

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILKEA**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 15-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18
Landscaping	40	25
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	26
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>187</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the new format of the 1996 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed questionnaire and area map. A more detailed map of the village itself would be helpful for adjudication purposes. For next years adjudication, try to include a map which highlight the improvements that have taken place, or any problem areas. The adjudicator looks forward to the submission of your five year work programme for the improvements to Kilkea.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The comments are noted in the questionnaire about the game sanctuary. The adjudicator visited Mullacreeelan Wood and it was nice to see a squirrel in the car park at time of adjudication. This area was very much litter free. Within the river area, there was a nice attractive bridge, and in the river area itself - trout were evident and there was a nice variety of vegetation with good insect life noted, including Dragonfly. Try to look at other areas where improvements to wildlife habitats could be made and also try to encourage more tree planting, or wildflowers on the approaches.

### LANDSCAPING

The adjudicator would like to congratulate Kilkea on the presentation of Kilkea grounds with new golf course - very good landscaping and extensive tree planting had taken place. This, already magnificent landscaped area, will be even better in years to come. The grounds of the Church were beautifully maintained, well done. Tree planting was noted on the approaches, but try to encourage more of this. The adjudicator noted a fairly disappointing presentation at Bound Bush at the triangle. Grass was over grown and try to paint the seat and the "Yield" sign and pole. The pump area was well maintained.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

A very good presentation was noted under this category this year. There were very attractively designed houses with attractive stone finish on the majority of buildings, which looked quite well on day of adjudication. The new building at the school grounds was noted, parts of the wall needs to be painted, as do the gates. The Church and its grounds were very well presented and in a very attractive setting. Kilkea Stores looked well, but watch the weeds outside and try to paint up the flower boxes. Kilkea Castle is magnificent, was looking beautiful at time of adjudication and it is very nice to see a very attractive development of the club house at Kilkea Golf Course. Finally, try to perhaps screen off the sewage plant area near the residential houses.

### LITTER CONTROL

Small amounts of litter were evident on the left hand side and right hand side of the approach roads where grass verges had been cut. Try to follow through with litter collection and perhaps a neater cut. Otherwise, the village was relatively litter free.

### TIDINESS

Kilkea was looking quite well in terms of tidiness this year. Try to improve the street furniture as the presentation this year lessened the impact. Signs in some cases needed to be cleaned up, although the Kilkea nameplates themselves were okay. The kiosk was painted up but the glass could be replaced as it took from the overall appearance. The post box could be freshened up for next year. Try to paint the pump and the seating also, for example, by the residential estate. Also, the flower tubs need to be painted up, and other signage, e.g. the Yield sign still hasn't been improved.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The presentation of residential premises in Kilkea was to a very high standard again this year, congratulations! Excellent efforts were noted within individual efforts, with one in particular with its use of flower tubs and hanging baskets and also with another for its planting, i.e. snap dragons - try to perhaps to paint up the shed opposite this. It was nice to see that the gate lodge had been painted up and is a very attractive building. Overall, a very good performance again this year.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the approach road from Castledermot, litter was evident where grass had been cut back. Grass verges were well maintained on the approach to the bridge. The points made by the triangle by Bound Bush should be noted. On the approach from Athy, there was also quite a good presentation with grass verges cut back and planting was noted on the right hand side closer in. Good efforts were also noted in the residential areas. In general, try to remove litter where verges have been cut back and try to have a neater approach similar to that opposite the school.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Overall, Kilkea is a very attractive village. The fact that it is quite small would suggest that a lot of marks could be gained from a little effort. In this regard, try to encourage more tree planting, more use of flowers, ensure that all street furniture is painted up as it takes from the overall appearance. Good luck for next year and the adjudicator looks forward to further visits.