

# Tidy Towns Competition 2014

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballylongford** Ref: **326**  
County: **Kerry** Mark: **234**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **18/06/2014**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2014</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	31
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	33
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	34
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	20
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	10
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	50
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	28
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	28
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>234</b>

### **Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:**

Thank you very much for the filled up entry form, Development Plan and excellent map of the area. I note you have 16 committee members and plenty meetings are taking place to plan ahead and monitor progress. It is positive to invite new residents in the community to go along with you in any capacity that they wish. You are getting good support from the agencies, bodies and businesses in the area. The contact with the schools is applauded and we congratulate them on their successes in the Green Flag initiatives. We note you are engaging with the local youth club. The people of the area are well informed on your activities. This is a good approach to the competition – well done.

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

It was delightful to visit the splendid cut stone church with the rose window and the nearby school is a tribute to the teachers and people of Ballylongford for its great presentation. There are extensive lawns, shrubs and trees at the church and school. The Garda Barracks stands out crisp and fresh. Centra is a good busy shop and has two good car parks, and the small health centre is well maintained. The fire station stands out in great condition. Ballylongford GAA is very well maintained with the lovely playing pitch. At the entrance to the church / school there is an old house that has been painted and it could be great to see the window painted in artwork. The family butcher and Kenneallys are looking very well. The O'Rahilly plaque is a wonderful memorial to a great Irishman.

### **Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:**

There is lovely landscaping in places around the village and in particular on the Asdee road where we admire the standing stones trees and shrubs at the bend of the road. Landscaping is brilliant at the church and school and I saw where the flood prevention work is done. It was lovely to see the painted timber railings, and on the Foynes road the concrete railings are very attractive painted white. The boat looked very well. I saw a number of hanging baskets attached to ESB poles and this is a very dangerous practice, it is not permitted by the ESB and they have notices on every pole. I appreciate the intent and the effort that was made but I strongly advise that this practice be seriously reviewed.

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

I note you have applied for funding for interpretative wildlife boards, and we look for to them being put in place. It could be great pastime to study the various types of birds that visit your bay even year. We also read that you have arranged a Barn Owl talk with John Lusty and another talk and walk on bats. These are interesting initiatives and will raise the awareness of the people. Well done for putting up the bird boxes under the direction of Cathy Fisher

KCC; it will be interesting to see if and when the birds will use them as it could take few years for this to happen.

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

It is delightful to learn all the initiatives that you have put in place, and you now have a great attitude to the best way of treating the local environment. We all need education to change our old habits and the talk given by Donal O'Leary is a responsible attitude. Using the brown compost bin is welcomed, and the provision of motion activated lighting in the bathrooms cuts back on the usage of electricity. We will all be compelled to install water butts, and well done for promoting this. I really love the use of the community bus in your area, and it is providing a great service for the local people. You are applauded for the assistance you are giving to the school on working towards their third green flag which is on water saving; we now know that there is a lot more done in the school besides sums and as Gaeilge, and of course these are very important as well.

### **Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:**

Ballylongford and the surrounding places are all the better for the attention paid to in this area during the national spring clean up. Those are lovely photographs of the children from Lenamore and St Olivers ready for the off at springtime. Polished granite seats really adorn the places and they are particularly beautiful outside the church. A rusty roof stands out on the Foynes road. I admired the poster from the art competition.

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

There are lovely town houses all around that are nicely decorated and this shows a distinct pride of place to Ballylongford. The cottage looks really well since it was renovated and we see other houses that have got good attention where the one near Centra stands out. Radharc na hAbhainn is a well kept housing estate.

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

The bridge has been transformed and looks splendid. The approach roads are all in good condition and we are greeted with attractive bilingual road signs. Attractive landscaping at the roadsides makes for pleasant driving conditions.