

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilcummin - Cill Chuimín** Ref: **1020**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **343**
Category: **B** Date(s): **12/06/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	44	46
Streetscape & Public Places	80	44	46
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	45	47
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	36	37
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	18	20
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	68	71
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	37	38
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	37	38
TOTAL MARK	550	329	343

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

Fáilte chuig Comórtas Bhailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2025. Go raibh maith agaibh as bhur iarratas a chur isteach. Maith sibh don obair atá déanta agaibh in bhur cheantar go dtí seo - guímid gach rath oraibh i bhur dtionscadail amach anseo. Ádh mór.

Welcome to the 2025 Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your entry, hand drawn maps, video, links and photographs. The committee of 12 and 10 volunteers is similar to last year and you are fortunate to have the help of the local schools, youth clubs and younger people through various initiatives fostering environmental awareness, sustainability and community involvement.

Kilcummin Looking Good meets 8 times per year and residents take part in regular TT's activities throughout the seasons. The group continually organises events with past workshops on Food Waste and Seed Growing courses held to benefit the community.

Aswell as traditional communication methods you list a variety of channels to ensure residents stay engaged and you have a strong social media presence on Facebook. The Community Noticeboard in the local Post Office serves as a physical space for those who do not use digital platforms.

Your main project this year was Jingle and Mingle - A Community Celebration. The village was transformed into a winter wonderland with a stunning willow feature sourced from the local park and illuminated with lighting. Santas post box, face painting, crepes, Comhaltas, Christmas Carols and festive treats were all enjoyed on the night. A video to capture the magic was created preserving the community's effort for years to come. The youth played a vital role in making the celebration a success creating a warm and festive atmosphere and it sounds like it was a night to remember.

You have been entering the competition for the last 13 years which is laudable and we are pleased it has brought people of all ages together with a common goal.

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

Recently surface parking area at the heart of the village is enhanced by beautiful floral themed mural planters with blue geranium tumbling over the edges. Side benches attached and painted in pink and blue are a positive addition. Street bollards, bins, lantern and park gates in black are maintained to a very high standard. A stroll away bicycle racks complement street furniture and its striking appearance makes it a focal point in this area.

On the Information Panel we read with interest a tradition of music, song and dance where platforms were located at various junctions throughout the parish and dancing took place commonly known as road dancing. In the background, we can hear Irish music and we think it may be set dancing practise.

We are welcomed into Millennium Park 'as gaeilge' and recall fond memories of playing snakes and ladders when we see the giant-sized board game depicted on the ground.

Across the way Kilcummin N.S. presents well and a side wall is painted with another colourful mural. The

Community Notice Board is situated well.

Our lady of Lourdes Care facility, the Post office and Kilcummin Rural Development are impressive for their upkeep. The Village Inn looks smart with wooden whiskey barrels and cerise pink trim work to window sills drawing attention to a grey and stone exterior.

Clear sight lines in the village enhance visibility and make the location easy to navigate.

A well-kept Church and grounds are another attractive part of a pleasing streetscape.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The layout of the Biodiversity Park invites exploration with signage, sculpture, edible spaces, woodland, sensory displays and games to mention a few features. Pops of colour with benches and flowers creates a vibrant mood as we wander around. It is so full of intrigue, the adjudicator found lots to do here.

Planting makes an excellent impact on everyone and your ongoing attention with seasonal planting keeps it looking good all year. It is a good idea to survey landscaping and check management requirements; tree stake/ties, remove any damaged or dead wood or divide material for other planting schemes. Well done on your commitment to mulching, composting, water harvesting and sustainable practises. Highlight your work next year with more photographs.

Kilcummin Wood Walk and Bog Walk are opportunities to unwind and get some exercise in different environments. Kilcummin GAA is a vibrant facility with pitches and a walking track.

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

Working to promote biodiversity and create awareness is your main activity in this category. It is great to see vegetation management is not controlled by pesticides and we commend measures to manage undergrowth in woodlands.

As you have written signage encourages participation rates for active participation in the likes of composting and mulching and with could not agree more.

By participating in the gardening course to grow plants and vegetables participants can grow their own food and surplus food can be donated for those in need. A workshop or Festival could be organised to showcase the garden and its produce. Partnering with the schools can expand the gardens reach and impact.

Hosting talks about the Wood and Bog would make good activities to help protect these precious spaces.

Keep us updated on any wildlife or animal surveys completed recently.

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

Recycling rates are on the way up according to your figures and this tracking of data informs us of how initiatives are working and should be included in most projects. It indicates a sustainable approach to waste management and is a key component of transitioning to a circular economy. A Circular Plan would focus attention on reusing, repairing, and reducing reliance on extracting resources like fuel for instance. Could students help with a zero-waste campaign?

TFI Local Link services provide vital transport and are a key part of rural Ireland and your request for an increase in services is commendable and we know it plays a role in reducing social exclusion in rural areas. Look closer at green driving or as mentioned earlier community led initiatives like local food production or food market. The group maintains many sustainable projects in this category which creates a healthier environment for all.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

A clean and clutter free environment is a simple way to make a good impression. Bring bank were spotless and we thank KCC and the Environment Section for their assistance with data provided.

We note favourably dog fouling bins but we find no incidents thankfully.

Litter control is community led and involves a lot of hands. The County Clean Up is praiseworthy.

We express our gratitude to everyone who spends their time and effort as it presents splendid. Apart for a notice attached to a post looking for accommodation your work is excellent in this category. Once again, top marks.

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

Both residential estates are regularly maintained and they link up with horticultural experts regarding landscaping. It is encouraging to see the help as everyone benefits. From our visits we could see green spaces were litter free and clean and it is obvious they work hard to achieve a high standard. Houses in the town are well maintained and it is good to see you have their unlimited support. We noticed the old church building is being renovated and it is great it will be brought back to life in the near future.

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

Features like mature trees, hedges, grass meadows, flag irises, ox eye daisies and wildflowers contribute to a feeling of being surrounded by and immersed in nature. Stone signage welcoming visitors are lovely but could do with planting nearby. A village sign is a great way to instil a sense of pride in your community and it gives the visitors a sense of what it means to live there. Once again, we cannot thank you enough for all your work.

Concluding Remarks:

Flower beds are the perfect opportunity to add personality and character by standing out and those mural themed ones packed a punch. It encourages exploration of the village and the adjudicator was not disappointed. Make sure

to send us your spring photographs as we know they will be beautiful filled with bulbs and primroses. Keep up the good work and all the best for the coming year.