Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Prosperous - An Chorr Choill**	Ref:	**780**
County:	**Kildare**	Mark:	**305**
Category:	**C**	Date(s):	**01/07/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	44	46
Streetscape & Public Places	80	42	44
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	40	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	26	28
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	17	17
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	52	53
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	39	40
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	35	36
TOTAL MARK	**600**	**295**	**305**

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.

This was my first visit to Prosperous As the adjudicator for the Tidy Towns Competition for 2026 I was very interested in finding out how your town had it's origins in the cotton industry and how it was so named.
Walking through Prosperous every corner revealed something new and interesting and as a developing town it is certain that Prosperous will continue to be a good place to live for all. It is appropriate and fitting that your sense of history is carried there is a housing estate in the town named Brookes Mill - well done to whoever made that connection.
You have entered into the Small Town Category C.
Prosperous Tidy Towns has a very healthy committee of 14 members and 18 regular volunteers which is a good number in comparison to other similarly sized towns.
You have submitted a concise 17 page entry responding to all sections of the entry requirements and have taken the adjudicator's request to limit scope of response. You have also attached an index-linked map of your town. The submitted map was useful and had enough detail shown to be a great help to the adjudicator.
You might consider including some photographs in next year's submission, there is a lot of good work that deserves to be recorded and seen.
You have highlighted that many organisations, businesses and numerous committed individuals have contributed to the Prosperous submission. Thank you to Larrys Bar, McCormacks Garage, TJ O'Mahony, Clane Providers, and to Joe Dunne Nurseries for all your support. Tidy Towns has also been greatly assisted by the Lions Club, the Parish Eco Group, and the teachers, pupils and parents of the schools.
Special word of thanks for the Transition Year Students on their work [especially in relation to the Green Flag] and also to the KARE community who made their contribution.
Without exception all of the entrants from Kildare identified the support and assistance of Kildare County Council - the high standard achieved by the county's Tidy Towns family both in the past and in 2026 are a testament to the ongoing commitment and energy of the County Council.

In terms of communication of your work you use the Parish news letter, Facebook, WhatsApp, public meetings, posters and also word of mouth, which can often be the most effective for those who are not used to social media.
In view of the amount of development coming to Prosperous your committee might put a plan in place so as to have an early structured engagement with the new town arrivals, newcomers will be impressed by a welcoming organized group. If you don't already have one, you might consider the appointment of a Residents Association

Liaison Officer to your committee.

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

On the day of the adjudication, there were roadworks and work on overhead lines underway and there was a diversion of traffic in operation on the R403 New Main Street.. In addition the works on the new housing developments on both sides of Old Main Street added to the general disruption under way.
The development of housing in the town is very welcome, towns are for living in, the National Development Plan expects to see up to 40% of new housing being provided in urban spaces such as your town. The regeneration of Prosperous is currently well under way and hopefully will be followed by other in-town developments, preferably of mixed tenure.
Nevertheless the streets, buildings, and public places were all in good condition, the main public building being the schools, Scoil na Linbh Iosa, complete with very striking sculpture, St Farnan's Post Primary School, the landmark Catholic Church on the main corner, and a great mix of houses, cottages, including thatched cottage, retail and hospitality, with a very mixed use apparent. The striking terrace of refurbished heritage homes dating from 1780 on Old Main Street were particularly eye-catching, hopefully the planned works to the P. Healy old post office will be in keeping with the current vernacular.
Prosperous has a number of discreet public places, complete with seating, street furniture and street ornamentation including heritage signage and well maintained public water pumps. The 1798 Memorial Square was excellent.
The streetscape of Prosperous is greatly enhanced by having significant recreational space so close to the main streets, in particular the park and playground and also the pitch and putt course, and the tennis courts.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

It was encouraging to see that the developers working in Prosperous generally have taken the need for green spaces and landscaping into account when completing housing projects. For example the tree planting in the verges at the entrance to Temple Court provide a welcome approach to these houses.
Tidy Towns continued its role in talking to and persuading developers that it is in everybody's interest to have the spaces available used to good effect and not covered in hard surfaces. The fact that you have established a long -term track record in looking after Prosperous every year ensures that developers and other stakeholders will seriously consider your representations.
In addition to the well maintained raised planter bed opposite the shop and beside the red water pump [next Maynooth Road], and the very vibrant landscaping at the carpark at the pitch and putt club, and also the green space to the side of the church, the garden at the Anne Street Community House, and many of the housing estates in Prosperous have excellent greenspaces, with some very good tree cover.
The need to provide some wild meadow space has been taken into account in several locations.
The main green space is the park and playground situated off the New Main Street behind the KARE complex. This is an excellent space for recreation, seating and benches, good paving and many little corners. The park water feature is surrounded by a fence and the grasses were thriving. It will be interesting to see how the upgrade plans for the pool develop.
It was also very encouraging to see 3 newly planted ilex trees just behind the bus shelter, well done here. Hollys are a native evergreen tree, often with red berries. Holly is tough, robust enough to handle the harshest of environments, so it can be reasonably expected that these new trees will thrive in the Prosperous environment.
The previous adjudicator positively noted the number and variety of planter distributed at various points in the town and surrounds and this remains the case.
Thank you for the work in keeping all the green spaces distributed through your town so well maintained and attractive for all.

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

The increased importance of Nature and Biodiversity is recognised in the increased scoring for this category for the 2026 Tidy Towns competition.
You have properly highlighted that making the community more aware of the importance of biodiversity and pollinator planting in your 2026 entry.
Our ecosystems nationwide are under serious threat.
The previous adjudicator suggested that Prosperous might consider preparing a local biodiversity plan. That suggestion is repeated this year, a plan, even an imperfect plan, is better than no plan. In the absence of a plan many of your activities might not be as effective as your efforts deserve. It might be challenging and intimidating to undertake this plan but it does not have to be overly complex or lengthy, and the possible rewards are many.
There are a lot of potential sources of help out there for a proactive Prosperous community.
The Council's Draft Biodiversity Action Plan for 2026-2031 is an excellent document that might assist your future work. The document specifically identifies Tidy Towns as partners who might actively investigate opportunities to improve community biodiversity actions - the opportunities are there for you.
We would also recommend engagement with the appointed Biodiversity Officer, this will prove to be a great resource for you and all the stakeholders to draw on.
In relation to working with developers previously mentioned above, you have correctly identified the strong preference for native trees, and preferably a mix of tree species. Monoculture is the enemy of biodiversity. It was also encouraging to see the number of bird boxes distributed throughout the town, always a welcome site. Just remember that like most houses, they have to be cleaned out and maintained, preferably when vacant and not in use.
Well done to the TY students working on the green flag programme, it was also very encouraging to see the Green

Flag flying proudly at the national school. It is very often the case that the younger members of our communities are most aware of the importance of our local nature and will emerge as leaders in responding to the challenge, if given the opportunity.

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

The increased importance of Sustainability for all communities is recognised in the increased scoring for this category for the 2026 Tidy Towns competition.
You have identified the sustainability issue as one of your core targets, well done.
This adjudicator has had some experience over the years in many towns and villages with many shops but this visit to Prosperous was the first time I have ever seen any shop expressly and prominently promote the shop sustainably message on it's window, and invite customers to be part of the fashion revolution. Fast fashion produces massive waste and is environmentally destructive. Well done Prosperous Vision Ireland - thank you for putting the sustainability message front and centre of your unique selling point.
You have considered the previous adjudicators report and have undertaken a number of achievable changes that will make a change. Your work in promoting better links with public transport and in particular connection with rail services and also your efforts to promote sustainable renewables are excellent work-in-progress. A number of homes have already installed solar panels. You have also noted that there have been a number of water butts installed.
While not mentioned in your submission the Prosperous Community Orchard is also a very live example of promoting sustainable living - local food supply is always welcome. Judging by the trees in the park there may well be a good crop this autumn. There might be some scope for improving the compost heaps and cuttings storage currently in use in the park, that could well be a good project for your next submission. Re-use and re-cycle everything where possible.
The presence of a number of polytunnels was also noted. Thank you to all in the community who promote all aspects of sustainable living from recycling to active travel.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Prosperous Tidy Towns Committee and the volunteers together with the help of the CE workers, Transition Year students, KARE community and the teachers and pupils of the primary school all help with litter picking. Local businesses have also been part of the programme to keep Prosperous free of litter.
You have also been part of the nationwide spring clean.
Generally, Prosperous has a good standard of tidiness and litter control in all of the public areas visited. Bins have been emptied and are available for use.
Unfortunately, there was some litter and waste in the park that might have been lying for some time but that was the exception to the rule.
Congratulations on your work.

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

All of the residential streets and housing areas in Prosperous are making a positive contribution to your town.
Special mention must be made to the residents of Corra Choil Parc for their efforts in keeping their estate homes, gardens and public spaces in first class condition, what a tremendous effort obviously over many years. From your bee-friendly garden to your tidy green hut to your picnic benches this was obviously very much a about of love. Two comments - the use of tyres as planters is not recommended, and if using lighting cable on trees you need to ensure that the cable does not damage the trees.
Also worthy of special mention are the homes of Goretti Terrace and St. Joseph's Park, with great planted areas, good tree cover and homes in very good condition. Two minor recommendations here - the planters in use at the Goretti Terrace stone should be replaced, preferably by ground cover planting, and the sign at St. Joseph's Park needs to be replaced.
Churchview Lawns is also an excellent development with the entrance sign possibly needing a touch-up.
The newer estate at Emerson Park is also a very good estate but some cutting and trimming of bushes and around trees might be appropriate.

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

As mentioned previously on the day of adjudication, there was significant diversions in place as a result of roadworks.
This adjudicator arrived into Prosperous from Caragh direction via Killybegs Manor Road. It was a very pleasant entry into the town with good clear signage.

The R403 road to Clane and the R408 road to Maynooth were also clearly marked, and signed.

Some of the road markings on the Main Street need to be re-visited.

Due to the ongoing works it was not possible to see what the normal traffic conditions were like but there appeared to be a reasonable volume of traffic including public transport moving through the town.

There are some cycleway markings on the road but the cycle ways are not separated from the motor traffic.

Generally, approaches had neatly trimmed grass verges and well maintained hedgerows.

Concluding Remarks:

Prosperous Tidy Towns are doing a wonderful job encouraging your expanding community to get involved and some great projects already under your belt and many more on your books! Many thanks for all your great work. Long may your town prosper.

Go raibh maith agaibh go léir.