an excellent exercise. How do you communicate this information back to the schools and community?

Developing a Community Garden for growing edibles and biodiversity is a welcoming project. Using it as a space welcoming people, whereby people can meet and develop friendships, also promotes cultural and inter cultural diversity and understanding. These are the true aims of a Community Garden to promote Social Therapeutic Horticulture alongside and with Cultural Horticulture.

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

Again, you are doing a lot of useful work in this category.

One of your factories using cups for beverages rather than disposable cups should also reduce their costs. The internal glazing on the old school building, while respecting the architecture and heritage by retaining the external windows, is respecting both heritage and sustainability. This is also protecting the heritage artifacts housed in the building now used as a museum.

The New Solar Panels erected on roof of Community Building in the Green now providing most of the building's energy needs.

The current EV charging points and the new proposed charging points at the train station promotes commuter park and ride facilities sustainably.

On the commuter and public transport front the town is well serviced by both train and bus facilities. Yet the bus stops and train station are a long way apart. Would it be feasible to investigate if the commuter buses could link in with and stop at the train station for interconnecting services and commuter convenience?

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

In general, the town and its surrounding areas are litter free and thank you to all the folk who do the many and regular litter pick and clean-ups around the town.

The results of the use of the mechanical weed remover can be seen around the town with little weed matter present. Working with the County Council Road Sweeper in this regard reduces the organic weed matter and debris from the kerbsides.

In the main town and street areas, street hardware such as bins, signs and furniture are kept very clean. The bottle bank area was clean and being well used.

A sign that needs immediate removal and replacement is the one outside the green area. It is badly damaged and does not give a good impression of the excellent facility inside. It is also very user unfriendly and threatening, written in a style not acceptable by today's standards.

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

You have a lot of green areas in the town estates and you work with resident associations in the upkeep of these estates. This takes a lot of time management and effort. You have a very good biodiversity plan that is functional.

Perhaps, you may consider a plan for the housing estate category as a guide and help in the maintenance of the estates.

Mostrim Oakes is fine estate with a nice stone entrance and name plate. There is a nice mixture of well-kept houses here. The street trees on the nature patches need crown lifting as the lower branches are too low and interfere with vehicular traffic. There is long grass in some areas of the estate that needs proper management as debris and litter were accumulating.

Shannon Park is a nice estate that needs attention. Here there are broken signs, the greens are not cut, with overgrown grass in them. This is not biodiversity but a monoculture of thick grass that catches litter. A proper maintenance program of cutting for amenity and recreation use should be established for this and other estates with green areas.

Charlottes Row is a nice mews, with lovely landscaping and ornamental features, with nicely painted and well-kept homes.

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

The approach roads into Edgeworthstown are generally well kept with good margins. The N4 road to and from Dublin and Longford and the bypass is busy with well-maintained grass margins and foot paths. On the N55 towards Granard, the footpath here is good for pedestrian safety as this is a fast-moving road with a lot of heavy traffic observed. Generally, surfaces and signs are good on the roads and footpaths.

Concluding Remarks:

As a Tidy Towns Team, you are doing a very good job in keeping Edgeworthstown in very good condition. The adjudication report is an independent and unbiased report that celebrates your activities and achievements, you are doing so well in many categories. The report is also to give you guidance in categories and direct you with independent advice and suggestions, in order to remedy any issues found.

Keep up with your efforts and do ask for support from your local authorities, public bodies and your own communities to help keep the town a lovely place to live in and visit.