

PRESS RELEASE CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL 4th October, 2018

“Building Communities”

IPB Pride of Place Competition in association with Co-Operation Ireland

Carlow County Council work annually with communities in County Carlow in preparation for this all island competition. In 2018, Carlow’s nomination was Clonegal and the judging day was held in July. The annual IPB Pride of Place Awards Ceremony will take place in November.

Examples of Good Practice (see below)

Community Information /Online Quarterly Newsletter (Image Attached)

Carlow Community Section is committed to informing citizens in Carlow of funding and community activities that may be of interest in innovative ways. Our facebook page is kept up to date with information on grants, community events and information.

Carlow’s Pride of Place Competition:

Carlow’s Pride of Place highlights the invaluable contribution made by communities and volunteers in creating sustainable places to live, work, play and visit. This is an opportunity for Tidy Towns Groups, Residents Associations, Community and Voluntary Groups and Schools from all around the county to showcase their continued effort and involvement in their own communities. An annual competition takes place and is judged during the Summer months. The results are announced at an Awards Ceremony which is held in October, where all the participants gather and a great night is had by all.

Carlow County Council Guidance Booklet (Grant Schemes, Services & Initiatives)

Carlow County Council provides funding each year for Environmental/ Amenity and Tidy Towns grants. Notice of the scheme is advertised in the local press and mailed to all Residents Associations and Tidy Towns Groups. Carlow County Council is aware of the very valuable work carried out by community and voluntary groups throughout the county with the assistance of this Environmental / Amenity Grant Scheme. The scheme has played a major role in transforming the appearance of the Municipal Districts. The money invested by Carlow Council is greatly supplemented by the communities and Tidy Towns Groups through their voluntary efforts and fund raising activities and many areas/communities also receive separate funding through success in Council Initiatives such as Carlow’s Pride of Place.

In 2018 a total of 83 grants were awarded (7 Tidy Towns and 73 Residents Associations/Community Groups)

Carlow County Council also provides an annual Community Development Grant Scheme

The aim of this grant scheme is to support community and voluntary groups in County Carlow who undertake projects/activities which benefit the local community and specifically support the following key priority areas:

- Community Development
- Work with groups which experience social exclusion and increase their opportunities for participation.
- Carry out a service or activity that makes a contribution to the quality of life in their local community
- Work with groups to promote integration of Travellers and new communities.

In 2018, a total of 24 grants were awarded to applicants of the Community Grant Scheme.

Carlow County Council have developed a guidance booklet that highlights all the information that community groups need i.e. grants available/how to set up a residents' association etc. This booklet is available in hard copy and on line.

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