

Tidy Towns Competition 2018

Adjudication Report

Centre: Clarina	Ref: 1994
County: Limerick	Mark: 274
Category: B	Date(s): 20/06/2018

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2018
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	32
Streetscape & Public Places	50	38
Green Spaces and Landscaping	50	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	50	27
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	13
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	58
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	31
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	34
TOTAL MARK	450	274

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

Cuireann an moltóir seo fáilte roimh Clarina / Clar Aidhne chuig Comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2018 agus chuig Ceiliúradh 60 Bliain an Chomórtais. Thank you for your application and map. Clarina have a good committee with open meetings to all members of the community who help with clean ups and various projects. You engage with all the relevant agencies and businesses. Communication to the wider community is through social media and newsletter. There is good interaction with the school helping with projects. Your participation in the competition is important to the Tidy Towns unit and it is positive that the village has been enhanced by the work that you have undertaken. It has also helped to create a better sense of pride in the community. As suggested by last year's adjudicator putting in place a three year plan would help to keep you focussed on what you would like achieved in the village over the next number of years. It might also help to get more people involved.

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

The streetscape of the village has a mix of buildings and like most villages and towns also has some unoccupied buildings. The Church has good landscaped tubs brightening up the surroundings. The community resource centre and the school were also admired on their fine presentation. The paling down from the school would be enhanced with hedging. The RIC building is a fine structure and part of the village past history. It is good to see the building used and maintained so well. The red roses brightened up the entrance to Thorpes Nursing Home giving a welcoming feel to this fine building. The GAA grounds old and new were also visited, two important amenities for the community. The Garden Centre looked good. This is a good business to have in the village when advice and help is needed for planting. The Pharmacy and the Centra two important businesses of the village were admired. Kilkeedy graveyard was also visited.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

At the roundabout the planted trees and roses looked good. The bollards and the tubs of flowers in this area were also admired. Other planted containers were noted throughout the village were admired. The landscaping at the Nursing Home and the Lavender noted was also admired. Groups are encouraged to ground plant where feasible with pollinator friendly planting. This type of planting brings all year round colour and interest to the streetscape. Planting of spring bulbs are also encouraged. Containers are better used where ground planting in not feasible to brighten up an area. Window boxes and hanging baskets add that extra splash of colour to the streetscape. Invasive species such as Japanese knotweed can be successfully treated on an ongoing basis to eradicate it fully. The Council are a great help in this regard.

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

The village has many areas of natural habitats in the walls, hedges and trees. The newly built walls have built in insect hotels. The graveyard is also a good area for wildlife. Working with the school children and organising talks with a specialist will create awareness among the wider community of the many species that can be seen in their community. The bird boxes should also be monitored for any signs of activity and record the type of bird that uses them. The same for any other wildlife boxes that are erected.

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

This category is about reducing the amount of waste produced by the community and better management of resources such as water, transport and energy. Using rainwater to water plants is one good way. Using recycled compost from the local garden centre is also good. Working along with the school is important as the green school programme is about ways of reducing waste. The school are commended on the achievements in the green school initiative. Do continue to look at other ways of reducing waste as the main is to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill site.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Taking part in Limerick clean-up is important as it creates awareness among the wider community of the importance of keeping the village clean. 90 bags of rubbish collected is a lot. Next year's litter clean up should show a reduction in the amount of litter collected. This will show that the work you are doing with regular litter picks is making people more aware and hopefully stop them from littering. All excessive dumping should be reported to the county council as they will help to find the source. The village was generally clean and tidy on day of adjudication.

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

It is good to see the abandoned site being tidied up. There is a mixed build of houses along the streetscape some old stock and some modern build. The houses along the approach roads and the streetscape were well maintained with clean bright facades and neat gardens. The Estate Houses were also visited and the green areas and entrances were well cared for. The houses were also well presented. Do you run a best kept estate or garden competition in conjunction with the Council? This encourages and shows appreciation for the work that the residents do in maintaining their homes to such a high standard.

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

The approach roads to the village have neat grass verges. Verges should be neat while retaining a corridor for wildlife. The stone walls are an important part of the approach roads and should be restored where necessary. Good landscaping was noted and gives a good first impression as one enters. The roundabout is also good with trees and landscaping in this area. The hard and soft landscaping of the village blend well together. Trees and hedging should also continue to be sown as these are important for the environment.

Concluding Remarks:

Clarina was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate. You are doing good work in all the categories of the competition. Keep up the good work and you are wished well in the future.