

Tidy Towns 1996

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILL**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 25-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18
Landscaping	40	34
The Built Environment	40	31
Litter Control	40	31
Tidiness	20	17
Residential Areas	30	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>230</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 map which were helpful during the course of adjudication. You have a very good developmental approach throughout the town with good treatment of open spaces, attention to the presentation of buildings, and good litter control overall. The adjudicators look forward to the submission of your detailed five year work programme. In this try to set out a number of practical steps in order to enhance an already, very well presented town. Try to be innovative and don't be afraid to experiment. Good luck for 1997.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You are providing opportunities and habitats for wildlife, which is encouraging to see, through the presence of the river, the variety of tree planting and shrubbery. Try to encourage more of this as, in general, there is greater scope for nature conservation. A good starting point would be to identify wildlife habitats in your catchment area and see what type of birds, animals and fish etc. these attract. You could invite local environmental experts and groups to advise you and provide you with specialist information you require. Try also to get the school children involved to create awareness and to develop projects under this category. The adjudicators look forward to your proposals and your five year work programme in this regard, as it is an area where you can substantially increase your marks.

### LANDSCAPING

The adjudicators were impressed with the presentation of landscaping areas throughout the town of Kill this year. Congratulations on the effort and maintenance of these to all responsible. It was nice to see that the grass verges along by the Motorway to the front of the town were well maintained. There is a very attractive view of the river passing here. A beautifully landscaped bank was noted near the Church of Ireland. The pump area, although a simple presentation, was very attractive. The presentation of the river is fantastic. A good visual impact is created by the stepped weirs. A very attractive rose bed in full bloom was noted on the road to Kill Equestrian Centre, which was nicely complimented by cobble locking surrounding it. The simple, yet very affective, presentation at the road junction to Kill Equestrian Centre also creates a very positive impact, with the pump and seating areas well presented also. It is easy to see why the town of Kill does so well when one looks at the maintenance of these landscaped areas. Overall, a very good presentation, well done. Continue your efforts to further improve this.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Overall, the majority of premises were well presented on day of adjudication. Congratulations on the maintenance of these premises. Again, there is attention to detail here. The grounds of the Ambassador Hotel were very well presented. St. Johns Church is a very nice presentation within the village. Outside was very well presented also. Kill Betting Office is one of the nicer betting offices seen by the adjudicators during the course of adjudication. Well done. Clarendon Court is very well presented (very neat and tidy). The new development at Noel Byrnes is well presented. The Catholic Church was also very nicely presented, although the perimeter wall to the side would benefit from painting. The school was well maintained. It was nice to see the new development at the Dew Drop. Outside the Village Store was relatively neat and tidy with small sprinklings of litter being swept up at time of adjudication. The only particularly bad area noted by the adjudicators was the grounds of the GAA, which was extremely disappointing, with litter evident, dumping of gravel in the car park and overgrown grass and briars at the fencing. Apart from the GAA, the other premises were well presented.

### LITTER CONTROL

There is very good litter control throughout Kill again this year. This is being rewarded with high marks by the adjudicators. The Main Street was very much litter free, as were the approach roads. One or two

areas where litter was noted included the grounds of the GAA and St. Patricks Park. The areas by the seating were very much litter free. Overall, a very good presentation.

#### TIDINESS

There is a very neat and tidy appearance throughout Kill this year - this is helped by good litter control, freshly painted buildings and well maintained landscaped areas. Other areas that help this include freshly painted litter bins. It was also nice to see the telephone kiosk areas neat and tidy. The only area that possibly could be improved were some signs that needed to be painted up or replaced, e.g. Straffan/Naas finger post signs.

#### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The presentation of residential areas is quite exceptional this year. Congratulations. Unfortunately, there was one area that took from the overall appearance and the adjudicators were very disappointed to note this. There are excellent individual efforts noted throughout many individual premises in Kill this year - examples include the cottage on the Northern Minor Road near the school and also on the Terrace opposite Clarendon Court. River Lawns was one of the best seen with excellent individual effort, e.g. No. 29 and many more, there was an excellent entrance and good presentation of shrubbery. Glen Dara was also beautifully presented. Hartwell Green was also very neat and tidy, with tree planting noted. Whitethorn Grove was also immaculate, although the grassed area to the rear would benefit from cutting. Name plates are needed in some of the parks, you might work on this for next year as the adjudicators could not find them in some. In addition, a very attractive park was also noted on the road leading to the Ambassador Hotel. As stated above, the one very disappointing area was the rear of St. Patricks Park. While the front of it had an excellent presentation, litter and graffiti were evident near the football area within the park itself.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the approach road from the traffic lights a nice presentation was noted with the Failte planting. Well done in this regard. Approaching from Kill Equestrian Centre, again a very neat and tidy appearance was excellent with excellent shrubbery and grassed areas were well maintained. Perhaps one of the 30 MPH sign needs to be replaced. Approaching from the Ambassador Hotel the over hanging trees created a very nice effect, with the grass neatly cut. The tree planting opposite the bus stop is coming on well. All other areas within Kill were well presented in terms of the Main Street, etc. Regrettably, the adjudicators were very disappointed to note the presentation of the car park area of the Dew Drop Inn - the adjudicators noted that there was widespread dumping and lack of attention here. This is an area that must be tackled for next year.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

When the adjudicators entered the village of Kill they realised that they were visiting an excellent village in this competition, which created a very positive impression. It is obvious that there is fantastic commitment by both residential and commercial interests, helped, no doubt, by the co-ordination of the Tidy Towns Committee. The adjudicators commend the efforts here and have awarded marks accordingly. However, the three negative areas noted during the course of adjudication would have to be the presentation of St. Patricks Park by the football area (hopefully this is a hiccup); secondly, the grounds of the GAA and thirdly, the car park of the Dew Drop Inn - try to landscape or screen off this area. Unfortunately, Kill let itself down in these three areas and lost marks as a result. Having said that, the adjudicators would again like to congratulate you on your efforts. The adjudicators enjoyed their visit and look forward to further improvements in the years to come.

#### SECOND ADJUDICATION (13/089/96)

Kill feels like a real haven of peace after the motorway, with its matured and developing landscapes and residential areas of exceptional quality. This adjudication endorses the thorough first adjudication report, and would like to add the school grounds to the list of desirable improvements. An imaginative treatment

to relieve asphalt gloom, using also the path and roadway area, (as it is a cul-de-sac), undertaken hopefully with the participation of the children, could help give a brighter environment to the school surroundings.