

Tidy Towns Competition 2014

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Charleville** Ref: **734**
County: **Cork(North)** Mark: **253**
Category: **D** Date(s): **19/06/2014**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	36
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	36
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	29
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	25
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	15
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	48
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	28
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	36
TOTAL MARK	450	253

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Many thanks for your entry in this year's Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for a clear yet concise entry which was complemented by an excellent map which was hand-drawn and coloured. Keep this format. The addition of a key would help no end though. Thanks for your plan too. Again, clearly laid out and focussed. Be sure to use this, now. Thanks as well for the excellent Biodiversity Area Report by the Irish Wildlife Trust. In 10 years you've made great strides. Your entry is rather inspiring in terms of your goals and aspirations for your town. Your links are good and you appear to communicate well. You take good advice on specialist issues and you have a long-term view on the tasks ahead of you. Well done.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

You have listed a number of actions in this category. The adjudicator won't recount them back to you but will rather describe a few of the stand-out items of the visit. Bank of Ireland looked good on adjudication day, as did the AIB. Moran's has a very nice shopfront. Also admired were The Oriel, Rosies and The Flower Pot. Doyle's on Broad Street could surely do better with their premises. Good use of Irish was noted along the Main Street. The optician's shop is ironically missing an 'O'. The adjudicator isn't sure what the chairs were doing in front of the Supervalu premises, but the effect is chaotic.

The church is an impressive edifice. Scoil Naofa Aine was very neat. The CBS has a Green Flag but the grounds could be much, much better. The Holy Family School also sports a Green Flag and the grounds here are on the verge of development. The garage and car dealerships are well kept commercial premises. The GAA grounds are in need of work. The gates and walls are in poor condition.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

This adjudicator would echo many of the comments made last year. Did you consider a landscaping plan? Some colour is provided by the many hanging baskets and these do add colour. At the Church View Garden, the planting is sublime. Landscaping has been abandoned in front of Brindle Hill (is there a hill here, by the way?) but it is still salvageable. The planting at De Valera Place was greatly admired - possibly the best garden in Charleville is here too. The work opposite Charlene is very good. The Town Park is a site bursting with potential.

Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:

Your entry focuses entirely on your plans for the Town Park. This is understandable and probably it's best if you concentrate on this major project for now. The IWT report is a great piece of work and will be of great use in your

planning of a biodiverse park. Japanese knotweed is a serious issue for you. Be very careful when doing anything involving earth movement. Why does your sign on Chapel Street invoke the reader not to feed the birds?

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:

Well done to all the Green Schools. Thank you for listing the actions of the Green School Committee but you didn't say which school! All of these actions are very valid. What's a hippo bag? The mind boggles. Your own actions, e.g. supporting SVP by reusing clothes are very applicable too. For more ideas, look at the information provided last year by the Tidy Towns Unit on this category for ideas and inspiration. Go as well to the website of the local authority prevention network (LAPN) at <http://toolkit.localprevention.ie/> for community-based tips and information.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

You describe a number of very positive and active initiatives to combat litter. These are time-consuming, so well done to all. However, you provide no details on your anti-litter awareness work which surely you must do with all those Green Schools. Let us know next time, please.

You singled out your street cleaner for special praise. As will this report - hardly any litter was seen on day of visit. For such a busy town, this is an achievement. Well done.

There are a number of tidiness issues. There were unfilled and empty planters. Litterbins on the Main Street were dirty. Some benches are in real need of attention. An audit of the areas in need of attention might help you to plan your actions in this regard.

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

This is a strong area for you as so many areas seem to take good care of their properties and the environs. Have you tried inter-estate or inter-area competitions? De Valera Place may be strong contenders. There are many lovely old Georgian houses. Some are in better condition than others. Is the end of terrace house on Clancy Place derelict? The fencing is broken at Brindle Hill, but you have alluded to this in your entry.

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

There are a number of outstanding issues to be addressed in this category. On the Cork Road there are broken walls and fencing. The graveyard wall must be fixed as a matter of urgency. Cut or sprayed plant material must be removed. Some walls are missing capping stones. The adjudicator is confused as to why the Fire Station staff need permission to clean their own walls but the intricacies of these matters may be deep. The Kerry Foods complex (Kilmallock Road) looks very neat. The plant hire facility opposite is not quite so neat. The adjudicator suggests that you draw up a hit-list of items, following an audit and incorporate those into your work plan, if they are not already there. The adjudicator looks forward to seeing your new Town Park. Charlene, as always, is looking well. Well done on all of your work to date.