

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Woodstown Village - Baile na Coille** Ref: **2172**
County: **Dublin** Mark: **332**
Category: **C** Date(s): **06/06/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	45	46
Streetscape & Public Places	80	36	37
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	43	45
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	43	45
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	20	22
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	62	63
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	36	38
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	34	36
TOTAL MARK	600	319	332

Community – Your Planning and Involvement / An Pobal - Pleanáil agus Rannpháirtíocht:

Fáilte go Comórtas Bailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2026. Go raibh maith agaibh as bhur n-iarratas a chur isteach. Maith sibh as an obair atá déanta agaibh in bhur gceantar go dtí seo - guíonn muid gach rath oraibh in bhur dtionscadail amach anseo.

Thank you for your 2026 submission for the 2026 Tidy Towns Competition. You seem to have a committee of five with a number of volunteers. Sometimes relaunching your Tidy Towns group can bring in new people to help out, not only in manual work but getting people to help with administrative tasks as well can be very helpful and useful. In order to reactivate your tidy towns group people, feel more included to be invited to join and participate in a Team rather than a committee.

The adjudicator acknowledges your letter in your submission. The Adjudicator and Adjudication process is completely independent and non-biased and is judged by your application process and also what the adjudicator witnesses on the day of visit. Constructive comments are requests made on the reports are not necessarily a criticism, but a guide as to what to concentrate your efforts on regarding possible improvements in order to gain extra marks in the future.

You communicate well with your audience regarding Facebook etc. While biodiversity is a very important Tidy Towns category, it is one of eight categories, you may look at promoting and highlighting the other categories in the competition. Thank you for your map this year which was easy to follow. On the day of the visit the weather was inclement but Woodstown Village area looked good

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

The small community shopping centre is well presented and was busy with local customers which is good to see as village communities thrive on the support and goodwill of businesses and residents alike. The shopping centre is well laid out clean and litter free with adequate litter bins in place. The red brick that adorns the locality looks well even on a wet day. The Sports fields were in good use during the visit observing a good community involvement in local sports.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

This is an important category for you whereby you have a lot of existing and new projects on board. You have beautifully tree lines avenues within your estate that even on a very wet day looked good. You have an active tree steward programme which is very important. Consideration maybe given to the removal of lower tree branch epicormic growth from some trees, on the main avenues, in order to highlight the visibility of the attractive bark but also to give better road visibility for drivers, especially where youngsters maybe playing within the estate.

Maintenance of young trees as you high light in terms of checking tree ties and post hardware is very important, loosening and removing them is essential management. New trees are very expensive living stock their loss through poor maintenance is not only an economical but environmental loss also. An interesting standing stone was observed in Woodstown Place some information on this feature could be interesting for people who live nearby !

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

This is an area which you appear to specialise in with your science led approach expertly led by your biodiversity team which you are lucky to have. Your commitment to the Biodiversity Plan and involvement in this sector with other groups is also laudable. You have a lot of natural amenities and wildlife corridors based near the Dublin mountains. You have a lot of natural habitat in your area.

This category is important to blend it in with your greenspace and community activities so that it inclusive to residents of all ages and abilities. A useful extension to include everyone in this project would be a workshop to encourage estate gardeners to put a small wildlife sanctuary or birdbaths for example into their gardens to expand your wildlife fauna and flora. The Stepping Stones forest with its Miyawaki planting system is an excellent project to watch. Your consideration of Mini No Mow strips is interesting. Generally, for managing such strips removing all grass and vegetation at the start of the year and when cut removing the vegetation completely after settling may help. Wild meadow flowers grow best in a low nutrient environment, leaving grass and vegetation on the patch can release nutrients back into the soil thus hindering the development of the wild flower species. The Hedgehog Highway Campaign is a good initiative as this curious little evolutionary animal has been around Ireland since time began. Gaps in fences and hedges are a good idea, as the hedgehog is a great predator for garden pests. Hedgehog road kill in urban areas, often occurs during pre and post hibernation when the animal's mobility is reduced as they don't scurry about as fast. A sign in spring and autumn for "slow hedgehog alert" for traffic to slow down would also be beneficial for road safety.

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

The rainwater harvesting at the GAA centre and planters is a good project icon and a good example for other areas to copy and adapt. The area is now well served with bus connect corridors and your commitment to public and active travel with your bike library is an interesting concept. A useful survey could be conducted in your locality to estimate people's mode of transport to work etc and how to encourage this. While there is a good number of buses at the terminus area more bus shelters could be lobbied for and provided in order to encourage more comfortable commuting in bad weather. Keep up your endeavours in promoting the circular economy within your community.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Generally, the area was very neat and tidy and litter patrols do help in this matter, it is obvious this works well, undertaking your litter patrols little and often.

One of the problems with some long vegetation nature sites is litter can lodge in the growth as observed. You might look at a Leave No Trace Philosophy and signage for these wilderness areas to encourage and educate people awareness in these matters.

Graffiti is a continual problem in areas and your Zero Tolerance Policy is commendable

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

Woodstown is a pretty village estate with its diversity of well-built houses and brick facades making it interesting and pleasing to the eye. Its aspect at the foothills of the Dublin Mountains and well kept estate with leafy trees and colourful greens and nature strips give the landscape a decorative mosaic. Houses are very well kept and decorated to a high standard with a variety of well-kept gardens that compliment the homes and landscapes. As observed traffic flows comfortably and slowly throughout the estate with little congestion. The green spaces make it a nice and safe place to walk in for children to play around in.

The estate entrance is attractive and once you see it you know you have arrived.

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

Approach to Woodstown Village is close to the M50 motorway and on a link road from Tallaght area in toward Dublin. The Ballycullen Road is reasonably wide with a new bicycle lane and ample bus stops with good services from a service nearby. A pedestrian crossing which is newly completed makes the road safer for walkers. The road surfaces are good with surface water flowing freely as observed on the wet day of the visit. Road signage is good, clear, clean and easy to read.

Concluding Remarks:

Keep up the good work in the upkeep of your lovely village estate. Try and get more volunteers involved, volunteers who are possibly not able for physical work may be willing to assist in clerical and social media work which is also very important. Good luck for the future and your endeavour with your current and new projects.