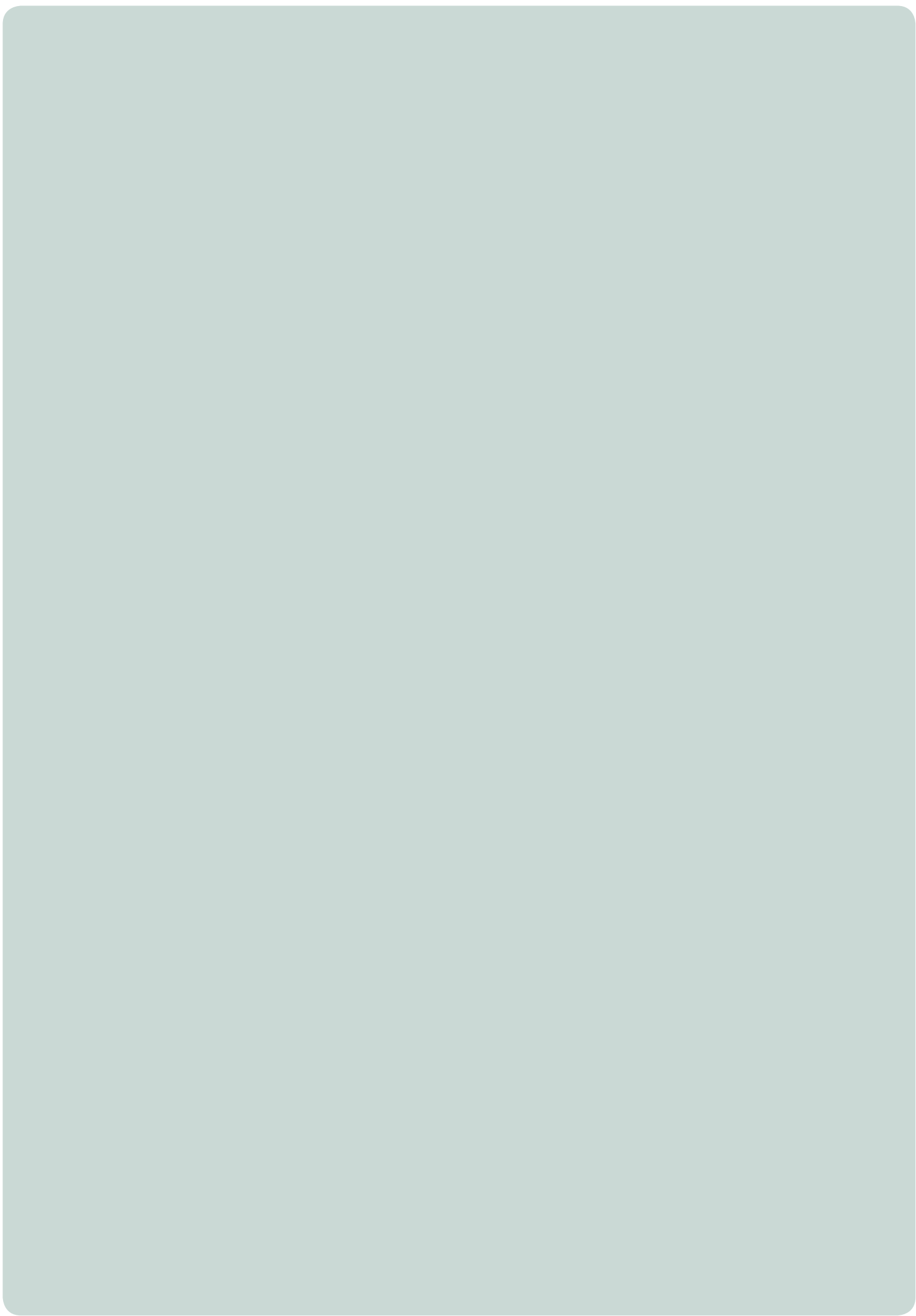




BRAY TIDY TOWNS  
SUBMISSION TO TIDY TOWNS COMPETITION



## SuperValu Tidy Towns Entry Form 2017

**We strongly recommend that you read the How to Complete your Entry Form section at the beginning of the Entry Form and the Terms and Conditions issued with the hard copy version and also available on [www.tidytowns.ie](http://www.tidytowns.ie) before completing this form.**

### About You!

Name of your Town: Bray  
Region: Midland and East

County: Wicklow

Last Year of Entry: 2016

Organisation Name: Bray Tidy Towns

Contact Name: Mary Hargaden

Address: 8 Newcourt Ave, Bray, Co. Wicklow

#### Estimated Location

*Your adjudicator may not have visited your area before so please describe briefly where your town or village is located within your county, e.g. Xkm north/south etc. of the nearest large town, or give the road number along which your town is situated. Absolute clarity is of key importance.*

Phone: 0872104844 Email: [braytidytowns@gmail.com](mailto:braytidytowns@gmail.com) Web or Social Media address:

<https://www.facebook.com/Bray-Tidy-Towns-107053662673337/>

Website: <http://braytidytowns.weebly.com>

#### Population Category

Please tick your population category and enter your actual population (based on the latest census). If you are unsure please check with the central statistics office, [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) or your Local Authority. Your adjudicator may check you have entered the correct category.

Please enter your actual population here 31,872

#### Prize Category Population

**Village**  A (Under 200)  
 B (201 to 1,000)

**Large Town**  E (5,001 to 10,000)  
 F (10,001 to 15,000)

**Small Town**  C (1,001 to 2,500)  
 D (2,501 to 5,000)

**Large Urban Centre**  G (15,001 to 25,000)  
 H (25,001 and over)

**I understand and agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of the SuperValu Tidy Towns competition (copy on [www.tidytowns.ie](http://www.tidytowns.ie))**

**Signed: Mary Hargaden as Joint Secretary Bray Tidy Towns.**

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> May 2017



An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta,  
Gnóthaí Réigiúnacha, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta

Department of Arts, Heritage,  
Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

## Community Involvement & Planning

### 60 Marks

Marks are awarded for the overall quality of the Entry Form, town/village map and appropriateness of backup material submitted with your entry. Other key issues are the participation of the local community, businesses, schools and youth in general; working partnerships with local civic agencies; works carried out and appropriate projects completed; existence of an achievable updated Tidy Towns Plan. Consideration will be given to social inclusion, whole of community approach, the role of volunteers and new residents that is apparent in activities.

### Number involved in your Committee:

There are seven people involved on the Bray Tidy Towns (BTT) committee and there are a number of people and organisations we consult with in speciality areas such as Wildlife and Waste.

### Number not on committee but who volunteer:

There are c 300 on mailing list. There are c 889 likes on Facebook. Typical turnout can range from 5 – 25 per work session.

### Number from other bodies, ie Men's Sheds, GAA etc who work with you:

We work with approximately 20 bodies who we work, liaise and partner with.

### Please indicate level of voluntary commitment (number of Tidy Towns meetings, community meetings, general involvement of the community, new residents, etc.):

There are about seven BTT committee meetings held annually. There are about 40 BTT volunteering sessions annually. General involvement of the community varies from 5 – 25 volunteers for each session.

### Please list all of the agencies, bodies and businesses that have supported your activities through sponsorship, resources, funding, advice, etc.):

Bray Municipal District (BMD), Wicklow County Council (WCC), Bray Municipal District Councillors, Bray Coastcare, Common Ground, Grow it Yourself, St. Teresa's Boxing Club, Bray Skateboarders Association, Little Bray Community Centre, St. Peter's Cubs, 5th Wicklow Seascouts, Order of Malta, Presentation College, Iarnrod Eireann, Stephen Donnelly and staff, Site Manager of Cash and Carry, Bray Volunteer Bureau, Signal Art Gallery, residents, Dell Ireland, Digicel, Zahra Publishing, Woodies/Chadwicks, St. Pauls Congregation, Bray Sailing Club, Neighbourwood and various others.

Tuesday 23rd Aug 2016

WICKLOW  
Times

NEWS 7

## Stone unveiled at new look Albert Walk

A large crowd braved the summer rainstorms last Wednesday evening to turn out to the unveiling of a naming stone on the Albert Walk in Bray. The ribbon was cut by Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District and Tidy Towns member Steven Matthews who commended the hard work carried out by all the organisations involved in the recent regeneration of the walk.

Bray Tidy Towns chairperson Mimi Mearns welcomed the crowd and spoke of the hard work carried out by Tidy Towns, Edible Bray, Common Ground and GY members, including the shifting of tonnes of soil, installation of sleepers and planting of the flowerbeds. She singled out Mary Ann Parsons, Mary Hargaden, Blaise Alexander, Steven Stratton, Claire Sinclair and Steven Matthews for particular praise as well as all the volunteers who gave their time to lend a

hand. She also thanked the businesses of Albert Walk for coming on board with the work and supporting the volunteers as well as supplying snacks, drinks and moral support. Speaking after the ribbon cutting, Councillor Steven Matthews said, "The Bray Tidy Town led project to rejuvenate Albert Walk is a great example of community volunteerism. The flowerbeds, planting and painting has brought a new lease of life to the walkway. A huge amount of planning and work

went into organising this and included Common Ground and Edible Bray. Irish Rail and the local businesses supported us in our work and we all continue to maintain the area with litter picking, weeding and tending to the flowerbeds. The Albert Walk is an important thoroughfare to our seaford for many visitors and locals and this project gives a much better first impression of the town to visitors arriving by bus and rail. The rail station area is zoned as our transport hub with plans for

significant investment by the National Transport Authority and the eventual arrival of LUAS. Bray Municipal District has set aside a budget for civic enhancement works on Albert Ave and to support improvements on the Albert Walk. I would urge residents of Bray to join us in Tidy Towns to lend a hand in whatever capacity they can. We have regular clean ups throughout the town as well as larger projects like this so if you have a few hours a month to spare we really could do with your help."



Pictured are members of the local community, Bray Tidy Towns, Common Ground and Edible Bray at the transformed Albert Walk, with Cllr Steven Matthews, Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District, officially cutting the ribbon on the new Albert Walk naming stone.

## Council to vote on LPT





LITTER PICKING WITH AFTER SCHOOL GROUP FROM LITTLE BRAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

*How do you communicate with your community (newsletter, newspapers, public meetings, email, social media, website, etc.)?*

Mainly via email, Facebook, and to a certain extent Website and Newspapers.

We made a presentation at the Coastcare Anniversary and Environmental open day where there were c100 in attendance. Refer to FIG. J for newspaper cuttings.



*Pictured are Xavier Alexander, Sarah Fowley, Mary-Anne Parsons, Mary Hardagen, Ciarán O'Brien, Blaise Alexander and Mimi Megannety of Bray Tidy Towns cleaning and painting the Bray Harbour Bridge.*

AFTER A DAYS WORK PAINTING AT BRAY HARBOUR, (Local Newspaper cutting)

***How do you engage with your local schools, youth clubs, etc.? How do you involve youth in your work, do you have a Junior Tidy Towns, is there youth representation on your committee.***

We work with many junior groups including St. Teresa's Boxing Club, Little Bray Community Centre after school club, Presentation College Bray, St. Peter's Cubs and 5th Wicklow Sea Scouts. These events include:

- Litter Picks with St. Teresa's Boxing Club, Little Bray Community Centre after school club, St. Peter's Cubs and 5th Wicklow Sea Scouts.
- St. Cronan's – continuation of recycled food project.
- Painting over graffiti with Skateboarders Association and Gaisce representative from Loreto Dalkey.
- Painting Bridge at Harbour – Venture Sea Scouts.
- Bird Boxes made by Presentation College Bray.
- Clearing out overgrowth at Station – Skateboarders Association



PAINTING OF HARBOUR BRIDGE WITH ADVENTURE SCOUTS AND LITTER PICKING WITH ST. PETER'S CUBS AT STATION

***Approximately how many years has your community entered the competition.***

BTT has been entering for the Tidy Towns competition since at least 1996.

***How has your community benefited from involvement in the competition?***

On a purely practical basis our community is cleaner and tidier (see below).

However, it has also brought a sense of pride to Bray residents. Whenever we are working on our projects we get positive comments on how well Bray is looking and we feel that residents in most places are trying to improve their areas. It is a slow process that gets better year on year. BTT has raised awareness of various initiatives taking place throughout the town by different groups.

*Please summarise how you see your group's work contributing to the development of your community.*

LITTER

Since 2014 the role of Bray Municipal District has changed and the decisions regarding the spending of all Co. Council monies has consolidated in WCC. The Bray town bodies supporting the by-laws, promoting litter management and lobbying for a litter warden are no longer in existence. BTT found that groups such as the Bray Litter Forum are gone and that our role as advocates for necessary Litter law enforcement has increased. According to the Litter Pollution Act a litter management plan is required and this has yet to be completed after the merger of Bray Urban District Council with WCC in 2014.

[http://www.litter.ie/litter\\_management\\_plans/](http://www.litter.ie/litter_management_plans/)

BTT have brought this issue up a number of times both verbally and in writing and last time we checked there was no timeline for the compilation of a Litter Management Plan.

WORK PLANS INVOLVE HIGH PROFILE BUT NEEDY AREAS

BTT advocate a stronger connection between the Seafront and the town (this has been an area of contention in Bray for a number of years).

Certain areas such as the Harbour and the Station area needed attention and we put plans in place to prioritise these neglected areas.

PAINTING DILAPIDATED FRONTAGES AND REMOVING GRAFFITI

Developing plans of action to remove and paint over graffiti. This improves the overall look of the town. Copy of areas covered is attached. FIG A.

ENTERING INTO CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN

BTT wrote to business, WCC, BMD and service providers to ask for the carrying out of particular actions to improve the town such as asking WCC for litter enforcement in respect of litter black spots, requesting enforcement of the Litter Pollution Act. Writing to Greenstar/Panda re faulty waste collections. Writing to shop owners such as Claire's and Axa re improvements needed. Writing to WCC about signage.

INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY

BTT is working with a growing number of community groups who have interests in particular areas such as Skateboarders – Seafront graffiti removal, St. Teresa's Boxing Club – Ballywaltrim Playing Fields, Little Bray Community Group Afterschool children – Clearing out their Playground. Order of Malta, Bray Coastcare and Bray Sealife who have a particular interest in the Seafront. Working with the Bray harbour stakeholders on improvements which can be made.

IMPROVING THE POSSIBILITY OF CONSERVING PARTICULAR AREAS.

Bray Tidy Towns has submitted three Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) proposals to the Bray Town Development Plan 2017-2023. At the time of writing this, the drafts have been accepted as part of the draft Plan, which will be circulated for comment initially by councillors in the near future. BTT submitted ten complaints regarding signage issues in Quinsboro Road (which forms part of one of our ACA submissions). (Copy attached- FIG. B).

## Built Environment and Streetscape

### 50 Marks

**Buildings:** Conservation and presentation of heritage buildings and quality of shop-fronts; design, sustainability, accessibility, usability and suitability of new structures for all people regardless of age, size, ability or disability, location and environment; treatment of derelict sites and unoccupied buildings; design, accessibility, usability and suitability of civic amenity buildings for all people regardless of age, size, ability or disability.

**Public Spaces:** Squares, parks, streetscape, paving, landscaping and street furniture; street lighting, building facade lighting, appropriately designed signage and way-finding relating to streets and place nameplates, parking locations, historical trails, walkways and access points to local amenities and facilities and the general use of the Irish language; sustainability and access for all people regardless of age, size, ability or disability.

#### TRAIN STATION

After a process of consultation, BTT volunteers from a number of different groups commenced working on clearing out the overgrowth in this area to reveal quite a large space which we have begun to plant. Iarnrod Eireann has cooperated with our project and has supplied vegetation removal and have committed to providing for the replacement of Railway sleepers and plants. Pollinator plants have been put in the planters and in flower beds to which we have added manure from Brennanstown stables – a local riding school. Further information on this work has been included under other headings within this entry.

#### HARBOUR

Work commenced at the Harbour location last year and continued into this year when the task of painting the bridge at the Harbour was carried out by BTT and Volunteers – more information elsewhere in submission. BTT is in touch with the Bray Harbour Action Plan committee and has made representations.



PAINTING AT THE HARBOUR BRIDGE (Before and After)



BRAY STATION BEFORE



BRAY STATION AFTER



## SIGNAGE/SHOPFRONTS

Bearing in mind your last year's comments "we advocate for the presentation and refurbishment of traditional styles" BTT brought this issue to the attention of BMD who though they agreed did not feel empowered to effect changes, suggested to BTT that they formalize their signage observations and correspond directly with WCC. Representations were made regarding ten separate signage issues in the Quinsboro/Florence Road area. BTT intend to make further formal representations. Acknowledgement letter from WCC - FIG. B

- BTT corresponded with Claire's in the Main Street re shopfront appearance and Claire's have painted this. Copy attached FIG. C.
- Last year the adjudication report referred to certain buildings in the Main Street which were of a high standard and BTT wrote to five these businesses to draw this positive feedback to their attention. Refer to FIG. H.
- Recently we have initiated a 'Shopfront of the Month' post on our Facebook page, which gets shared on Bray Open Forum and Wicklow Heritage.



SHOP FRONT OF THE MONTH - CAST A WAYS



IMPROVED SHOP FRONT - CLAIRES

## ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION AREA (ACA) SUBMISSIONS TO TOWN DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Comments were made in last year's adjudication report regarding the 'sense of grandeur on the Strand Road' which drew our attention to the fact that, Bray did not have any Architectural Conservation Area (ACA's) in the Town Development Plan, with the exception of Sidmonton Square and King Edward Road. This year BTT made the following ACA proposals, which have been included in the Draft Development Plan, which has been circulated:

- ACA for Quinsboro/Florence/Eglinton Roads  
<http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/proposal.pdf>
- ACA for Galtrim/Meath/Novara/Sidmonton Roads and Avenues  
[http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/proposal\\_2\\_.pdf](http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/proposal_2_.pdf)
- ACA for Seafront  
[http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/proposal\\_3\\_.pdf](http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/proposal_3_.pdf)

## ALBERT WALK

BTT's involvement with the Albert Walk continued over the past year with the erection of a naming stone in August with all businesses, local authorities and volunteers invited to a small unveiling ceremony which took place on the Albert Walk with food either supplied or subsidised by the local businesses. Refer to FIG. 1. New plantings, weeding and background logistics with Iarnrod Eireann regarding responsibilities and ownership took place over the past year. Common Ground, Grow it Yourself (GIY) and Bray Institute of Further Education (BIFE) (through GIY) continue to be involved as explained in the Wildlife Habitats and Natural Amenities Section.



BIFE HORTICULTURE STUDENTS WORKING WITH EDIBLE BRAY, TIDY TOWNS AND COMMON GROUNDS TO PREPARE THE ALBERT WALK FOR WINTER.



ALBERT WALK NAMING STONE EVENING

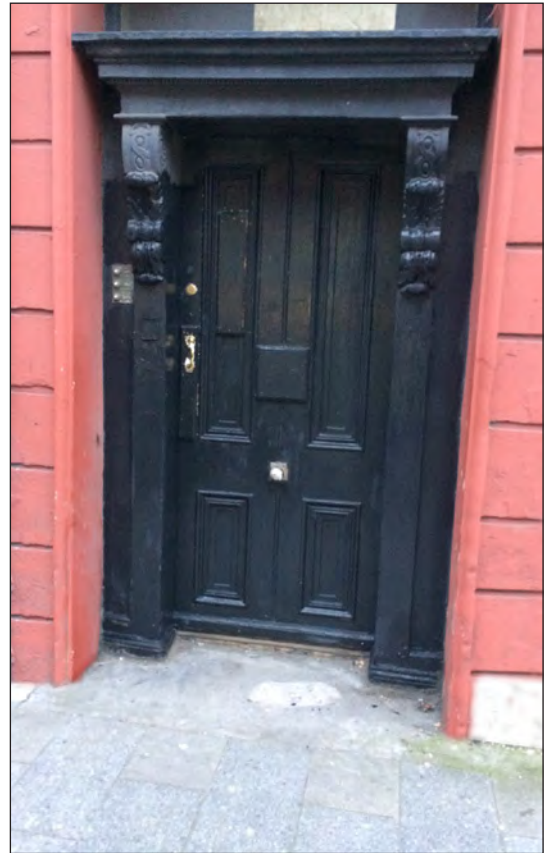
## GRAFFITI REMOVAL/ SHOP FRONT PAINTING

Over the past number of weeks BTT volunteers have covered over graffiti (about 70-100 separate tags) from:

- A large number of green/silver/buff/ coloured junction boxes and post boxes on roads and at entrances to estates.
- Walls at Sailing Club, entrances to estates and three entrances to car parks.
- Shutters on Albert Walk, Little Bray (North of the Dargle) and other places.
- Large metal and wooden doors in Little Bray, Seafront, Killarney Road and Quinsboro Road.
- Doors on Quinsboro Road and Main Street.
- Shelters on Seafront promenade. FIG A



QUINSBORO RD SHOP FRONT - BEFORE



QUINSBORO RD SHOP FRONT - AFTER

## Landscaping and Open Spaces

### 50 Marks

*Appropriate planning, design, access to and management of open spaces for all people regardless of age, size, ability or disability, selection and siting of native trees, shrubs and flowers for year round effect and maintenance of planted areas. Presentation of roundabouts and all grass strips.*

#### INTRODUCTION

This year BTT's new project involved the improvement of the Train Station Area of Bray, as it is a gateway high profile location and we worked with the stakeholders which included Iarnrod Eireann NAMA and a local politician.

#### TRAIN STATION AREA

BTT worked with Iarnrod Eireann, both the Station Master and the Property Department, to agree terms of engagement and to put in place the appropriate permissions we commenced work at the Station Area.

- The first step was to cut back the trees and hedges which had become very overgrown and housed an enormous amount of rubbish. The area in question is quite extensive and this took about ten work sessions to bring to the next stage.
- BTT volunteers then dug out weeds from the original flower beds.
- Painted the recycled pallet planters and put flowers in them.
- Mulched in local manure to the main beds.
- Planted in one area of the beds.
- We await the removal and replacement of the Railway Sleepers before we can plant the area with lavender (pollination plants)
- We were mindful of the bird population and have begun to install bird boxes on the nearby buildings.
- After a number of meetings both last year and this year there was an agreement with the Site Manager engaged by NAMA that a schedule of work could take place.
- Approximately six work sessions took place with volunteers to paint the front of the Cash and Carry building and boundary wall in colours which were in keeping with the Dart corporate colours.
- Paint was supplied by NAMA and negotiated by a local politician.
- Plans are in place to paint a further two areas of the building when financing has been agreed.
- Through Signal Art Gallery an artist has been engaged by BTT to organise a work party with a local school completion programme, to paint an informative mural on the front of the building. (As the building is not still in the control of NAMA – further permissions will be sought)
- BTT sought and got agreement from the Car Park Leasors of the site that they carry out improvements (dangerous surfaces) and to arrange for regular litter management of the car park surrounding the Cash and Carry building. Copy of Letter attached – FIG. D



CASH AND CARRY SITE OPPOSITE TRAIN STATION - BEFORE



CASH AND CARRY SITE OPPOSITE TRAIN STATION - DURING



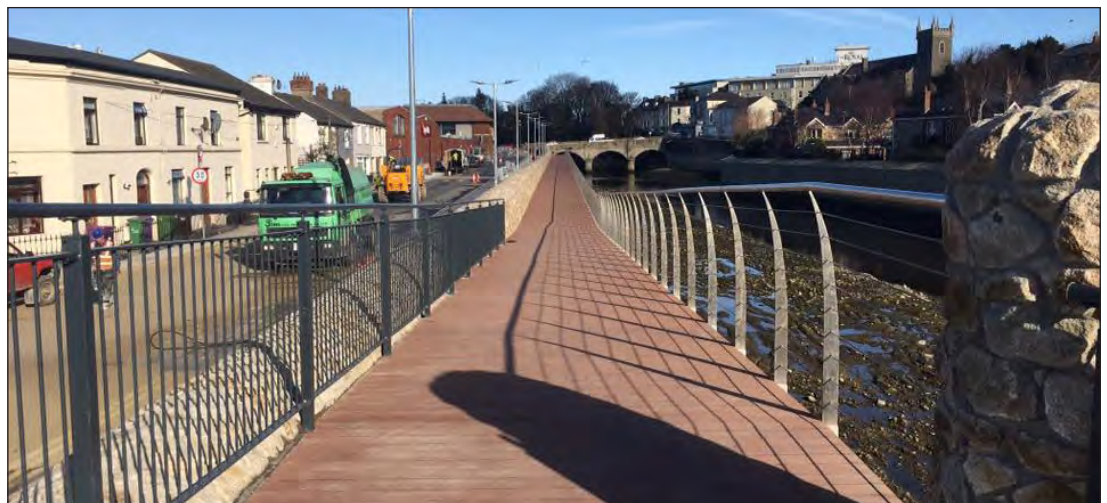
CASH AND CARRY SITE OPPOSITE TRAIN STATION - AFTER

## OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

- This year, further improvements were made to the Peoples Park on the Dargle Road when a Boardwalk and new entrance was added to the park. The area around the junction of Ravenswell Road, Lower Dargle Road and Castle Street has been realigned. The People's Park is used extensively for exercise, organised sports groups including football and jogging as well as being an amenity for the people of Bray. Work will continue until such time as Ravenswell Road has been landscaped and a new cycle way entrance to the Harbour from this Road is completed.
- The Strand Road continues to be improved and this year new backs were added to the seats along the promenade and the painting of the 'iconic' Bray Railings has commenced using using an environmentally friendly paint removing system.
- A Management Plan has been put in place for Bray Head which is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

[http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/saao\\_-\\_draft\\_management\\_plan\\_\\_1\\_.pdf](http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/saao_-_draft_management_plan__1_.pdf)

- BMD has carried out tree planting around the town in cooperation with various residential associations – about €18k has been spent by them – each tree costs approximately €120. Mature trees were used as they are harder to vandalise.
- Work is planned for the maintenance of Cliff Walk to commence after high tourist season.
- Apple trees have been planted by Common Ground in Sidmonton Park.
- Painting over graffiti has been carried out open areas around the town including the Train Station, Southern Cross and the Seafront.



DARGLE ROAD BOARDWALK AND ENTRANCE

## Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities

### 50 Marks

*Raising understanding and awareness of the natural amenities in your area, including any aspects that make your area important for conservation (e.g. waterways, field boundaries, coastal features). An appreciation of how species and habitats should be best protected and managed. Provide evidence of good co-operation with expert groups and relevant authorities, especially in carrying out work in sensitive areas. Provision of access to natural areas and interpretation of key aspects.*

The main areas in Bray which have Wildlife habitats are: The Bray Head, The Seafront, The Dargle River, Kilruddery, and the Harbour. There are a number of other smaller enclaves which support localized wildlife habitats. A number of examples are some of the unused sites around the town such as Dell, off the Southern Cross (old Kilruddery) and Rockbrae House. The Swan River Zone, provides for the open space along the valley ensuring the preservation of trees and is consistent with maintaining the flood capacity of the stream. While this area is not generally accessible to the public it provides a protected area for wildlife.

#### BRAY HEAD

A Management Plan has recently been signed off for Bray Head which is a Special Amenity Area Order (SAAO). Copy of the plan can be accessed on the attached link:

[http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/saao\\_-\\_draft\\_management\\_plan\\_\\_1\\_.pdf](http://braytidytowns.weebly.com/uploads/6/1/6/4/61644395/saao_-_draft_management_plan__1_.pdf) This was mentioned as a requirement in last year's adjudication report and it was on our agenda with BMD.

#### DARGLE

The Dargle River has an enormous amount of diversity, the flood protection works have created the opportunity to further document, promote and enhance the richness of ecological life in the river area.

Wildlife on this river and on its banks include salmon, bats, otters and higher upstream there are nesting kingfishers. One of our members sits on the Environmental Committee. We attach the EIS link for the Dargle project

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bfi4ksktg3p5hjb/AACMSiyEv2QznCgFQMTKFyu-a/EIS%20REPORT%20JULY%202007/Section%205.2?dl=0&preview=Section+5.2+Final.pdf>

This is a link to the Chapter dealing with Terrestrial Ecology.

There are plans in place to encourage biodiversity, replace vegetation and to create pollination opportunities. Fish friendly measures have been put in the river to encourage fish down these pathways. A fish expert has confirmed to the environmental committee (on which one of our members sits) that the fish measures are working well.

<http://www.bray.ie/town-river/> and <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10213107965834175&set=a.10213107801070056.1073741936.1244866423&type=3&theater>

The Dargle River pathways on both sides of the bridge are almost complete these give a viewing platform to the public of the river.



DARGLE RIVER WALK

## SEAFRONT

This year Bray has been awarded a Blue Flag and again one of our members was involved in this process. Initiatives are consistently taken to keep Bray beach clean. The bodies involved include Bray Sealife, An Taisce's Cleancoast, Marine Dimensions, Bray Coastcare, BMD and BTT. The impact of the involvement of Marine Dimensions and Bray Sealife as lobbyists with European groups has a positive impact on the conservation of the sealife in Bray. We understand from BMD that a trial waste segregation initiative will be taking place in the coming months on the Seafront.



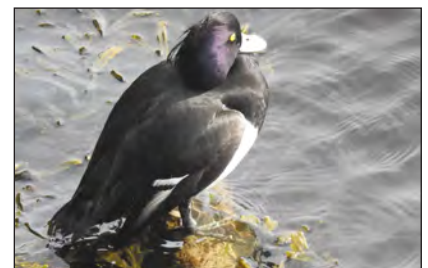
BRAY BLUE FLAG AWARD FOR 2017 FOR ITS EXCELLENCE IN WATER QUALITY AND BEACH MANAGEMENT

## HARBOUR

Among other birds, colony of mute swans is in evidence at Bray Harbour. There are also documented flocks of herons, mallards and gulls.

Volunteers keep an eye on their welfare including Peter Wedderburn the vet.

[Linkhttps://www.petethevet.com/bray-swan-sanctuary/](https://www.petethevet.com/bray-swan-sanctuary/)



WILDLIFE AT BRAY HARBOUR - PHOTOS JUSTIN IVORY (BTT)

## KILLRUDDERY

The Neighbourhood initiative is still being worked on with Killruddery Estate. There are many habitats in the Killruddery estate and a biodiversity officer has been appointed this year. Their market gardener follows the 'no dig' gardening method, does not use pesticides and conducts companion planting with marigolds, being used among others to dissuade hungry insects from eating plants, which the gardener wishes to keep.



## BIRD BOXES

Presentation College pupils under the direction of one of our members produced about 20 bird boxes of which we received ten, which were put up in the school grounds. BTT are in the process of putting the other ten up at appropriate locations. Some have been put up in the Bray Station area where we are currently carrying out a work project. Photo

One of our new members who has expertise in Wildlife is giving guidance as to where these should go.



C 20 BIRD BOXES MADE BY PRESENTATION COLLEGE PUPILS AND ONE OF THE BIRD BOXES MOUNTED AT BRAY STATION

## EDIBLE BRAY/COMMON GROUND/GROW IT YOURSELF

Edible Bray has been continuing its work planting vegetables, herbs and fruit trees on public land in Bray. This work has been encouraged by them winning the KBC Bright Ideas Award for our joint work at Albert Walk, at the end of last year and also winning the Community Gardens Award from Wicklow CC this March.

At the end of last year Edible Bray completed the project of providing a large number of heritage apple trees to eighteen schools in Bray.



WORKS CARRIED OUT IN CONJUNCTION WITH EDIBLE BRAY

Together with Bray Tidy Towns, Edible Bray are continuing to improve the planting at the Albert Walk, further assisted by the horticultural students from the Bray Institute of Further Education, who spread a mulch of waste hops provided free by the local Wicklow Wolf brewery.

## RECORDING AND SHARING INFORMATION ON WILDLIFE HABITATS/FLORA AND FAUNA IN BRAY

A publishing company recently relocated to Bray wants to kick off a project to help the community and approached BTT for ideas. BTT suggested (as mentioned by the TT adjudicators in previous years) that an inventory was required to identify the wildlife habitats Bray including woodlands, wetlands and grasslands. We asked the company would they be interested in carrying out this work and to identify flora and fauna in the area. This would be suitable for a leaflet or brochure. We plan to use this information for circulation to relevant institutions including schools and libraries.

## Sustainable Waste and Resource Management

### 50 Marks

*Describe activities on how you manage waste and promote efficient use of resources (e.g. water, energy, transport) in your community. Provide evidence of practical steps taken to prevent or reduce waste produced across your community (e.g. householders, businesses, and schools) or how you reuse your resources. Provide examples of awareness campaigns, events or activities hosted by the community (e.g. details of any workshops/ demonstrations held since your last entry).*

#### THIS YEAR:

- The work at Albert Walk is ongoing and this year together with Common Ground and Grow it Yourself (GIY) we have continued to find novel plants and ways of keeping this area up to standard, which includes using a mulch of waste hops from Wicked Wolf a nearby brewery.
- Certain beds on the Albert Walk are of the edible variety and care is taken to include a number of pollinator plants. Consideration is given to companion planting and to ensure seasonal coverage.
- This year BTT embarked on another project at the Train Station and certain facilities and objects were recycled. We have removed the old butt bins from the walls and we intend using them in the Albert Walk where there is a significant butt problem which we are tackling with local businesses.
- This year we applied for the Community Award Scheme to finance the purchasing of a mobile water tank for the areas we maintain. This should ensure that all plants are viable in the long term.
- BTT is linking in with a representative from Common Ground Repair Workshop which is in the process of starting up.
- BMD is piloting a scheme at the seafront during the summer using waste segregation bins in a particular area of the Seafront.
- St. Killian's Community Secondary School have again entered the finals of the Junk Kouture competition, which challenges pupils to make fashionable outfits with waste materials. One team from St. Killian's got through to the 2nd round.
- A number of the schools in Bray continue to enhance their Green School Status by getting more green flags. One of these schools, St. Killian's, have run an awareness seminar.
- The lights we have been reinstated at this location as part of our work have been fitted with LED light fittings. Planters are made from recycled pallets. Also the sleepers ordered for our Train Station Project are recycled.



PLANTERS MADE FROM RECYCLED PALLETS / REINSTATED (LED) LIGHTS AT STATION

- This year's culture week event organised by Signal Art Gallery in Bray had a 'Under the Sea' theme. BTT submitted a massive fish sculpture from metal materials sourced on Bray North beach. It was called RIO (Recycled Iron Object). This raises awareness of litter on Bray's North beach and how waste can be used to create art.



THE BEAST RIO (RECYCLED IRON OBJECT MADE BY BTT)

- Bray Recycling Centre promotes upcycling and recycling and is constantly finding innovative ways to encourage reuse of previously owned items. It houses a popular fashion shop which raises money for the local homeless charity "Five Loaves", a reused book station and has housed a furniture reuse section. The range of materials handled is increasing constantly

<https://www.facebook.com/260854003959339/videos/10200469493643117/>

- Bray has many well stocked 2nd hand and Charity shops including a very dynamic venture called CAST A WAYS which specialises in previously owned furniture and they arrange for collection and delivery. BTT embraces this type of business in the town and encourages our members to support these facilities and to reuse products where possible before buying new.
- Common Ground who we partner with for a number of projects run a farmers market once a month. This market brings produce directly from the source also bulk buys on behalf of members which means less packaging.

- BTT presented at a 10 year Anniversary and Environmental Awareness afternoon organised by Bray Coastcare at which there were approximately one hundred attendees from the community. One of the positive initiatives to emerge from the event was the agreement by groups presenting to set up a Green Committee. BTT is assisting in this initiative which will probably include Marine Dimensions

<http://www.marinedimensions.ie/index.php>, Sealife <https://www.visitsealife.com/bray/>, Common Ground <http://commongroundbray.com/>, An Taisce Clean Coasts <http://cleancoasts.org/>, and Wicklow CC Environmental Department <http://www.wicklow.ie/environment>. Where appropriate BTT have become members of these organisations, such as An Taisce Clean Coasts.

- We have been informed by BMD that all street lights in Bray are being replaced with Energy saving LED lights.
- BTT uses the resources of our members to develop projects. For example the competencies include heritage archaeology, engineering, architecture, wildlife expertise, public speaking/presentation and volunteer management. One of our members is a Green Councillor.
- The cycle lanes opened last year continue to be improved on and there are plans, as part of the Dargle Flood Scheme to incorporate cycle lanes into the finished scheme.
- BTT member continues work with St. Cronan's recycled food project. They have a three chamber composter and vegetable garden.
- Local schools are involved in numerous projects including the donation of leftover cakes/biscuits from a number of events to 5 Loaves and also promote cycling/walking to school initiatives.
- A large amount of BTT Facebook posts relate to upcycling and sustainability.
- BTT has worked extensively with BMD on the location and provision of "Big Belly" Solar bins and since last year a large number of these have been rolled out right across the town including two at the Albert Walk.



ONE OF 40 NEW BELLY BIN COMPACTORS  
FITTED WITH 'FULL BIN' CENTRAL NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

- BTT's green waste is bagged for BMD collection and it is subsequently mulched.
- Given that this section covers transport it should be noted that Bray is well serviced by a well used bus network. Dublin Bus operates between Dublin Dunlaoghaire and Kilcoole. Finnegans operates within the town parameters. Bus Eireann and St. Kevins connects Bray to points in the rest of the county. All of these are well used.
- The Dart and Intercity Rail services are extremely well used and bring a significant number of tourists and commuters to Bray especially in the Summer. This is one of the reasons why we consider our work at the station to be of significance.

## Tidiness and Litter Control

### 90 Marks

**Tidiness:** General lack of clutter, blocked footpaths, redundant poles, unsightly overhead electric cables, absence of graffiti and fly-posting, and evidence of control of weed growth at kerbs. Absence of unsightly and / or inappropriate advertising, such as that on gables of buildings and mass-produced advertising banners in shop fronts. Please note that although general tidiness is evaluated and marked in this category, tidiness is also considered under other categories including the Built Environment & Streetscape, Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes.

**Litter:** The adjudicator will assess the absence of litter and dumping, evidence of litter control strategy, including regular litter patrols, segregation of collected litter during clean-ups and promotion of anti-litter awareness throughout community.

## INTRODUCTION

Since 2014 the role of Bray Municipal District has changed and the decisions regarding the spending of all Co. Council monies has consolidated in WCC. The Bray town bodies supporting the by-laws, promoting litter management and lobbying for a litter warden are no longer in existence. BTT found that groups such as the Bray Litter Forum are gone and that our role as advocates for necessary Litter law enforcement has increased. According to the Litter Pollution Act a litter management plan is required and this has yet to be completed after the merger of Bray Urban District Council with WCC in 2014.

[http://www.litter.ie/litter\\_management\\_plans/](http://www.litter.ie/litter_management_plans/)

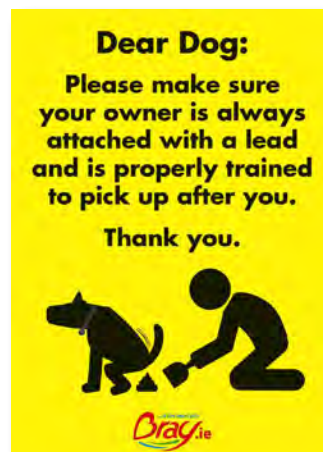
BTT have brought this issue up a number of times both verbally and in writing and last time we checked there was no timeline for the compilation of a Litter Management Plan.



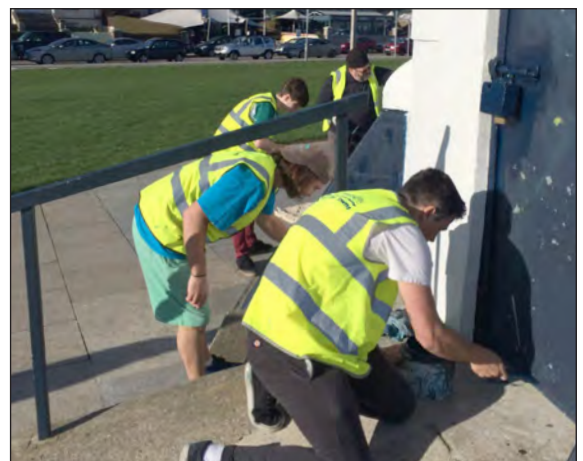
BTT CLEANING UP ON BALLYWALTRIM PLAYING FIELDS WITH ST. TERESA'S BOXING CLUB

## ACTIONS TAKEN

- BTT have raised litter and tidiness issues at meeting we have held with BMD including the issue of redundant poles and litter black spots. A plan is being drawn up in relation to signage for the town, which will include a review of redundant signs and poles.
- BTT have corresponded with the Wicklow Planning Department re inappropriate advertising and mass-produced advertising banners in shop fronts. Copy of letter attached. (FIG. B)
- BTT have organised dog fouling prevention stickers and distributed these to telegraph poles and other high fouling areas in Bray. This was done prior to BMD's initiative re dog fouling.

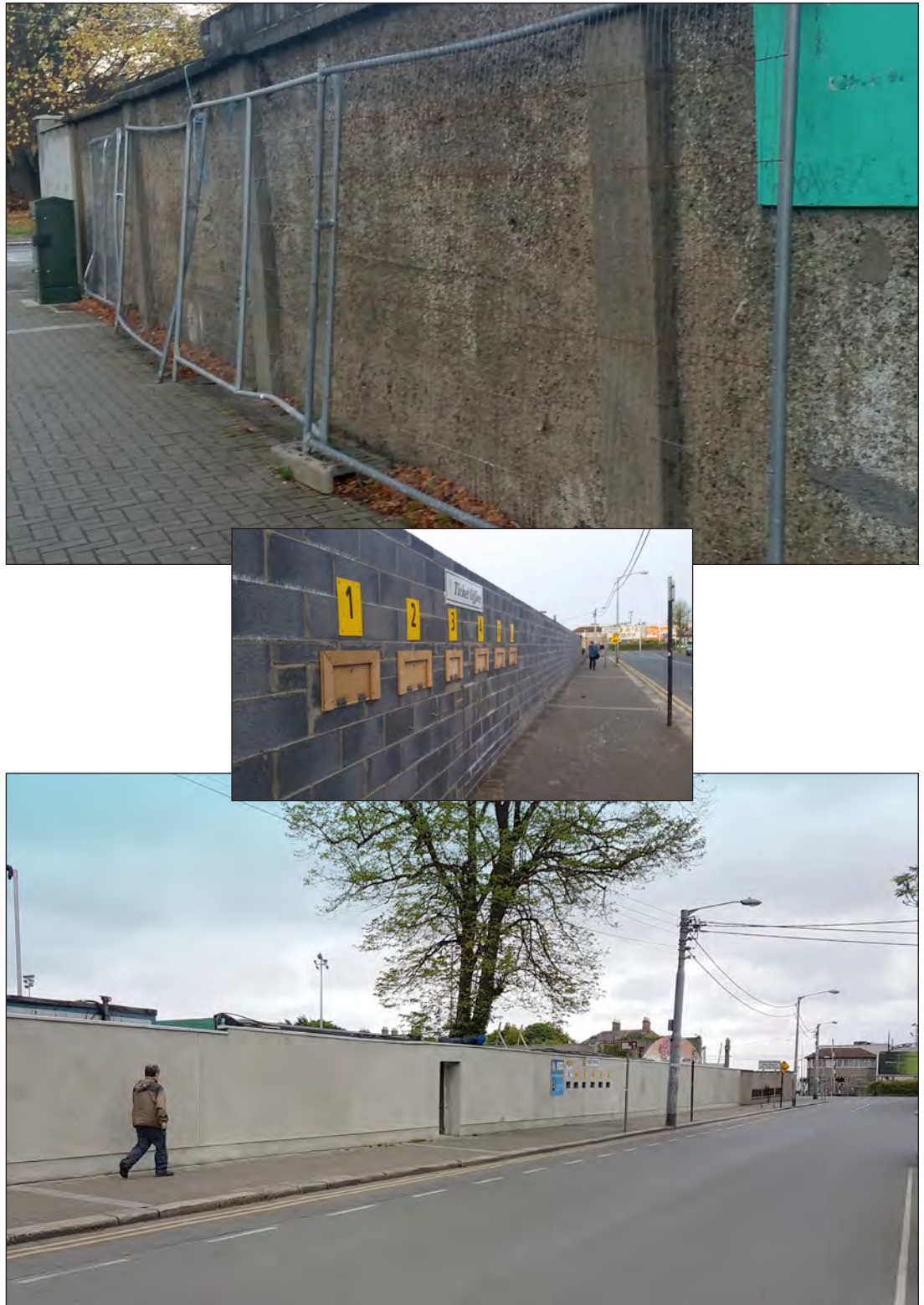


- BTT is organising a one-day event in the Seafront area, to ask dog-owners to sign a pledge that they will scoop up after their dogs.
- Quinsboro Road/Eglinton Road was a black-spot for the non collection of Greenstar and Panda bags. BTT entered into correspondence with Greenstar, Panda and Wicklow CC who engaged with us on the matter. It appears the situation has improved. See attached letter FIG. F
- Cash and Carry was a litter black-spot which seems to have improved – BTT entered into correspondence with interested parties.
- Representations and posters were given out to businesses in the Albert Walk re the binning of butts. The situation is volatile.
- New 'Belly Bins' have been erected throughout the town. These bins are centrally connected to a system which notifies the council when they require to be emptied
- We organise several litter surveys, we segregate litter during clean ups and have organised litter picks with Fassaroe Community Centre, St. Teresa's Boxing Club, Cubs, Scouts and others, however, to a large extent we have replaced widespread litter picks with advocacy. Litter becomes a component of other work carried out such as painting and shrubbery removal.
- Regular meetings are initiated with BMD by BTT. We have been informed by Wicklow CC that they have contacted businesses in Bray to serve litter enforcement notices on foot of our representations.
- Painting over graffiti has become part of our tidiness strategy and we attach list of locations where graffiti has been removed.



BTT ORGANISED A 'PAINTING OVER GRAFFITI' SESSION AT THE SEAFRONT WITH BRAY SKATEBOARDERS AND COASTCARE

- BTT wrote to Bray Wanderers re dangerous boundary walls at Carlisle Grounds and these were subsequently rebuilt. This wall was an exposed breeze block and we made representations to BMD as it was not in accordance with planning requirements. The wall was subsequently plastered. See attached letter -FIG. G



CARLISLE GROUNDS WALL - BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER.

## Residential Streets & Housing Areas

### 50 Marks

*Residential streets that include Town Houses are integral parts of towns and villages and should be treated in a similar fashion to public and private housing developments. Consideration is given to proper presentation and maintenance of all properties with due cognisance given to maintenance of frontages, boundary and gable end walls. Gardens, where applicable, should be presented to a good standard. In housing developments green areas should be cut regularly. Children's play areas to be considered with equipment maintained to best standards. Where possible individual estates should have suitable name signs - stones, plaques, sign posts, etc. preferably bilingual. Unfinished estates will not reflect badly on the efforts of any community but examples of how the community is addressing this issue should be highlighted.*

### THE HEADLANDS ESTATE ON PUTLAND ROAD

This estate which has both houses and apartments have started a community garden. <https://giy.ie/archive/headlands-gardens-visit.html>. This is situated on an underutilized large green space.

- Work is ongoing using polytunnels, raised beds, and an orchard. This has become such a success that people from outside the Headlands estate have brought resources and knowledge and have become part of the community. This year the tunnels were increased and seedlings are used for planting all around public spaces in Bray.



POLY TUNNEL AT THE HEADLANDS

SEAWEED HARVESTING FOR THE HEADLANDS

- Educate Together use the garden for two classes a week to teach sustainability. Rain is harvested from the roof of the school. The remaining open space is used for PE, jogging and dog walking.
- There are several areas for composting and the landscape gardeners for the estate collect their trimmings in one place for us to use as compost and provide wood chipping for paths. Seaweed is collected from the seafront and manure from local farms.
- At the national Street Fest on June 11th residents eat the available salad leaves, radishes strawberries and use the herbs to cook.

### FAILTE PARK/ ADELAIDE ROAD/ STATION AREA.

- A member of the senior citizens community approached BTT as this estate required attention. Bushes were overgrown, weeds were thriving and there were a number of other issues. Together with the volunteers and a member of Order of Malta a plan of action has been put in place to tackle the most obvious issues. A plan has been put in place for the continued maintenance of this site by BTT volunteers. The place has now been weeded and some of the most overgrown shrubbery has been tackled.
- BTT have sent a communication to BMD in respect of the broken lighting, slimy and broken pathways and stairs which are





BTT VOLUNTEERS AT FAILTE PARK

- GIY have created a community allotment and Ireland's first Youth Orchard, at Fassaroe, assisted by the Bray Family Resource Centre.
- As part of the preparation process for the Tidy Towns entry BTT have built an awareness of the estates which need assistance and these include a number off the Boghall Road and off the Upper Dargle Road and although these need further work we feel that there has been an improvement on previous years.
- Residents in a large number of estates carry out litter picks and these include Bray Head Residents Association and the Novara Avenue residents.
- Currently we are making representations to BMD about the lighting and other shortfalls in the features of the Failte Park Seniors Estate.
- When graffiti is identified on boundary walls BTT paints over it.



- We keep a record of residents associations in Bray and contact them as required.
- A number of our volunteers are also involved in Residents groups.
- A number of Residents associations contact us from time to time looking for assistance and we liaise with BMD on matters such as bin collections.
- BMD is in the process of organizing training for BTT in the use of Graffiti removal kits. The kits have been made available to BMD we are informed.
- One of our committee members represents BTT at regular Neighbourhood Watch meetings.
- As can be seen from the attached list of areas where we conducted graffiti paint overs this includes a number of estates especially entrance walls FIG A.

## Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes

### 50 Marks

*Appropriate presentation of approach roads, including the roadside verges and their boundary treatment. The appearance of town and village streets, connecting roads, laneways, bridges and cycle lanes. Provision for inclusive access and pedestrian connections.*

## INTRODUCTION

BTT meets regularly with BMD on the various aspects of the roundabouts at the approach roads to Bray which in the main are very well kept. However, BTT have requested that the roundabout at Briar Wood be developed as a wildflower roundabout. BMD are currently preparing their plans for this roundabout once the nesting season is over.

The Northern approach road (Wilford roundabout) and further into Bray as far as Lidl is within the Dunlaoghaire Rathdown council jurisdiction, and has been excluded for the purposes of this submission. For the purposes of this submission the Bray boundary starts at the Old Conna Rd. junction.

The entrance known as the Fassaroe entrance, leads down to the Upper Dargle Road. A large site to the left of the road has recently been cleared as part of the Dargle Flood Protection Scheme, to clean up a salmonoid stream. This site is due to be landscaped and we are making the appropriate representations for this.

BTT has undertaken a number of graffiti cover-ups along this road and work continues. A larger work project is required at the entrance to the Fassaroe Estate to improve this area. This is outside the scope of BTT as there is a large amount of rubble to be removed here. We have brought this to the attention of BMD.



SOUTHERN CROSS ACCESS ROAD TO BRAY SOUTH

BMD work is quite intensive in the Southern Cross area. There are verges trees and undeveloped sites which provide places for birds to nest. In one particular area at the back of the bus stop coming into Bray on the left hand side there are a colony of hares.

## ENHANCEMENTS TO APPROACH ROADS, STREETS AND LANES

- As recommended in the adjudication report last year, BTT engaged with businesses on the Northern approach Road to Bray including Axa on the Dublin Road (letter attached FIG. E) requesting that the frontage be improved and that missing cap stones and bricks be reinstated. This was done see photographs and letters attached.



AXA INSURANCE - DUBLIN ROAD (NORTHERN ENTRANCE TO BRAY)  
BEFORE AND AFTER RE-CAPPING OF WALL.

- At about 70 locations around the town (list attached) Bray Tidy Towns has resprayed over the graffiti on the green/black/silver and light green junction boxes, the black parking metres and light green post boxes FIG A.
- Since the last TT entry hoardings have been painted by owners and site managers at a number of locations including Seafront (Cois Farrage), Everest Centre opposite Supervalue (after liaison with Bray Tidy Towns).
- Works continue on the access roads to the new schools on the ex Bray Golf course. On the completion of this project, walkways, cycle lanes will be provided with connections to the harbour.
- The Florentine Centre is an agenda item at our regular meetings with BMD and together we keep the graffiti under control. BTT has had a number of separate outings to deal with tag graffiti in the town. BMD has removed builders rubbish and continues to improve the site. Planning permission has been granted in respect of a public private partnership development which is planned for this site. Savills have lately been given the contract to seek proposals from developers.  
<http://search.savills.ie/Properties/Commercial/Development-Opportunity.aspx>  
Since last year further work has taken place regarding the building of walls and other improvements.
- BMD has recently erected 'Welcome to Bray' signage at the entrances to Bray and are working with groups to make it as cohesive as possible.
- We have taken note of the comments made in the adjudication report last year, we have sent copies to BMD, WCC and all of the relevant points were discussed at meetings with BMD.
- Carrickbrae have cleared the site on the Church Road in preparation for the continuance of the stalled development. This was mentioned in the 2016 adjudication report.
- At the left hand side of the road into Bray at the Everest Centre the owner was asked to paint the hoarding which was done.

## TRAIN STATION AREA

This has been included as it is effectively an entrance point for tourist and commuter traffic into Bray. This is also dealt with under other headings.

- After working with Iarnród Éireann both the Station Master and the Property Department to agree terms of engagement and to put in place the appropriate permissions, work commenced at the Station Area.
- The first step was to cut back the trees and hedges which had become very overgrown and housed an enormous amount of rubbish. The area in question is quite extensive and this took about 10 work sessions to bring to the next stage.
- BTT volunteers then dug out weeds from the original flower beds.
- Painted the recycled pallet planters and put flowers in them.
- Mulched in local manure to the main beds.
- Planted in one area of the beds.
- We await the removal and replacement of the Railway Sleepers before we can plant the area with lavender (being pollination plants)
- We were mindful of the bird population and have begun to install bird boxes on the nearby buildings.

## CASH AND CARRY SITE OPPOSITE TRAIN STATION

As this is the first building seen by people emerging from the train station we have included it here.

- After a number of meetings both last year and this year there was an agreement with the Site Manager engaged by NAMA that a schedule of work could take place.
- Approximately six work sessions took place with volunteers to paint the front of the Cash and Carry buildings and perimeter walls in colours which were in keeping with the Dart Corporate Colours.
- Paint was supplied by NAMA negotiated by a local politician.
- Plans are in place to paint a further two areas of the building when financing has been agreed.
- Through Signal Art Gallery an artist has been engaged by BTT to organise a work party with a local school completion project, to paint an informative mural on the front of the building. (As the building is not still in the control of NAMA – further permissions will be sought)
- BTT sought and got agreement from the Car Park Lessors of the site to carry out improvements (dangerous surfaces) and to arrange for regular litter management of the car park surrounding the Cash and Carry site. Copy of Letter attached FIG. B.



FIG. A



### GRAFFITI LOCATIONS

#### KILLARNEY ROAD

Silver Metal Gate beyond St. Fergal's school at right hand side while exiting Bray.  
White gateposts entering Bray before the dip.  
Green Utility Box near Elgin Woods Est.

#### CHURCH ROAD

3 Utility Boxes

#### MAIN STREET

O'Carroll's Red – again.  
Marconi's wall.  
White door opposite O'Carrolls.  
Car Park Entrance from Main Street.  
Anvils  
2 Lanes  
Holy Redeemer  
CBRE – Black  
Utility Box near Sherry Fitzgerald

#### QUINSBORO ROAD

Entrance to Car Park.  
Hoarding/Gateway at Royal X 3 Blue.  
Doorway – Black  
Parking Meters X 4  
Eglinton Road – White doorway on derelict building.  
Litter Bin on Eglinton Road

#### FLORENCE ROAD

2 Parking Meters  
Green derelict shopfront – ex Laces.

#### NOVARA AREA

Green Utility at BIFE  
Parking Meter  
Metallic Box on Wyndham Park.  
Utility on Galtrim.

#### VEVAY

Rockbrae House white at entrance.  
Gate  
Opposite Tesco's  
Hoarding at old lounge.  
Near bus stop – around Lauderdale Tce.  
Utility across road from Lauderdale.

#### BOGHALL

Aldi magnolia on small building at front.  
Utility Box near Aldi  
Utility Boxes near Chadwicks X 3  
Utility and Post boxes near Dell X 2

#### SOUTHERN CROSS

3 X Utility/Post Boxes.  
Graffiti on Wall at Woodies end.

#### SEAFRONT

Sailing Club Walls X 3  
Baths Wall X 1  
Blue gate near Sailing Club area.  
Scrubbed off hoarding on Cois Farraige site.  
Cash and Carry X 3 wall.  
Parking Meters X 3  
Stable Lane X 1  
Albert Walk X 1  
Putland X 2

#### LITTLE BRAY

Viking  
Everest Hoarding  
Black Utility opp Ravenswell.  
Green Metal Gate.

FIG. B

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LETTER FROM WCC



/PC

**Comhairle Contae Chill Mhantáin**  
**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Forbartha agus Pleanála - Planning and Development**

Áras An Chontae / County Buildings  
Cill Mhantáin / Wicklow  
Guthán / Tel: (0404) 20148  
Faics / Fax: (0404)69462  
Rphost / Email: [plandev@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:plandev@wicklowcoco.ie)  
Suíomh / Website: [www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie)

30<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Mary Hargaden,  
No. 8 Newcourt Avenue,  
Bray,  
Co. Wicklow.

**Re: Alleged unauthorised signage in the Quinsboro Road / Florence Road area of Bray,  
Co. Wicklow without the benefit of planning permission.**

A Chara,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter received on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 enclosing 10 No. complaint forms regarding signage at the above locations and to advise the matter will be investigated.

The file reference numbers are as follows:

UD4727 – Modern Tan  
UD4738 – Dunnes Stores  
UD4739 – Shillelagh Bar  
UD4740 – ‘Glamour’  
UD4741 – Tony’s Asian Market  
UD4742 – Sun Visions  
UD4743 – Spider and Fly  
UD4744 – Funfair  
UD4745 – Toyzone  
UD4746 – Cash for Gold

Mise le meas,

**Rosemarie Dennison,**  
**Administrative Officer,**  
**Planning Enforcement.**

*Tá an doiciméid ar fáil ar iarratas i bhformáid eile/malartach.*  
*This document is available in alternative formats on request.*

Seoltar gach comhfreagras chuig Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí, Forbartha agus Pleanála.  
All correspondence should be addressed to the Director of Services, Planning and Development.



FIG. C

CORRESPONDENCE WITH CLARE'S, BRAY

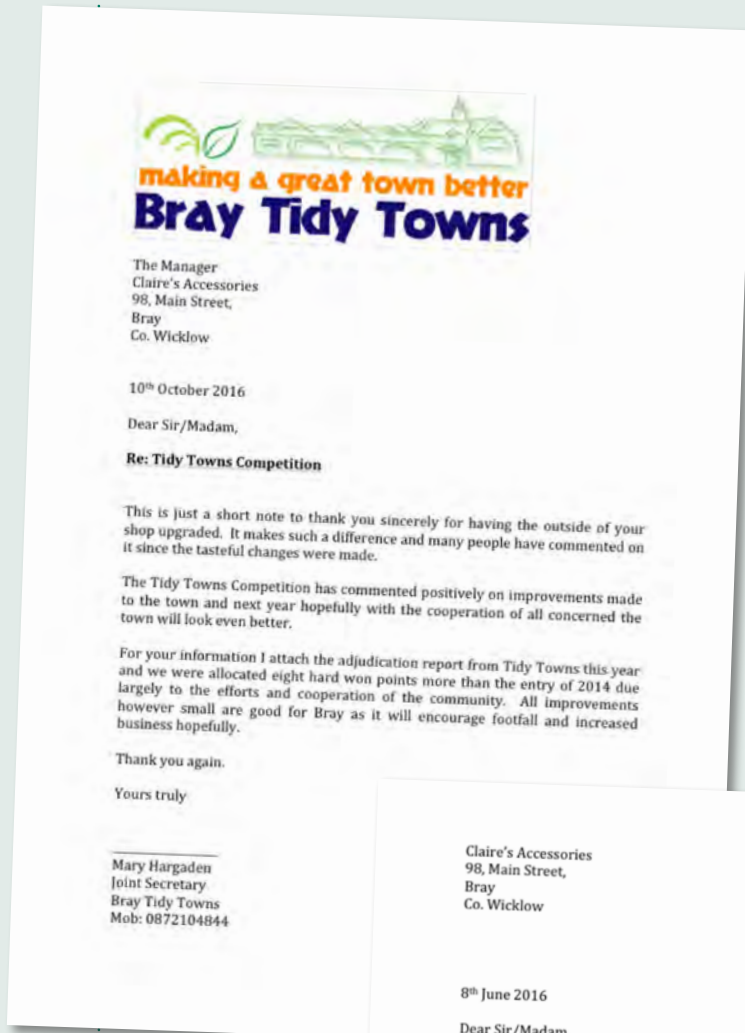


FIG. D

CORRESPONDENCE CASH AND CARRY



The Managing Director  
NCPS  
6, Mount Street  
Dublin 2

1<sup>st</sup> June 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Arcadia Car Park Bray Co. Wicklow.**

It is our understanding that NCPS is responsible for the maintenance of the above car park. In the region of fifty cars pay NCPS to park in this facility on a daily basis (weekdays).

The Car Park is by any standards in need of both once off maintenance and ongoing upkeep. The litter, which accumulates in this car park, needs to be cleared on a constant basis. Bray Tidy Towns has entered for the Tidy Towns Competition and would like you to fulfill your obligations and as lessor of this car park to maintain it in an acceptable manner.

BTT has received numerous complaints about the upkeep of this car park and would ask respectfully that you attend to it.

BTT has carried out improvements in the area i.e. the Albert Walk and we are in communication with a number of stakeholders around the Cash and Carry site including Iarnród Éireann and through the Social Democrats we have been in contact with the site agent of the Cash and Carry site who had promised to bring this matter to your attention. However, while there had been some improvement in the weeks following our meetings in December, it is obvious that this matter needs serious and ongoing attention.

Some photographs attached for reference purposes. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Mary Hargaden  
Joint Secretary - Bray Tidy Towns. Tel: 0872104844  
C/O: 1 Alexandra Terrace, Novara Avenue, Bray Co. Wicklow.

Cc Teresa O'Dea Wicklow Co. Council/ Donal Forde Bray Municipal District





FIG. E

CORRESPONDENCE WITH AXA



Axa Insurance  
Dublin Road  
Bray  
Co. Wicklow

10<sup>th</sup> October, 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Tidy Towns Competition**

There has been an amazingly positive response to our requests to all stakeholders in the town of Bray regarding putting in a little extra effort to improve Bray's image. Bray Tidy Towns (BTT) have been working closely with stakeholders such as Iarnrod Eireann, Bray Municipal District, Community Groups, Residents Associations and a number of business and building owners with the aim of making Bray better together.

We know that Axa has been a staunch member of the Bray business community for some time. In this regard could we ask you to attend to a few small matters in the front parking space of your Dublin Road premises. We wish to draw your attention to the fact that some of the cement slab cappings on the wall has come loose and in some cases is no longer there.

From time to time litter and weeds have gathered in the bushes and hedges in this parking area and is inclined to detract from an otherwise well maintained building. When the Tidy Towns judges approach the entrance to the town from the North side the Axa premises is an obvious one as it is a well known name and is brightly painted.

Today we attended the Tidy Towns awards and we are delighted that Bray has been allocated an increase of eight points over its score in 2014; the last time Bray had an entry in the competition. We attach the link and would you're your attention to the category called: Approach Roads Streets and Lanes.  
[http://www.tidytowns.ie/u\\_reports/2016/2016%20County%20Wicklow%20Bray%20256.pdf](http://www.tidytowns.ie/u_reports/2016/2016%20County%20Wicklow%20Bray%20256.pdf)

For premises which are derelict or are not rented out Bray Tidy Towns tries to weed, remove litter, add planting and occasionally repair badly damaged paintwork. However with Axa this approach we feel would not be appropriate.

You may be aware that Bray has scored quite well in the recent survey conducted by Business Against Litter and we feel that Bray is ever so close to being on the well improved list in a number of areas especially given the attention which has been given to the Seafront, the River Walk areas among others.

We are in preparation mode for the next Tidy Towns judging which will commence in June 2017 and often just basic maintenance, the pulling up of a few weeds, a lick of paint and the removal of litter sends out a very positive message to all.

Yours in anticipation,

Mary Hargaden  
Joint Secretary  
Bray Tidy Towns

FIG. F

CORRESPONDENCE WITH GREENSTAR



11th June 2016

**Attention: Mr. Noel Craven - Customer Services Department**

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Bin Collection - Quinsboro Road Bray area – Goldsmith Terrace – Eglington Road -Stable Lane – Wyndham Park**

Bray Tidy Towns has entered for the Tidy Towns competition this year 2016 and feel that we need to continue to bring some issues to your attention as we will have marks deducted for litter management during the adjudication which takes place in June, July and August.

Further to our letter to you dated 31st October 2015 we continue to receive complaints with regard to the Waste Collection in the above area. The complaints relate to both purple general waste bags and transparent green waste bags issued by Greenstar. These bags are left on the street even during days when there is no bin collection and because they are not collected on the day they are left out, the contents can be strewn on the street for several days creating an eyesore and health hazard.

We have been informed that even when the transparent green waste bags are left out on time they are not always collected.

Although there are a number of commercial outlets the above mentioned stretch of the Quinsboro Road, there are also a large number of flats/apartments especially around the Stable Lane and Eglington Road area. Judging by the number Greenstar bags left along the paths and roads for inappropriate lengths of time, it is obvious that quite a large number of residents are not aware of the collection times or the collection days.

It is unacceptable that Bray Tidy Towns are in a position where we are collecting litter from bags which have burst. The waste from the purple bags can contain food waste which is a health issue.

Overloaded Greenstar Waste bins are also to be causing a problem especially in the Stable Lane area just off the Quinsboro Road and around the corner from the Prince of Wales/Goldsmith Terrace/Eglington Road/Wyndham Park area.

As advised previously the Greenstar collection schedule for Bray on the Greenstar Website does not show the Quinsboro Road area. Could you publish these times in the paper so that residents have some chance of keeping up to date with their litter collections which are being paid for. As suggested previously could you provide a list of times for "bag" clients and put this list in their doors in this area.

We would appreciate your cooperation.

Yours faithfully

Mary Hargaden Secretary – Bray Tidy Towns  
Mobile: 0872104844  
C/O 1, Alexandra Terrace, Novara Avenue, Bray, Co. Wicklow  
CC. Wicklow Co. Council Environmental Department.

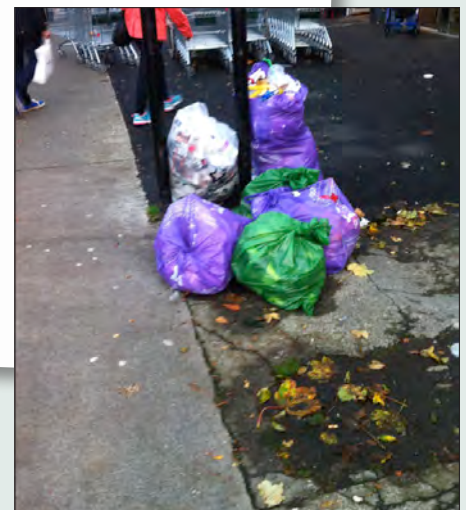


FIG. G

CORRESPONDENCE WITH CARLISLE GROUNDS, BRAY WANDERERS



7th November 2015

Attention: The Club Secretary - Bray Wanderers

Dear Mr. Quinn,

**Re: Crowd Barriers on the Quinsboro Road side of the Carlisle Grounds**

Firstly as a fellow Bray institution we wish you well in all your endeavours and are delighted that Bray has a football team of some renown and we wish Bray Wanderers well.

A matter has come to our attention and as Bray Tidy Towns we are conscious of our role in highlighting issues which may be causing some areas of the town to look a little unsightly. We are speaking of the "Crowd Barriers" which are outside the Carlisle Grounds on the Quinsboro side and were wondering whether it would be possible to remove these if they are not serving a useful purpose.

We would be much obliged if you could give this matter your attention.

Yours sincerely

---

Mary Hargaden  
Secretary (0872104844)

Bray Tidy Towns  
C/O Bray Chamber of Commerce,  
10 Prince of Wales Terrace, Quinsboro Road,  
Bray, Co. Wicklow.

FIG. H

EXAMPLE OF LETTER TO BUSINESSES WITH COMPLIMENTARY SHOPFRONTS



Bannons Jewellers,  
15, Main Street,  
Bray  
Co. Wicklow

28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Tidy Towns Competition**

There has been a positive response to our requests to all stakeholders in the town of Bray regarding putting in a little extra effort to improve Bray's image. BTT have been working closely with stakeholders such as Iarnrod Eireann, Bray Municipal District, Community Groups, Residents Associations and a number of business and building owners with the aim of making Bray better together.

We thought it might be appropriate to contact Bannon's Jewellers as you have got a special mention in the Adjudication Report for the Tidy Towns Competition in 2016. The Adjudicators said "We particularly liked Bannon's Jewellers, Salmon Interiors and a number of public houses including Frank Duffs, the Ardmore and Hollands".....we were able to admire the goods and decorative window display of Anvil's".

Having increased our marks in the 2016 Tidy Towns Competition we will be putting together our entry for 2017 over the coming weeks. On behalf of Bray Tidy Towns we wish to thank you for continuing to be one of the premises whose high standards gives us a benchmark for the future of the town's shop fronts and we wish you continued success with your business.

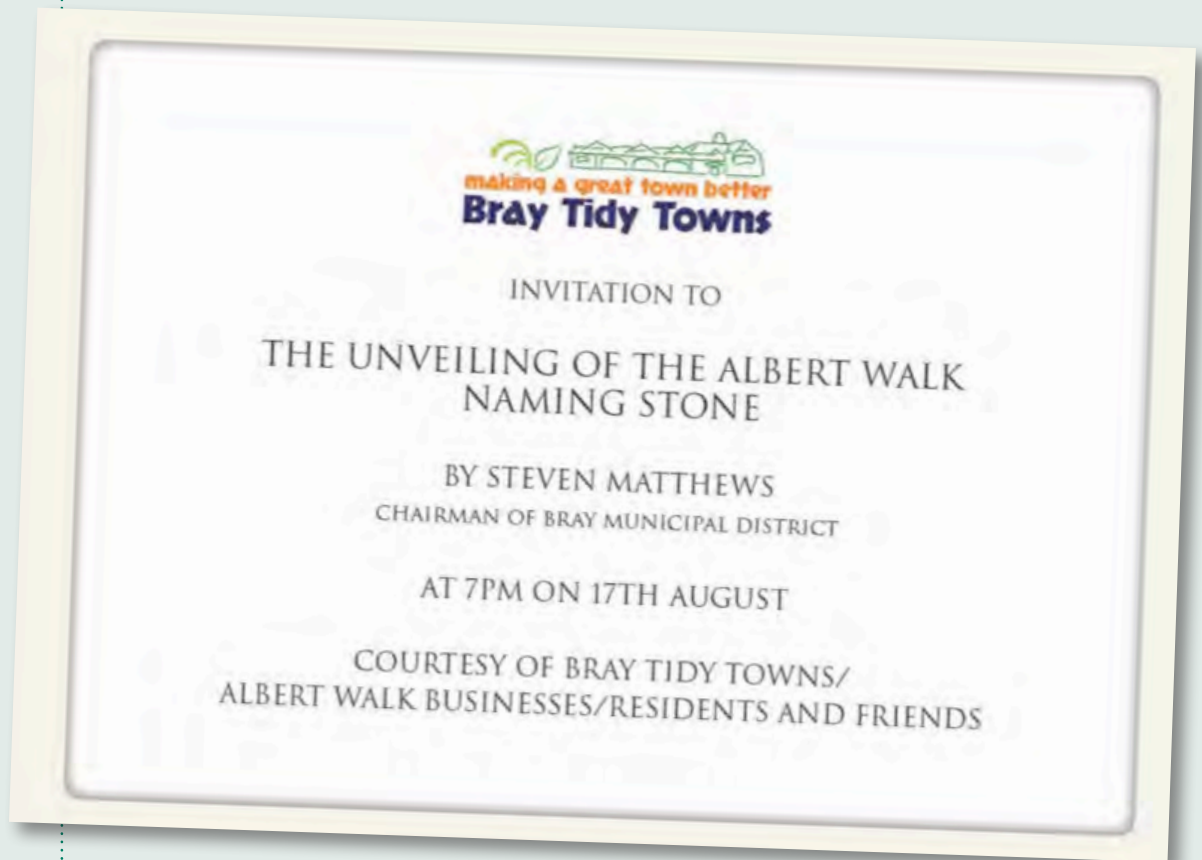
For your information we enclose a copy of the 2016 Adjudication Report

Yours faithfully,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Hargaden (Mobile 0872104844)  
Joint Secretary  
Bray Tidy Towns

FIG. 1

INVITATION TO THE UNVEILING OF THE ALBERT WALK NAMING STONE



12 NEWS **WICKLOW Times** Tuesday 14th March 2017

## Bray Coastcare Group celebrate 10th anniversary

**Fri and Sat plus an amazing Weekend Brunch**  
**Chilled Jazz Dinners every Thursday - cool tunes and superb food**  
 Join us to celebrate St Patrick's Weekend  
 Call 01 2557294 to reserve  
 www.theatrelane.ie



There was a large turnout at Bray Coastcare's 10th anniversary celebrations with representatives from Bray Coastcare Group, Bray Tidy Towns, An Taisce, Wicklow County Council, Common Ground/Eddle Bray, Bray SeaLife and Marine Dimensions.

18 NEWS **WICKLOW Times** Tuesday 18th Oct 2016

## 'Staffless libraries must be rejected'

Bray area local Labour Party member Ian McGahon is calling on members of Wicklow County Council to reject any proposals to implement staffless libraries in County Wicklow.

Speaking on the issue McGahon said "Public libraries funded by the taxpayer are an excellent public service. They promote equality, education, personal progression, learning and so many good qualities in our society. Libraries are an excellent public resource and so are their staff. The recent local government 'mismanagement' agency report on so called 'open libraries' recommends extending opening hours of all libraries in Ireland to library members during unstaffed hours.

"A lot of library users and staff have come together as a campaign and group called 'staff our libraries' to express deep concern that this is the first step in dismantling Ireland's public library system. The group has many problems with the Local Government concept is called 'open libraries' but actually will be closing them to non-members so this is actually creating inaccessibility to the library. The idea ignores the health and safety concerns that children at library users would have, the report looks at international comparisons while ignoring the UK experience and it suggests that staffing levels would remain the same.

"Tabernarey, Bungalow and Tallamore libraries were used as pilots for staffless libraries. The LGMA report stated 'Staffing levels and staffed hours remained unchanged'. The 'staff our libraries' group has found this to be completely untrue because staffless hours in Bungalow library were used to replace previously staffed hours. Sligo County Council has also indicated that they might use staffless libraries as a money saving mechanism. "Every visit to a library has unique requirements and users often need a friendly knowledgeable trained librarian to assist them. The idea that you can automate that service is completely false. I am calling on members of Wicklow County Council to defend and uphold our valuable public library services. The so called 'open libraries' must be rejected." McGahon concluded.



Aldi's Arklow store staff have awarded the East Wicklow Youth Service a €500 grant in recognition of its tremendous work within the local community and to help support its services. The grant was presented to Eddie Fitzgerald, a Youth Worker at East Wicklow Youth Service, by Agnieszka Matwiejczuk, Aldi's Arklow store 'Charity Champion'.

## 'Give Paw!' fundraiser

The Masi Zoo pet store in Bray is putting its weight behind a unique month-long fundraising campaign to help a local pet charity meet the high cost of providing for the needs of animals in its care.

All proceeds from the store's annual 'Give Paw!' campaign will go directly to Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind. Every customer who makes a €3 donation receives two 'Give Paw!' stickers, one of which can be placed onto a small ball and dropped into an in-store ball pit which provides customers with a visual indicator of their generosity.

Volunteers from Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind will also visit the store at Bray Retail Park every Saturday throughout October to provide customers with an insight into the valuable work they do.

"Customers are not alone, long and late hours will also visit the store at Bray Retail Park every Saturday throughout October to provide customers with an insight into the 'public work' they do.



Pictured are members of Bray Tidy Towns with Stephen Donnelly TD and Councillor of Bray Municipal District Steven Matthews. Volunteers from Bray Tidy Towns were out in force on Saturday 9th October preparing the Cash O' Carry boundary wall for painting. This is a project Bray Tidy Towns has been working on getting off the ground with stakeholders in the area for the past year. Pic: Claire Callahan

Tuesday 6th December 2016 **WICKLOW Times** FEATURE 19

## Commencement of HAP Scheme in Wicklow

Simon Coveney T.D., Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, has announced that the Government has delivered on another key action under Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness.

The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) scheme became operational on a statutory basis last week in a further nine local authority areas including Wicklow. This means that eligible households can now apply and, if deemed eligible, avail of another form of social housing support.

The introduction of HAP means that local authorities can now provide housing assistance to many more households with a long-term housing need, including many long-term Rent Supplement recipients, as well as households who may not be eligible for Rent Supplement but who are struggling with the cost of rent. As well as removing a barrier to employment, by allowing recipients to remain in the scheme if they gain full-time employment, the HAP scheme improves regulation of the rental accommodation being supported and it provides certainty for landlords on regards their rental income.

There are currently more than 15,500 households receiving HAP support, over a third of these households have transferred from the Rent Supplement scheme. More than 10,000 households are taking part in the scheme with approximately 300 households joining each week.



**The Well clean up and planting**  
 Last Saturday members of Bray Rotary joined with Bray Tidy Towns to conduct a clean-up of the grounds of The Well (formerly St Paul's Church) opposite the Royal Hotel. During the morning the teams raised 10,000 crocuses, the symbol of Rotary, which will be planted in the area in early Spring. They also made a 'rotary' display in the area for the past year. Pic: Claire Callahan



# NAMING STONE IS UNVEILED

CEREMONY AT ALBERT WALK

BY MARY FOGARTY

A new granite naming stone for Albert Walk was unveiled last Wednesday evening by Cathaoirleach Stephen Matthews.

This is a way of enhancing its importance to its users, businesses and residents. 'Hopefully the Walk will continue to attract engagement from the community of Bray,' said Bray Towns in a statement.

The edible nature of the plants introduced by Common Ground Plants has been a great success, leading at least one establishment on the walk to make kale soup. The other grasses and plants along the walk have come from many sources and the gathering of plants has been a true community effort.



Liz McManus (second from right) with high performance coach Eamon McGonerty



Tuesday 23rd Aug 2016

WICKLOW Times

NEWS 7

## Stone unveiled at new look Albert Walk

A large crowd braved the summer rainstorms last Wednesday evening to turn out to the unveiling of a naming stone on the Albert Walk in Bray. The ribbon was cut by Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District and Tidy Towns member Steven Matthews who commended the hard work carried out by all the organisations involved in the recent regeneration of the walk.

Bray Tidy Towns chairperson Mimi Magonerty welcomed the crowd and spoke of the hard work carried out by Tidy Towns, Edible Bray, Common Ground and GFT members, including the shifting of tonnes of soil, insulation of sleepers and planting of the flowerbeds. She singled out Mary Ann Farrows, Mary Hargaden, Blaise Alexander, Steven Stramon, Claire Sinclair and Steven Matthews for particular praise as well as all the volunteers who gave their time to lead a

band. She also thanked the businesses of Albert Walk for coming on board with the work and supporting the volunteers as well as supplying snacks, drinks and moral support. Speaking after the ribbon cutting, Councilor Steven Matthews said, 'The Bray Tidy Towns led project to rejuvenate Albert Walk is a great example of community volunteerism. The flowerbeds, planting and painting has brought a new lease of life to the walkway. A huge amount of planning and work

went into organising this and included Common Ground and Edible Bray. Irish Rail and the local businesses supported us in our work and we will continue to maintain the area with litter picking, weeding and tending to the flowerbeds. The Albert Walk is an important thoroughfare to our southeast for many visitors and locals and this project gives a much better first impression of the town to visitors arriving by bus and rail. The rail station area is now as our transport both with plans for

significant investment by the National Transport Authority and the eventual arrival of LUAS. Bray Municipal District has set aside a budget for civic enhancement works on Albert Ave and to support improvements on the Albert Walk. I would urge residents of Bray to join us in Tidy Towns to lend a hand in whatever capacity they can. We have regular clean-ups throughout the town as well as larger projects like this so if you have a few hours a month to spare we really could do with your help.'



Pictured are members of the local community, Bray Tidy Towns, Common Ground and Edible Bray at the transformed Albert Walk, with Cllr Steven Matthews, Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District, officially cutting the ribbon on the new Albert Walk naming stone.



## Council to vote on LPT

## SUMMARY OF BRAY TIDY TOWNS MULTI-ANNUAL PLAN

BTT have worked hard over this past year to do high profile jobs around the town and we are of the opinion that we have succeeded in laying the foundations of getting more connections with community groups established and involved with Bray Tidy Towns.

However there is a lot more to do. The challenges for the future include

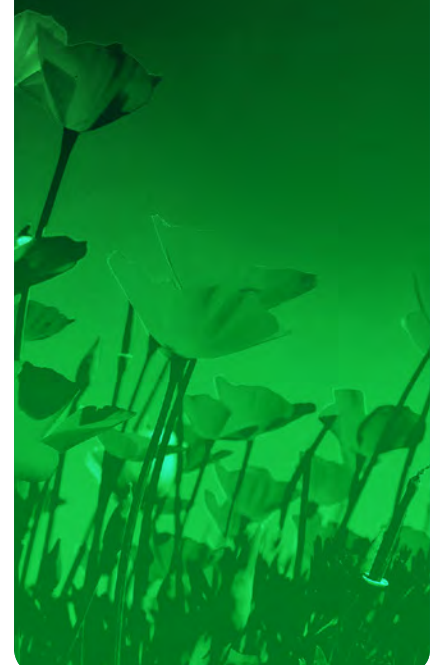
- Continuing our work in building cohesion between community bodies involved in the town improvement. In particular the setting up of the Green Committee.
- Mapping and publication of Flora and Fauna interest around the town.
- Putting litter management on a solid footing and working with Wicklow County Council in this regard.
- Survey and concentration on estates that need our assistance.
- Working with the schools (in particular junior schools) to promote sustainable living and waste minimization.
- Imbedding the ACA plans within the new Town Development Plan, which is due to be adopted before the end of the year.
- Expand our volunteer base – without volunteers, we are useless.
- Complete our work at Bray Train Station
- Work with stakeholders to improve areas which need attention, in particular the Upper Dargle Road and Little Bray, which are black spots.
- Apply for funding and grants as appropriate.
- Ultimately we would like to push our scores in The Tidy Towns competition up year on year. We firmly believe that this can be achieved and that Bray can be on a par with any other major town in the country.

We have many unique features in Bray and BTT hope to help our community in Bray to highlight these features and to make the people of Bray proud to live here.



### **Mapping your town or village**

*It is vital that you include a good quality map with your entry. Please see advice contained in "How to complete your SuperValu Tidy Towns 2017 Entry Form" mentioned above. You can also draw here a sketch of your town / village with street and place names and prominent landmarks. The locations of your new work for this year's competition should also be numbered and marked. Ensure each project is given the same number on your Entry Form as on the map.*





A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q



**BRAY TIDY TOWNS PROJECTS**

- 1 Train Station (I,5)
- 2 Cash and Carry (I,I,5)
- 3 Fálte Park (I, 6)
- 4 Albert Walk (I, 6)
- 5 Harbour Bridge (I,4)

**LITTER - PICK DAYS**

- 1 Ballywaltrim Fields (E,12)
- 2 Fassaroo Playground (I,D,5)

**REQUESTED IMPROVEMENTS MADE**

- 1 Axa Insurance (F,3)
- 2 Bray Wanderers Carlisle Grounds (I,5)
- 3 Claires Assessories (G,6)

**GRAFFITI (See Letter in FIG A)**

- Bray Main St (G,6)
- Quinsboro Rd (H,5)
- Dublin Rd (F,4)
- Upr Dargle Rd (E,5)
- Church Rd (G,8)
- Florence Rd (H,5)
- Novara Ave (H,6)
- Vevay Rd (H,8)
- Boghall Rd (H,10 G,10 E,10)
- Southern Cross Rd (C,12 F,11 I,11)

**BMD/OTHERS - PROJECTS IMPROVEMENTS & AWARDS**

- 1 Victorian Style Seatbacks (J,5)
- 2 Albert Walk Belly Bins and other locations ( Example I,6)
- 3 River Walk at Seapoint Rd (H,4)
- 4 Board Walk & Peoples Park entrance (G,5)
- 5 Main Street Flower Planters (G,6)
- 6 Cycle Lane at Seafrost (K,6)
- 7 Headlands Estate Community Garden (I,8)
- 8 Management Plan for SAC (K,10)
- 9 Blue Flag Award for Bray Beach (K,4)

Bray - Area covered by Bray Tidy Towns Entry



