

STROKESTOWN TIDY TOWNS: Community Improvement Plan 2023



Category Assessed	2023 target	2023 score	2022 score	2021 score	2020 score	2019 score	2018 score	2017 score	2016 score
A Community - Your Planning & Involvement	80	41	38	36	No Assessment in year (CoVID)	36	36	36	35
B Streetscape & Public Areas	80	42	40	39		38	37	37	36
C Green Spaces & Landscaping	80	38	36	35		35	34	34	33
D Nature & Biodiversity in your Locality	55	32	31	29		28	27	27	25
E Sustainability - Doing more with Less	55	23	21	19		18	17	17	17
F Tidiness & Litter Control	90	54	52	52		51	50	48	44
G Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	37	35	35		34	33	32	31
H Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	33	33	33		33	33	33	32
Total Score	550	300	286	278	0	273	267	264	253

Community Improvement Plan: Key to Completion

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PROMOTION					
PROM 01/23	Promote role, remit and actions of Tidy Towns at Easter Parade.	A, D	27/03/23: RTV to be used as a float. Suggestion raised by Treasurer to sponsor Parade Best Float. Core Group approached to participate. 09/04/23: Chair, Treasurer and a number of Core Group members drive the RTV and two other decorated vehicles in the Easter Parade.	Jonathan Mark	
PROM 02/23	Encourage educational awareness of Tidy Towns.	A, E	19/05/23: close relationships formed with all community Schools (primary & secondary) and students are heavily involved in a range of Tidy Towns actions. 15/07/23: fantastic series of An Taisce events organised by Chair (and supported by Secretary) resulting in multiple community schools and students taking part in town-wide litter picks and tidy-up.	Jonathan Martina Local Schools	
PROM 03/23	Tidy Towns to become 'funding engine' for community groups and Residents' Associations providing guidance / training on how to identify and apply for local /national funding streams.	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	27/03/23: Education/Support session held by Martina & Ollie. Limited attendance by Residents' Associations.	Martina Ollie	
FUNDING					
FUND 01/23	Community donations	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	19/05/23: SuperValu Strokestown are massively supportive of our Tidy Towns work. Food & Refreshments being provided to 2023 Club & Community 'Clean-Up Day'. 28/08/23: Chair in current discussions to hold a 'Church Gate' collection.	Jonathan Mark	
FUND 02/23	Amenity Grant	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	27/03/23: Application submitted to cover costs of 2 x planters + bulbs purchased for Est mes (€1358.99) Grant has maximum 75% recompense rate (€1019.24). €1900.00 Grant approved. 28/08/23: submission invoices collated - Treasurer is awaiting RosCoCo guidance on eligibility of potential additional submissions. 01/10/23: Treasurer has submitted multiple 2023 invoices to enable receipt of full grant amount. 03/11/23: €1900.00 received into A/C.	Jonathan Mark Martina	

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FUND 03/23	Municipal District Funding	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	19/05/23: query to be raised to confirm/ensure that €1800 (awarded in 2022) can still be accessed. 28/08/23: approval for transfer of award to new 2023 plans (purchase of solar water pump for Grotto) received 24/07/23. Purchase arrangements ongoing with Treasurer.	Jonathan Mark	
FUND 04/23	Community Support Fund	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	17/01/23: CSF funding request submitted - €632.44 (2023 liability insurance + T.Carolan 2022 maintenance fees). 19/05/23: application successful and confirmed by RosCoCo - awaiting funds into account. 30/06/23: funding received into A/C.	Mark	
FUND 05/23	Adopt-a-Bring Bank	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	03/03/23: funding application submitted. 19/05/23: application successful - awaiting funds into account. 28/08/23: RosCoCo advise that applications are backdated and that 2023 funds were deposited in January 2023.	Mark	
FUND 06/23	Greener Spaces	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	22/05/23: funding application submitted. 12/12/23: Awards Event hosted by RosCoCo – awards received 1st place Biodiversity + Runner-Up Pollinator.	Mark	
FUND 07/23	POBAL	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	15/01/23: €1000.00 received from DRCD / POBAL. Discussions held re: spending proposals. 01/02/23: single-user street sweeper purchased.	Jonathan Mark	

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PROJECTS					
PROJ 01/23	Welcome to Strokestown	A, B, C, D, E, H	<p>Improve visible floral welcome into Strokestown from all entrance points.</p> <p>20/02/23: planting of roundabout, grotto and water pump has taken place.</p> <p>19/05/23: Fruit trees planted on Bridge Street. Planting Group meeting with Ardcarne Garden Centre to progress already discussed plans to implement a structured community Planting Schedule.</p> <p>15/07/23: unused Kildalogue / Tower Views planters relocated to St. Mary's School. Planted with perennial colour. Planting group to consider improving layout of existing planted area on same site. Concrete planters, adjacent to RosCoCo municipal yard, to be cleared and sown with wildflower seeds. Additional planting to be discussed for Bridge St / Longford Rd site (Dalton's), just inside 50kmh boundary. Replacement / additional planting to be considered for roundabout.</p> <p>28/08/23: Despite reduced TUS / CE / RSS manpower work has continued to keep grass cut, plants dead-headed and weeds suppressed. New gardening tools purchased and engraved - new tip barrow purchased.</p>	Exec. Core Group Planting sub-group TUS / CE / RSS	
PROJ 02/23	Provide compost bins to residents of Tower View estate. Introduce pollinator-planting area.	A, B, C, D, E, G	<p>27/03/23: Review required of resident use of compost bins.</p> <p>19/05/23: work ongoing to get further engagement from Tower View residents.</p> <p>15/07/23: Estate support work continues. Previous pollinator area now returned to grass only.</p> <p>28/08/23: as part of wider planting discussions consideration being given to relocation of large plants from St. Mary's bed into Tower View.</p>	Jonathan Mark Beverley	
PROJ 03/23	Hold year-on-year Community Together 'clean-up' days.	A, B, C, E, F, G, H	<p>19/05/23: Clean-Up day planned for Saturday 03/06/23. Event being promoted via social media, parish newsletter, word-of-mouth. SuperValu Strokestown has agreed to provide all event food and refreshments.</p> <p>03/06/23: Fantastic community turnout resulting in superb 'clean-up' across town.</p>	Exec. Core Group	

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PROJ 04/23	Take responsibility for maintenance / future planting of 'Welcome' flowerbed at Turnafarn (Bridge Street / Longford Road).	C, D, H	<p>27/03/23: although this proposal was rebuffed by previous Town Team committee, it is hoped that the new 'top table' will have a more sensible view. To be raised by Mark / Jonathan at a future Town Team meeting.</p> <p>Entire area will need extensive work to bring up to standard.</p> <p>19/05/23: management of site has been raised with Town Team who have been notified of a financial implication to any site remedial work. Full agreement of change of site responsibility yet to be formally confirmed.</p> <p>15/07/23: Town Team has agreed to fulfil its management responsibilities and arrange for site to be cleared (site is infested with mare's tail weeds). Suggestion proposed to properly ensure site is covered in weed prevention material, fully recovered in gravel and become site for large bog oak pieces (provision of which to be arranged by TidyTown). Suggestion also made for Town Team to fund installation of large limestone 'Failte / Welcome' entrance (and 'Slan' exit) signs.</p> <p>All conversations / discussions thrown into confusion resulting from breakdown of relationships in Town Team Executive Committee.</p> <p>28/08/23: discussions held between Town Team and RosCoCo to get site cleared.</p>	Mark Jonathan Planting Group Town Team	
PROJ 05/23	Arrange for indigenous wild flowering of land encompassing Strokestown Primary Care Centre on Caslin Way.	B, C, D, E, G, H	<p>27/03/23: following 2022 intervention by HSE Psychiatric Team original meadow plans have been revised/shrunk. Majority of land has returned to the control of HSE maintenance function.</p> <p>19/05/23: discussions had between Chair & HSE regarding future use of site.</p> <p>15/07/23: agreement made for smaller area (at rear of PCC) to be left for wildflowers / wild grasses.</p>	Jonathan Mark HSE	

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PROJ 06/23	Tidy Towns to hold annual (year-on-year) Christmas Fundraiser / Promotional event seasonally themed Tractor Run with selected partners.	A	27/03/23: agreement made with 2023 Christmas Market team to hold Tractor Run concurrently with Market. 28/08/23: plans in progress to share 2023 event with Brothers of Charity. Event will incorporate tractors and truck cabs. As a result of changes to location of Christmas Market it will not be possible to run Adult Run concurrently - Children's event is planned to remain running separately as part of Christmas Market. Jonathan in ongoing discussions to ensure onsite support from volunteers.	Jonathan Mark Selected partners	
PROJ 07/23	Improve frontage of Bridge Street industrial estate.	A, B, C, D, E, H	27/03/23: 2 x large planters purchased and sited on Gerry Jordan's site. Further to existing units to be relocated from outside of Magnet Ballroom. Additional unused Kildalogue unit to also be relocated. All to be planted with fruit trees (donated by Jim McCausland: Caseys) and bedding/trailing plants (to be maintained by Planting Group). 19/05/23: arrangements yet to be made regarding relocation of existing Magnet Ballroom, Kildalogue and Tower View planters. Planting Group fully involved in planning planting once units are on site. 28/08/23: Kildalogue & Tower View planters have been relocated to St. Mary's School. New planters now in place on Bridge Street and are bedding in successfully. Logistics of relocating Magnet planters proving difficult due to weight of soil inside - discussions ongoing.	Jonathan Mark Beverley Planting Group	
PROJ 08/23	Introduce a community 'Adopt-a-Tree' scheme whereby selected households will have responsibility for upkeep of under-tree beds.	A, B, C, D, E	27/03/23: this has been precluded by delays in Town Centre 1st plans (being overseen by Town Team). Would benefit from Tidy Towns revisit of ideas.	Jonathan Mark Town Team	
PROJ 09/23	Open up Cloonslanor Burial Ground to Strokestown residents and visitors.	A, B, C, D, E	27/03/23: Ongoing grounds maintenance being supported by TY students. Discussions held (Mark & Jonathan) regarding relocating Four Seasons statuary from Grotto. 28/08/23: Jonathan discussing with Scoil Mhuire tutors to arrange for TY arrangements. Ollie has volunteered to supervise TYs on days off.	Jonathan Scoil Mhuire Ollie	

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PROJ 10/23	Develop structured year-on-year flower growing/planting schedule to ensure consistency of approach.	A, B, C, D, E, G, H	17/02/23: Beverley met with Mary Frances to discuss future plans and agree on account maintenance/access. 28/08/23: regular meetings & consultations takes place. Beverley and Catherine have visited Keadue to gain oversight and ideas from them.	Beverley Ardcarne Garden Centre	
PROJ 11/23	Develop Grotto to become community recreational / amenity area: (i) Increase awareness of Grotto site; (ii) Improve access to site and seating within; (iii) Improve on-site layout; (iv) Relocate Percy French monument from Grotto to Burial Ground; (v) Purchase and install solar powered water pump into Grotto; (vi) Decorate Grotto bridge supports – sponsorship / donation of paints – use local artist to paint scenery / wordage / colours? Hold competition for students to design.	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	27/03/23: Proposal discussed (Mark & Jonathan) to relocate 4 Seasons statuary to Cloonslanor Burial Ground and Tighe Famine monument to a new site (to be identified) - Jonathan discussing this with the Tighe family. Donated fruit trees to be planted around central grassed area. Existing metal benches to either be renovated (by Men's Shed??) or removed. Mark to identify suitable solar spotlight to highlight Shrine. Renovation of Shrine metal fence work to be undertaken. Mark suggests that grassed bank, leading down towards river, be offered to Green Hub Gardening Club for use as Community Garden. Entrance to Grotto to be redesigned to provide separate 'in' & 'out'. 19/05/23: Suitable solar light still being researched. Shrine fencing now renovated. 28/08/23: Treasurer has installed solar light. Tidy Towns CLAR plans/application subsumed into Town Team Community Recognition Fund application. These plans also now form integral part of Town Team 2023 Town & Village Renewal application.	Mark Planting sub-group Town Team	
PROJ 12/23	Increase numbers of TUS and CE workers allocated to Strokestown Tidy Towns Group.	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	17/02/23: two additional workers have commenced work. 27/03/23: Michael & Padraig are working hard and have made a positive impact on town tidiness. Positive comments received from many. 28/08/23: Ongoing intensive discussions being held by Chair with all relevant people/bodies (an issue arises as Strokestown is covered by Longford DSP but relevant TUS / CE / RSS applications are processed by Roscommon DSP). Mark to produce further advertising campaign to distribute around local businesses / bars / cattle marts / garages etc.	Jonathan Mark	

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PROJ 13/23	Explore access to Roscommon Courts 'Poor Box' funds.	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	20/02/23: two further donations received (€200 & €500). 28/08/23: further €350 received.	Mark	
PROJ 14/23	Link with Strokestown Library to install TV instore, promoting TidyTown work (+ other community groups).	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	15/02/23: plan to link into newly installed Library media system - discussions commenced with Library (Helen Kerins). 27/03/23: further information provided by Mark to Helen regarding our ideas. She is very positive. Library IT work is ongoing and Helen will liaise with her IT team and will revert to us. 19/05/23: progress update requested by Treasurer. 28/08/23: rollout delayed by RosCoCo having to arrange for licence clearance - progress ongoing.	Mark Library	
PROJ 15/23	Reintroduce waste bins into town centre.	B, F, H	27/03/23: three news bins installed by RosCoCo (Antonelli's / Leavy's / Municipal Office). Area Engineer to be approached again later in year to bring bins on Elphin Street up to same standard. 28/08/23: bins are being well used.	Jonathan Mark	
PROJ 16/23	Explore erection of Church Street/Bawn Street promotional 'teardrop' lamppost flags.	A, B, H	27/03/23: Proposal up for further discussion. RosCoCo have previously said NO due to apparent concerns over vehicular distraction - this is not consistent with their decision to sanction similar flags used to promote annual Boyle Arts Festival (placed alongside N4 in full vehicular view).	Jonathan Mark	
PROJ 17/23	Liaise with Caseys Garage (Roscommon) to obtain free fruit trees for distribution around community.	A, B, C, D, E, G, H	04/02/22: tree planting demonstration held at The Maples. Further trees now planted at Lisnaree. 27/03/23: further trees planted at Vesnoy. 20 additional fruit trees donated by Jim McCausland.	Jonathan	

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PROJ 18/23	Scoop the Poop: work with community to raise awareness of dog fouling.	A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H	<p>Agreement made with Laura's Canine Academy & Isle of Dogs proposing a 3-way project to increase awareness:</p> <p>i) Laura's Canine Academy: hits dog training/boarding audience;</p> <p>ii) Isle of Dogs: hits owners of groomed dogs;</p> <p>iii) Tidy Towns: run a central awareness programme.</p> <p>19/05/23: proposed scheme postponed due to external issues. Will be taken forward later in 2023.</p> <p>28/08/23: scheme launched 11/08/23. Isle of Dogs unable to participate - replacement support given by Country Club Kennels. Superb support from RosCoCo Environment Dept. Posters and info leaflets will be provided to all local businesses. Treasurer attempting to incorporate Strokestown Park House into scheme. Mark has obtained 2500 MuttMitt bags from RosCoCo and is investigating whether additional MuttMitt bins can be provided by them.</p>	<p>Mark</p> <p>Laura's Canine Academy</p> <p>Country Club Kennels</p>	
PROJ 19/23	Community sponsored walk.	A	<p>19/05/23: suggestion made by Treasurer to hold event to bring people together and walk round Strokestown informing attendees of sights they might be aware of.</p> <p>28/08/23: Great idea from Byron Rodgers to take photos of Strokestown sights and hold a 'Name that Place' competition.</p>	<p>Mark</p> <p>Jonathan</p> <p>Byron</p>	