

## **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.

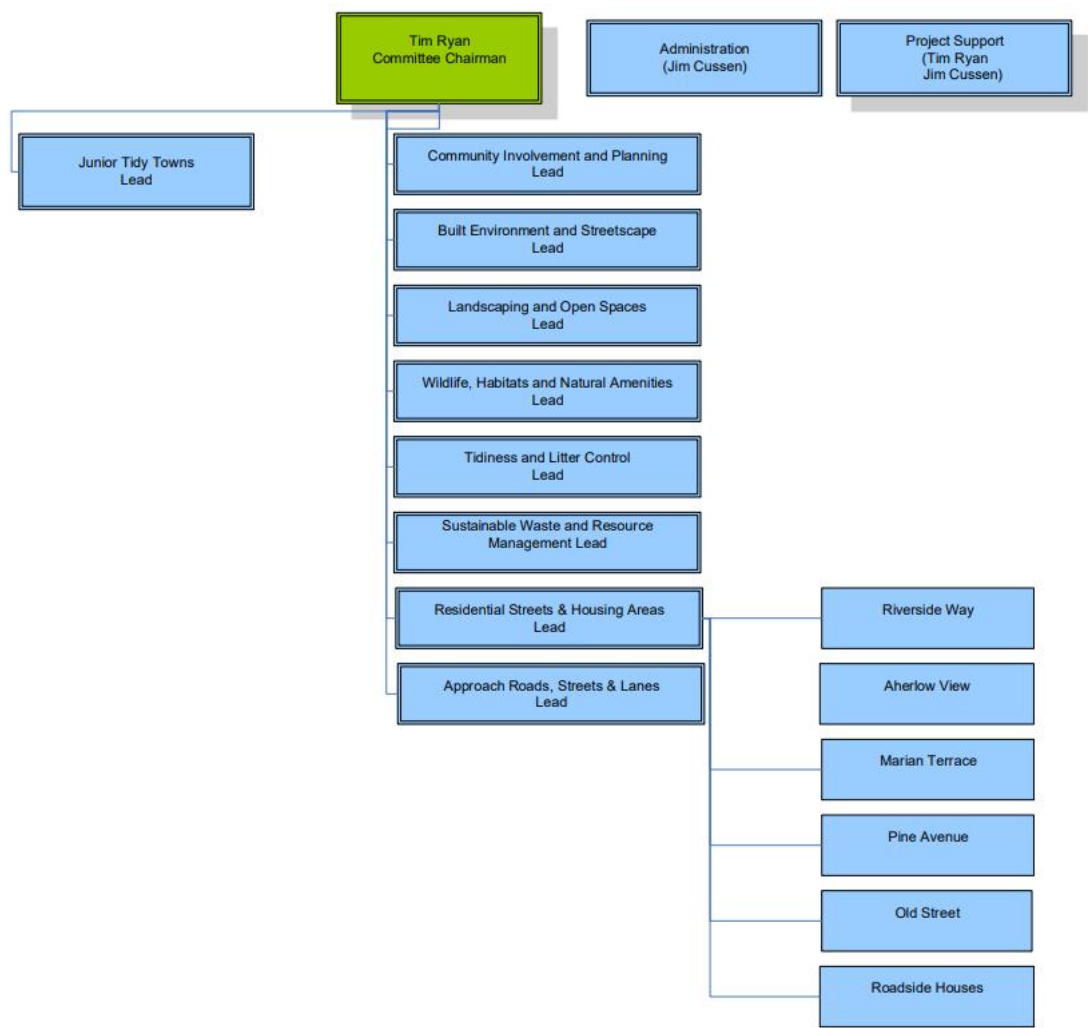
In addition, it draws its membership from community members who have skills in a wide range of areas that can be deployed to the benefit of the community.

We have a new committee structure for the 2025 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 2025 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 2025 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

	2025				2026				2027			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
▢ Tidy Towns 2025-2027 Plan												
▢ Community - Your Planning and Involvement												
Internal / External Organisation Networking												
Media Promotions												
Funding Initiatives												
Community Social Events												
Community Information Events												
Community Noticeboard												
Educational Events / Seminars												
Galbally TT Web Site & Social Media												
Galbally Scenic Calendar												

- 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.
- Community Noticeboard, has been enhanced for the 2025 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 in 2018 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.

## Streetscape and Public Spaces

	2025				2026				2027			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>Tidy Towns 2025-2027 Plan</b>												
<b>Community - Your Planning and Involvement</b>												
<b>Streetscape &amp; Public Places</b>												
Traditional Shop Front Signs												
Village Estate Signage												
Galbally Village Park												
Derelict House renewal												
General Building Aspect renewal												
Information Signs												
Sewage System Campaign												
Historical Walks / Tourist Information												
Garryspillane, Mitchelstown & Tipperary road surface renewal												
Footpath Improvement												
Hydrant Repair and General Renewal												
Heritage Poem Sign - Village Square												
Heritage Poem Sign - Moor Abbey												
Historical Site Project - Audio Visual and Web based												
Community Orchard												

- Traditional Shop Front Signs, ongoing works in this area
- Village Estate Signage – ongoing works in this area
- Galbally Village Park, ongoing works in this area
- Derelict House Renewal, ongoing works in this area, 2025 activity detailed in Entry Form.
- General Building Aspect Renewal, ongoing works in this area, 2025 activity detailed in Entry Form.
- Information Signs, ongoing works in this area, 2025 activity detailed in Entry Form.

- Derelict Housing Estate, ongoing works in this area, 2025 activity detailed in Entry Form.
- Historical Walks / Tourist Information, ongoing works in this area, 2025 activity detailed in Entry Form.
- Sewage System Campaign, to upgrade our sewage system, we have commenced a consultation process with Limerick 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, ongoing works in this area.
- Hydrant Repair and General Renewal, ongoing works in this area.
- Heritage Poem Signs, project currently in progress
- Community Orchard, a new project we commenced this year and will expand in future years

## Green Spaces and Landscaping

	2025				2026				2027			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
▢ Tidy Towns 2025-2027 Plan												
▢ Community - Your Planning and Involvement												
▢ Streetscape & Public Places												
▢ Green Spaces and Landscaping												
Grass Verges												
Native Tree Planting Expansion												
Flower Beds and Tubs Renewal												
Window Boxes Renewal and Expansion												
Flower / Shrub Beds Renewal												
Graveyard Bridge Flower Installation												
Tipperary Road Railing Flower Installation												
Kerbstone Renewal - Moore Abbey												

- Grass strips, ongoing maintenance of grass strips, see current Entry form.
- Native Tree Planting, ongoing activity in this area, see Entry Form for 2025 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 2025 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 2025 campaign. See Entry Form for specific works undertaken in 2025.
- Graveyard Bridge Flower Installation, ongoing

- Tipperary Road Railing Flower Installation, ongoing.
- Moor Abbey kerb store renewal, ongoing.

## Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality

	2025				2026				2027			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>Tidy Towns 2025-2027 Plan</b>												
Community - Your Planning and Involvement												
Streetscape & Public Places												
<b>Green Spaces and Landscaping</b>												
<b>Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality</b>												
Galbally Ecological Park												
Riparian Tree Project												
Elm Tree Project												
Ash Tree Project												
Red Squirrel Habitat Project												
Native Orchid Protection Project												
National Bee Polination Plan Participation												
Insect Castle												
Control of Aquatic Vegetation												
Invasive Species Identification and Action Plan												
Bat and Bird Boxes												
National Tree Week Participation												
Community Education Program												
School Education Program												
National Biodiversity Week Participation												
Native Tree Initiative Nursery												
Biodiversity Action Plan												

- Galbally Ecological Park, see Entry Form for details.
- Riparian Tree Project, started this year and will continue for the next 3 years.
- Elm Tree and Ash Tree projects, see entry form for details.
- Native Orchid protection project, see entry form for details. Ongoing.

- 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 2025, 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 2025, see Entry Form for details.
- Invasive Species Identification and Action Plan, we have continued our work in this area in 2025, see Entry Form for details.
- Bat and Bird Boxes, ongoing activity in this area, see Entry Form for 2025 works completed.
- National Tree Week Participation, participated fully this year 2025 and plan to maintain this participation in coming years.
- Community Education Program, ongoing activity in this area, see Entry Form for 2025 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 2025 activities completed. We will continue to work with the school in a number of areas over the coming years.
- National Biodiversity Week Participation, we are participating fully in the 2025 National Biodiversity Week. We have organised a number of information events in the Community, see Entry Form for details.
- 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.

***Tidiness and Litter Control***

	2025				2026				2027			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
▢ Tidy Towns 2025-2027 Plan												
▢ Community - Your Planning and Involvement												
▢ Streetscape & Public Places												
▢ Green Spaces and Landscaping												
▢ Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality												
▢ Tidiness and Litter Control												
Retail Goods on Pavements												
Litter Survey & Monitoring Plan												
Bring Centre Promotion												
Team Limerick Cleanup												
National Spring Clean												
Signposts / Signage - Cleaning and Painting												
Fly Posting / Unsightly Advertising Control												
Litter Disposal / Control Awareness												

- Retail Goods on Pavement, ongoing activity in this area,
- Litter Survey & Monitoring Plan, ongoing activity in this area, see Entry Form for work completed in 2025. We have made very meaningful progress.
- Bin Policy, using the output from the Litter Survey to inform what we do with our bins and executing same. Ongoing.
- Bring Centre Promotion, ongoing promotion exercise on the benefits of using our local Bring Centre and the Council run Bring Centres in our administrative area which cater for other types of recyclable waste and waste disposal.
- Team Limerick Clean-up (TLC) & Regular Litter Patrols. We commenced the TLC in 2015 and have recently completed our 10<sup>th</sup> 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.



- National Spring Clean, see entry form for details. Ongoing.
- 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.
- 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

	2025				2026				2027			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>Tidy Towns 2025-2027 Plan</b>												
Community - Your Planning and Involvement												
Streetscape & Public Places												
Green Spaces and Landscaping												
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality												
Tidiness and Litter Control												
<b>Sustainability - Doing More with Less</b>												
Water Capture Promotion												
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												
Galbally National School - Green Flag Support												
Cardboard Recycling												
Paper Composting												
Local Produced Compost Material												
Local Flower Growing												
Waste Prevention and Minimisation Seminars												
Bat / Bird Boxes from recycled materials												
Sustainable Cooking Information Events												
Holy Smokes - Candle Wax Up Cycling												
A Bulb for a Bulb - Light Bulb Disposal												

- Water Capture at Community Centre, this is a project that is in progress in 2025. 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. 2025 project, see Entry Form for details.
- Reusing Packaging Project – Jam Jars, Bird Nuts Containers, Shopping Bags, 2025 project, see Entry Form for details.

- Free Second Hand Books Initiative, Mulveys Coffee Shop, Ongoing. See Entry Form for details.
- Galbally National School, Green Flag Support. We assist in all their Green School initiatives. 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.
- Local Flower growing, all our flowers are grown locally, see Entry Form for details.
- Sustainable Cooking Information Events, held annually, see Entry Form for details
- Bat/Bird Boxes, made from recycled materials, ongoing.
- Holy Smokes, a new innovative project to upcycle candle wax, first year 2025.
- A Bulb for a Bulb, a new campaign supported by our local retailer, first year 2025.

## Residential Streets &amp; Housing Areas

	2025				2026				2027			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>Tidy Towns 2025-2027 Plan</b>												
Community - Your Planning and Involvement												
Streetscape & Public Places												
Green Spaces and Landscaping												
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality												
Tidiness and Litter Control												
Sustainability - Doing More with Less												
<b>Residential Streets &amp; Housing Areas</b>												
Estate Competitions												
Gardens / Common Areas												
Social Housing Colour Scheme												
Estate Signage												
Childrens Playground and Seating Area												
Community Notice Board												

- 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 2025.
- Gardens / Common Areas, ongoing activity to review all landscaping needs in our estates and implement / influence remedial action plans
- Social Housing Colour Scheme and Landscaping, we have identified this estate as requiring a very tailored project to address its visual and landscaping aspects. Ongoing.
- Estate Signage, dual language signage, ongoing.
- Childrens Playground and Seating Area, ongoing maintenance.

- Community Notice Board, relaunched as an information facility in our community, ongoing.

## Approach Roads, Streets and Lanes

	2025				2026				2027			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>Tidy Towns 2025-2027 Plan</b>												
+ Community - Your Planning and Involvement												
+ Streetscape & Public Places												
+ Green Spaces and Landscaping												
+ Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality												
+ Tidiness and Litter Control												
+ Sustainability - Doing More with Less												
+ Residential Streets & Housing Areas												
- Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes												
Road Surface Renewal - In Village and Approaches												
Tipperary Road - Railing Maintenance												
Roadside Verge Maintenance												
Field Gates Renewal												
Signage on Approach Roads												
Tipperary Road - Stone Wall Maintenance												
Picnic Area Maintenance												

- Road Surface Renewal – ongoing activity, see Entry Form for details.
- Tipperary Road, Railing maintenance, commenced painting this railing in 2025. Ongoing.
- Tipperary Road, Stone Wall maintenance, ongoing maintenance.
- Roadside Verge Maintenance, ongoing activity, see Entry Form for details.
- Field Gates renewal, ongoing maintenance.
- Signage on Approach roads, ongoing maintenance.

- Traffic Control, ongoing liaison with external agencies re: traffic control plan.
- Picnic area, ongoing maintenance of the picnic areas at the Priests Cross, Village bus stop, Moor Abbey and Tipperary approach road.

## 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