

Galbally, County Limerick

Tidy Towns 3 Year Plan



This plan is based on a template prepared by Donaldson Consultancy for the 2009-2011 period. It defines a high level program for projects to be undertaken over the next 3 years under each of the adjudication categories. It also looks at the risks that we face in implementing this challenging program in our community.

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Galbally Community – Vision

Galbally is a rural community. We have many natural advantages including our landscape and location. We are situated to the western end of the Glen Of Aherlow and have one of the most picturesque landscapes on the island. We are situated within a 45 minute commute of two main population and commercial centres, Limerick and Cork. We have easy access to rail services from Tipperary Town and Limerick Junction which are both within 12 miles of the village. We also have easy access to the M8 motorway at Mitchelstown which is 10 miles away.

We have a proud tradition of volunteerism and this is best seen in the number and range of successful sporting and community organisations in Galbally. It is quite normal for our residents to be active members of many organisations and this sense of community involvement has been fostered over many generations.

We have some small cottage industries locally but local commerce is based on agriculture mainly. However, we do have a substantial number of skilled people who have made Galbally their home and are either predominantly home workers or commute to Cork, Limerick or Dublin for their work.

As with many small villages in Ireland, Galbally has suffered as a result of mass emigration since the Economic Crisis of the last 10 years. As a result, we have an aging population and without any new inflow of people, we run the serious risk of seeing many more derelict houses in the years to come.

We want to stop the rot of a declining and aging population. We feel that the way we will achieve this is to increase the attractiveness of Galbally as a place to visit and to live. We want to ensure that we maintain, sustain and nurture our wonderful natural environment and ensure it's attractiveness for families to come to and remain in our area. People are the life blood of all communities and we want to expand our population base and maintain the vibrancy of our way of life. We also want to ensure that we maintain and promote Galbally as an attractive place for our young diaspora to return to, who have emigrated abroad for economic reasons.

We believe that the ethos of the Tidy Towns and the structure of continuous improvement it espouses in all aspects of our community life, will act as a framework for us to maintain and enhance the quality of life that can be experienced in Galbally, ensure its attractiveness as a place to live and ensure that Galbally is a thriving community for many years to come.

Introduction

The Galbally Tidy Towns group is a Community Group which is affiliated with Galbally Community Council and all other Community Groups in Galbally.

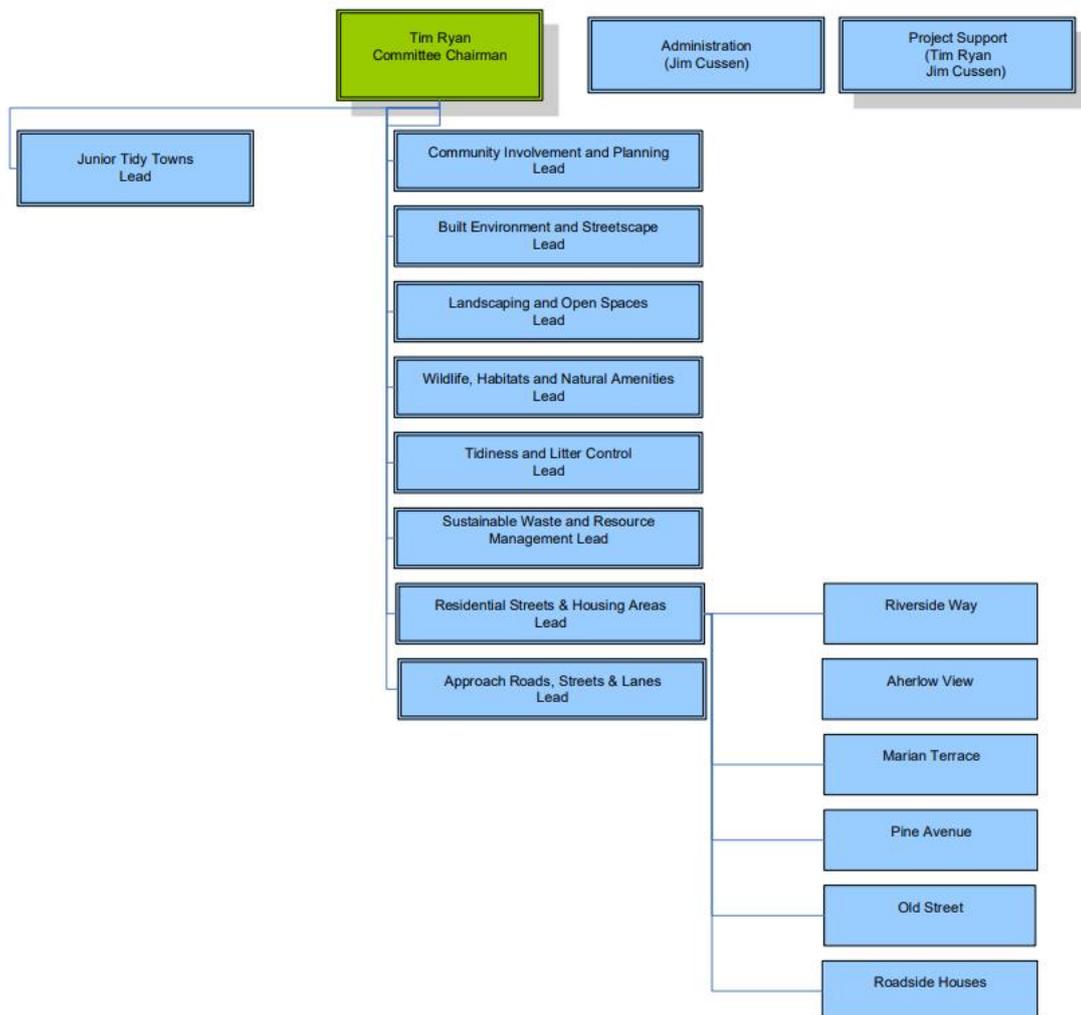
In addition, it draws its membership from community members who have skills in a wide range of areas that can be deployed to the benefit of the community.

We have a new committee structure for the 2022 campaign. We decided at this time to restructure our committee in the most effective manner to achieve results in all areas of activity documented in this, our 3 year plan. The structure is subject to continuous review.

We see the work of the Tidy Towns Committee as being a Program of endeavour which includes key projects in each of the adjudication categories. As a consequence we have structured our selves accordingly.

Structure and Governance

The following diagram shows the structure of our Tidy Towns team viz.



Tim Ryan in his role as committee chairman is responsible for the delivery of the overall 3 year plan.

Each adjudication category is defined as a work stream and a Lead from the sub-committee has been assigned who has ownership for the delivery of projects within his/her work stream.

The Committee meets on a formal basis on the first Tuesday of each month to formally update the committee on project progress. This meeting schedule is revised to weekly once Spring starts.

Any issues and risks to the various delivery plans will be discussed and mitigation action plans agreed at these meetings. Performance against budget will also be reviewed.

Informal weekly meetings are held regularly outside of the weekly/monthly schedule where the input, advice and help of other committee members will be sought.

In 2022 we have continued to reap benefits from the establishment of the Junior Tidy Towns group in 2014. We have expanded the number of members and are delighted that we have ongoing renewal of the team each year.

We continue to encourage the formal involvement of the residents from each of the residential estates and have worked to ensure that the leads for each estate remained in place again for the 2022 campaign.

We expanded our structure in 2016 to accommodate the 1916 Commemoration and Mens Sheds Sub-Committees. These are two initiatives that have greatly enhanced the profile of Tidy Towns locally and beyond. The 1916 Commemorate group has continued in operation as we plan an appropriate long term memorial for this key moment in our nations's history.

How the plan is presented

Each adjudication area is presented separately below.

Within each adjudication area, a Gantt chart is presented first which shows each of the currently agreed projects on the 3 year road-map.

Each project is presented as one line on the Gantt Chart.

The bar to the right in blue shows the expected duration of the project. The column headings indicate the year and month related to the duration.

A short description is provided underneath the Gantt chart relating to each adjudication area which briefly describes the project.

Work Streams

Community Involvement and Planning

Task Name	Qtr 1, 2020			Qtr 3, 2020			Qtr 1, 2021			Qtr 3, 2021			Qtr 1, 2022			Qtr 3, 2022		
	January	March	May	July	September	November	January	March	May	July	September	November	January	March	May	July	September	November
	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E
- Tidy Towns 2020-2022 Plan	[Gantt bar]																	
- Community - Your Planning and Involvement	[Gantt bar]																	
- Internal / External Organisation Networking	[Gantt bar]																	
- Media Promotions	[Gantt bar]																	
- Funding Initiatives	[Gantt bar]																	
- Feile Ghalbhaile	[Gantt bar]																	
- Community Social Events	[Gantt bar]																	
- Community Information Events	[Gantt bar]																	
- Community Noticeboard	[Gantt bar]																	
- Educational Events / Seminars	[Gantt bar]																	
- Galbally TT WEB Site	[Gantt bar]																	
- Galbally Scenic Calendar	[Gantt bar]																	

- Internal / External Organisation Networking, this includes the liaison with all agencies external to our community and all internal community organisations and associations.
- Media Promotions, this includes all PR work with local and national media regarding our Tidy Towns Committee work.
- Funding Initiatives, responsibility for all fund raising endeavour which will be used to support our project roadmap.

- Feile Ghallbhaile, we held our first successful Feile in August 2014 but have been unable to hold it in the last couple of years due to the pandemic. We are currently reviewing this for this year. The main idea behind the event is to promote traditional arts, singing, music and dance in our community.
- Community Noticeboard, has been enhanced for the 2022 campaign. See Entry Form for details.
- Educational Events, we have held a number of educational events in the past year, see Entry Form for details.
- Galbally Tidy Towns Web-Site, we launched our own website for the 2018 campaign and this is maintained each year. See Entry Form for details.
- Galbally Scenic Calendar, we continue to produce the Scenic Calendar each year, see Entry Form for details.

- Information Signs, ongoing works in this area, 2022 activity detailed in Entry Form.
- Derelict Housing Estate, ongoing works in this area, 2022 activity detailed in Entry Form.
- Historical Walks / Tourist Information, ongoing works in this area, 2022 activity detailed in Entry Form.
- Sewage System Campaign, to upgrade our sewage system, we have commenced a consultation process with Limerick and City County Council, progress expected over the coming year.
- Garryspillane, Mitchelstown and Tipperary Roads renewal, in consultation with Limerick City and County Council, we have made substantial progress this year, documented in our entry.
- Footpath Improvement, first phase of this plan completed in 2015/16, will continue up to 2022.
- Hydrant Repair and General Renewal, see Entry Form for 2022 works.
- Heritage Poem Sign, ongoing.

Green Spaces and Landscaping

Task Name	Du	Qtr 1, 2020			Qtr 3, 2020			Qtr 1, 2021			Qtr 3, 2021			Qtr 1, 2022			Qtr 3, 2022			
		January	March	May	July	September	November	January	March	May	July	September	November	January	March	May	July	September	November	
		M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M
- Green Spaces and Landscaping	2																			
Grass Verges	2																			
Native Tree Planting Expansion	2																			
Flower Beds and Tubs Renewal	2																			
Window Boxes Renewal and Expansion	2																			
Flower / Shrub Beds Renewal	2																			
Review Of Priests Cross Corner planting	1																			
Graveyard Bridge Flower Installation	15																			
Tipperary Road Railing Flower Installation	15																			
Kerbstone Renewal - Moore Abbey	15																			

- Grass strips, ongoing maintenance of grass strips, see current Entry form.
- Native Tree Planting, ongoing activity in this area, see Entry Form for 2022 works. Ensuring that where possible, only native varieties of tree are grown in our public spaces.
- Flower Tubs Renewal, the ongoing review and renewal of all flower tubs across our public spaces.
- Window Boxes Renewal and expansion, working with members of the local community to achieve the necessary renewal of window boxes as well as enlisting new community members to this initiative. See Entry form for 2022 progress.
- Flower / Shrub Beds Renewal, the ongoing maintenance and renewal of all the flower and shrub beds across our public spaces. We have agreed Community Owners for all our flower and shrub beds for the start of the 2022 campaign. See Entry Form for specific works undertaken in 2022.
- Graveyard Bridge Flower Installation, ongoing

- Tipperary Road Railing Flower Installation, ongoing.

Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality

Task Name	Duration	Qtr 1, 2020			Qtr 3, 2020			Qtr 1, 2021			Qtr 3, 2021			Qtr 1, 2022			Qtr 3, 2022			Qtr 4, 2022			
		January	March		May		July	September		November	January	March		May		July	September		November	December			
		M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M	B	E	M
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	2																						
Galbally Ecological Park	15																						
River Management	15																						
National Bee Pollination Plan Participation	15																						
Insect Castle	15																						
Control of Aquatic Vegetation Plan	15																						
Invasive Species Identification and Action Plan	2																						
Bat and Bird Boxes	2																						
National Tree Week Participation	2																						
Community Education Program	2																						
School Education Program	2																						
National Biodiversity Week Participation	2																						
Native Tree Initiative Nursery	25																						
Biodiversity Action Plan	25																						

- Galbally Ecological Park, we have purchased 3.75 acres of land for this purpose. See Entry Form for details and plan for the future.
- River Management, we worked with the Fisheries Board during the year and have completed a number of public information events over the years, the latest in this year. See Entry form for details. This is an ongoing exercise.
- National Bee Pollination Plan Participation. We have continued our efforts to support this initiative in 2022, see Entry Form for details.
- Insect Castle. See entry form for details.
- Control of Aquatic Vegetation Plan, we have continued our work in this area in 2022, see Entry Form for details.

- Invasive Species Identification and Action Plan, we have continued our work in this area in 2022, see Entry Form for details.
- Bat and Bird Boxes, ongoing activity in this area, see Entry Form for 2022 works completed.
- National Tree Week Participation, participated fully this year 2022 and plan to maintain this participation in coming years.
- Community Education Program, ongoing activity in this area, see Entry Form for 2022 activities completed. We will continue to involve external agencies and our Wildlife Biologist and Ecologist in supporting these activities.
- School Education Program, ongoing activity, see Entry Form for 2022 activities completed. We will continue to work with the school in a number of areas over the coming years.
- Wildlife Boards, we will expand the wildlife boards over the coming years.
- Salmon River Rejuvenation Plan, a project to rejuvenate our greatest natural resource, our rivers and re-establish them as leading Salmon Rivers. We have commenced consultation with landowners who bound the river with a view to better informing them of their responsibility towards this great natural resource we have in community. We are working with the Fisheries Board on an achievable plan of works and information events and expect further progress in the next report.
- National Biodiversity Week Participation, we are participating fully in the 2022 National Biodiversity Week. We have organised a number of information events in the Community, see Entry Form for details. We have engaged our Wildlife Biologist again to give talks to each of the classes in the school on the nature of our local environment and the wider significance of Biodiversity.
- Native Tree Planting, we have expanded our Native Tree Surgery and have enlisted the help of our Junior Tidy Towns in the recovery of local native tree seed and planting in our Ecological park See Entry Form for details. We will continue to expand this over the coming years.
- Bio-Diversity Action Plan, we engaged our Wildlife Biologist and he has updated our Bio-Diversity Action Plan. This is in progress.

- Team Limerick Clean-up (TLC) & Regular Litter Patrols. We commenced the TLC in 2015 and have recently completed our 7th year of participation. See Entry Form for details. We supplement this exercise with regular weekly litter patrols on our approach roads while daylight conditions allow.
- Sign Posts/Signage – Cleaning and Painting, ongoing work in this area, see Entry Form for details.
- Fly Posting / Unsightly Advertising Control – ongoing work in this area, see Entry Form for details.
- Litter Disposal / Control Awareness – ongoing work in this area, see Entry Form for details.

- Bridge Renewal and Promotion, planned for 2016/2022, Galbally is very fortunate with its inventory of historical and heritage bridges. We plan to work with external and internal group in renewal of bridges where needed and the promotion of their significance within and outside our community.
- Coursing Club Car Park, works ongoing
- Litter Bins Re-Engineering, ongoing activity based on outcome of Litter Survey.
- Signpost / Signage, rationalisation, introduction, cleaning and painting, ongoing activity, see Entry Form for details.
- Flyposting / Unsightly Advertising, ongoing activity, see Entry Form for details.
- Untidy Areas Review and Remedy, ongoing activity based on the outputs from the ongoing Litter Survey. Based on the output from our Litter Survey, we have seen great improvement in the areas identified, see results in the Entry Form.
- Litter Disposal / Control Awareness, ongoing education / communication exercise with local school and community in general.

Sustainability – Doing More with less

Task Name	Qtr 1, 2020			Qtr 3, 2020			Qtr 1, 2021			Qtr 3, 2021			Qtr 1, 2022			Qtr 3, 2022			Qtr 1, 2023		
	January	April		July	October		January	April		July	October		January	April		July	October		January		
	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E
Sustainability - Doing More with Less																					
Water Capture at Community Centre																					
Reusable Coffee Cups and loyalty scheme in Cummins Shop																					
Reusing Packaging Project - Jam Jars, Bird Nuts Containers, Shopping bags																					
Free Second Hand Books Initiative - Mulveys Coffee Shop																					
Fast Food Restaurant - Styrofoam to Biogradable																					
Galbally National School - Green Flag Support																					
Cardboard Recycling																					
Paper Composting																					
Local Produced Compost Material																					
Waste Prevention and Minimisation Seminars																					
Bat / Bird Boxes from recycled materials																					
Bord Na N'Og Toy Re-Use Fundraising																					
Coursing Club Hall Re-Use/Re-Cycling Store																					

- Water Capture at Community Centre, this is a project that is in progress in 2022. The captured water is to be used to water the plant and flower beds in the village area.
- Reusable Coffee Cups and Incentive Scheme in Cummins Shop. 2022 project, see Entry Form for details.
- Reusing Packaging Project – Jam Jars, Bird Nuts Containers, Shopping Bags, 2022 project, see Entry Form for details.
- Free Second Hand Books Initiative, Mulveys Coffee Shop, 2022 project, see Entry Form for details.
- Galbally National School, Green Flag Award. We assisted the School in their recent attainment of the Water Conservation Green Flag and are now supporting them in Green Schools Action Plan. See Entry Form for details.
- Cardboard Recycling, ongoing activity, see Entry Form for details.

- Bat / Bird Boxes from recycled materials, ongoing activity, see Entry Form for details.
- Coursing Club Hall Re-Use / Recycling Store, ongoing support of this worthwhile commercial enterprise in our community.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas

Task Name	Qtr 1, 2020			Qtr 3, 2020			Qtr 1, 2021			Qtr 3, 2021			Qtr 1, 2022			Qtr 3, 2022			Qtr 1, 2023			
	January		April	July		October	January		April	July		October	January		April	July		October	January			
	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B
Residential Streets & Housing Areas																						
Estate Competitions																						
Gardens / Common Areas																						
Colour Scheme																						
Unfinished Estate, Tipperary Road																						
Estate Signage																						

- Estate Competitions, a project to encourage pride of place initiatives within the estates in our community. This commenced in 2015 and has been revised in 2022.
- Gardens / Common Areas, ongoing activity to review all landscaping needs in our estates and implement / influence remedial action plans
- Aherlow Close Colour Scheme and Landscaping, we have identified this estate as requiring a very tailored project to address its visual and landscaping aspects. Currently attempting to gain approval and funding for this project from Limerick Co Co as they are the responsible agency.

Approach Roads, Streets and Lanes

Task Name	Qtr 1, 2020			Qtr 3, 2020			Qtr 1, 2021			Qtr 3, 2021			Qtr 1, 2022			Qtr 3, 2022			Qtr 1, 2023					
	January		April	July		October		January		April	July		October		January		April	July		October		January		
	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes																								
Road Surface Renewal - In Village and Approaches																								
Tipperary Road - Ditch Dry Stone Facing																								
Roadside Verge Maintenance																								
Field Gates New Painting Template and Renewal																								
Ecological Park Access Project																								
Footpath Extension for Loop Walk																								
Traffic Control																								

- Road Surface Renewal – ongoing activity, see Entry Form for details.
- Roadside Verge Maintenance, ongoing activity, see Entry Form for details.
- Ecological Park Access Project. We have recently completed the purchase of 3.75 acres of land on the Mitchelstown road adjacent to the village and have plans to use these lands as an Ecological Park and also a commemoration site for the 1916 rising. We have commenced discussions with Limerick City and County Council re: assistance with a pathway to the Park. These discussions are ongoing and will continue into next year when we hope to have this in place.
- Traffic Control, this is a very real concern of all our community members and we have been working with external agencies to implement a traffic control plan in our community. We have worked with Limerick City and County Council on the deployment of speed warning technology on the village approach roads. See Entry Form for details

Risks

All good programs need to consider the risks to their achievement. We see ours as no different. We have undertaken a risk analysis of the key risks to the successful execution of our program as follows. It will be a measure of our competence as a team on how well we mitigate these risks in the challenging environment that the country finds itself.

A Ref.	B Date raised	C Author	D Summary Description of Risk	E Probability of Occurrence (1, 2 or 3) [▼]	F Severity of Impact (1, 2 or 3) [▼]	G P x I	H Countermeasures	I Owner	J Status
001	04-Jan-22	Jim Cussen	Insufficient human resource within our community in undertaking the projects, in particular as our population decreases in line with other rural communities in Ireland.	2	3	6	We have reconstituted our Tidy Towns Committee to give it a broader base within our community. Additionally, we have focussed on appealing to individuals in our community to own certain projects or features in our village landscape with a view to maintaining them through out the year. In particular, we have achieved commitment from individuals to own the flower beds as they live close by and thus ensures a good maintenance regime in the coming year.	Jim Cussen / Tim Ryan	Active
002	04-Jan-22	Jim Cussen	Funding is an ongoing challenge and may impact our ability to deliver the projects in our roadmap.	2	3	6	We expect that the only paid labour on our projects will be where we have specific expertise requirements e.g. the Wildlife Biologist and the Ecologist we have engaged for our Ecological Park Plan. It is our intention to harness the skill set of our community members in voluntary capacities, in the most part to address any skill requirements we have. Additionally, we will review all items of expenditure very carefully and appeal to community members to provide materials where needed. We also hope to appeal to our diaspora abroad to support our initiatives by using the social media toolset available to us.	Jim Cussen / Tim Ryan	Active