

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILCULLEN**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18
Landscaping	40	26
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	19
Tidiness	20	11
Residential Areas	30	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26
General Impression	10	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>181</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the new format of the 1996 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your detailed questionnaire and map which was helpful during the course of adjudication, and for your detailed work programme, which was helpful to the adjudicator. You have fairly extensive works proposed, some of these had been completed at time of adjudication, while others have yet to be carried out. You have a relatively good developmental approach through the encouragement of innovative colour schemes, use of flowers, landscaping etc. The adjudicator looks forward to the submission of your detailed five year work programme. Try to continue to improve your shopfronts. The adjudicators look forward to the completion of additional projects.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Riverside Park is a tremendous amenity and is one which you should continue to enhance, particularly with wildflowers if possible. It was nice to see the extensive tree planting on the approach from the by-pass also. There is potential for increased nature conservation throughout Kilcullen. A good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats in your catchment areas and see what species of animals, fish, plants etc. these attract. Why not get involved with your local environmental experts and groups who could advise you and provide you with the specialist information you require. Try also to provide some information on wildlife in the area in Riverside Park.

### LANDSCAPING

Generally, landscaping was quite good throughout Kilcullen this year, congratulations in this regard. Tree planting was noted at King Koil, but some additional landscaping should also be encouraged to enhance this area and take from the unattractive building itself. Very good efforts were noted at the square by the bridge, with good use of flowers. On the riverside near here, grass had been well maintained but small sprinklings of litter were noted, and try to fix the seats. Planting was also noted opposite Leinster Marts. The tree planting and flower tubs on the Main Street is to be commended, well done, this will be very attractive in years to come. On the approach roads there is evidence of preparation of landscaped areas and maintenance of grassed areas. The Riverside Park was looking very well (small sprinklings were noted at the entrance to this park on the Dunlavin Road, but wasn't too bad). Overall, a good performance in this section.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

A good presentation overall in this section. Continued improvements were noted again this year, well done! You must encourage more shops to renovate their shopfronts, particularly those using plastic signage. Some of the premises that could be encouraged to improve include Express America, Chinese Takeaway; the ESSO Station; the plastic canopy at Dowlings should be removed; Yankee Star could be improved and try to remove the bunting from the Hideout. The Eastern Health Board continues to be a problem and Leinster Marts grounds and the area to the front of it could also be improved. The perimeter wall and gateway of the primary school would benefit from painting. Having said that, there are excellent examples of very attractive shopfronts throughout Kilcullen and one you should be proud of. Several premises were noted by the adjudicator which deserve a mention: The White Horse Inn; The Garda Station; the Church and its grounds, with a new entrance noted opposite; Kilcullens Boys National School (Library); Credit Union; Snells/Bookkeepers (not yet complete, noted); McTiernans; OConnells and Bierneys were good; the Bank of Ireland was very well presented as was the Town Hall and the area to the left of it; the planting in Pat Donnelly's garage was an excellent presentation, congratulations. It is nice to see a very attractive design at First Cuts; Haye's was also very attractive as was Nolans, Reidy Stafford. The new chemist was noted, well done. Bardons is a very attractive building but try to remove the bunting. An Tearmann is also a nice premises. The secondary school and convent was well presented at time of adjudication. Try to continue improvements over the coming years.

## LITTER CONTROL

The adjudicator were extremely disappointed with the level of litter control throughout Kilcullen this year. Over the last few years Kilcullen has come on very well in its attention to detail and control of litter, but unfortunately, litter was a problem this year. Litter control and tidiness now constitutes 20% of the overall marks. Litter was evident in a number of places, which took from the overall appearance, including at a farmyard entrance on Hillside Road; at the Leinster Marts sign; at the traffic lights and opposite the Hideout in Kilcullen (this was extremely bad). The main road opposite Conroy Park was also particularly bad. It left a very negative impression with the adjudicator. Having said that, along the Main Street and down by the bridge area was very neat and tidy, congratulations in this regard and it was nice to note some very attractive new litter bins. You are going to have to work hard to overcome the litter control problem as it is an integral part of the competition now.

## TIDINESS

Apart from the problem of litter mentioned above, Kilcullen has a relatively tidy appearance. Hillside was tidy apart from litter on the right hand side the farmyard as mentioned above. Weeds were noted in the tennis court. The roadway down to the slipway was very untidy. Nice paving was noted outside Corcorans. At the ESB, graffiti was noted on the ESB Box outside. The car park of the Hideout could also be improved, perhaps some tree planting here might be nice. Try to replace the signage at Norma Jeans. The fencing on the approach leading up to the Pitch and Putt is not great. Generally, improvements are noted, for example - cobble locking on the Main Street complimented by good use of flower tubs and flowers in some premises creates a very positive impression. The approach roads generally are quite good, which also helped in improving the appearance of tidiness, but, again, litter control was a big negative factor here and one which was not expected to be found in Kilcullen.

## RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The adjudicators were very impressed with residential areas this year, with an excellent effort noted in many premises, both with residential parks and individual efforts. Good efforts were noted with the cottage on the right hand side on the approach road from Naas. At Moanbane Park, grass was well maintained including edging of grass which showed attention to detail. Good effect was noted with the use of flowers, try to work on the pathway which needs some attention. At the park opposite Moanbane Park, weeds were noted, which should be tackled. The entrance to Bishop Rogan Park was excellent, with good planting within the park. Some weeds took from the overall appearance but this is a very attractive residential area. Many good efforts were noted with many premises on Hillside. Within the other parks, Nicholastown, an excellent improvement with the completion of road works, kerbing of the green area and good maintenance of this. Some premises within this park could benefit from painting. Avondale Drive was also very well presented with extensive tree planting and flowers noted at the entrance. Conroy Park and Brigids Avenue also had very good presentations, particularly at their entrances. Sunbury was also relatively well presented. The area by Logstown was also very neat and tidy. Overall, an excellent effort here and one which you should be proud of, try to repeat this throughout the town in terms of litter control.

## ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

A good performance under this category. On the approach road from Naas, a new stone bed was noted at the sign, planting was taking place at the time of adjudication but not complete. It was a good impression, helped by the presence of Moanbane grassed area on the left hand side and the presence of flowers on the right hand side. The tree planting is also coming on well and planting was also noted opposite Pat Donnelly, some long grass was noted here in the planting, try to pay attention to this. The approach road from Logstown, as stated above was a very good presentation. The adjudicators were very impressed with the improvement that has been made with the motorway, particularly, in the extensive tree planting that has taken place. Approaching from Newbridge, the Castle Martin Studs sets off the approach road very well. Closer in, the Kilcullen sign needs to be improved. Litter was a problem approaching the traffic lights. The hedge between Avondale Drive and the school needs to be improved.

On the approach road from Dunlavin, grass verges and hedges were neatly cut, the trees area coming on well. Nice planting was also noted at the bend and perhaps the old sign needs to be upgraded. Apart from the general area around the traffic lights, Main Street and the bridge area were very neat and tidy.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is obvious that there is a strong commitment under this competition in the town of Kilcullen. A lot of works are evident. You have made good progress over the last few years. There is a new emphasis on this competition in terms of control of litter and in the enhancement of natural amenities, particularly in relation to wildlife. The adjudicators impression was, unfortunately, very much lessened by the problem of litter this year, which was unexpected. Good luck for next year and try to overcome this - try to include school children during the summer months in litter patrols.