

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **MANOR KILBRIDE**  
County : **WICKLOW**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14
Landscaping	40	17
The Built Environment	40	20
Litter Control	40	23
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18
General Impression	10	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>143</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the competition and in particular to the new format of the Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for completed questionnaire and map which was helpful during the course of adjudication. Manor Kilbride is a small attractive village and there is evidence of good efforts in a number of areas. However, that due to the size of the village it should be possible to get a lot of work done if you have co-ordinated efforts by all. Try to encourage individuals to adopt a spot in order to help improve efforts. We look forward to your five year work programme for next year's adjudication. Perhaps in this you might show improvements that have been carried out over the past year and on the map as well.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is potential for greater nature conservation in the village. A good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats in your catchment area and see what species of animals, birds etc. these attract. Why not invite your local environmental experts and groups to advise you and provide you with the special information you require. Is there potential to develop nature walks? Could the streams and the proximity to the reservoir be opened up in some way? For example, a gateway was noted on the road leading up to the graveyard - could something be developed here as a wildlife area?

### LANDSCAPING

More of an effort is needed in maintaining open spaces and grassed areas throughout the village. There are some nice stone wall features and these would be further improved if the grass could be cut and more attention paid to the removal of weeds. The area by the graveyard was relatively well maintained. The grounds of the school were particularly well presented, as were the church grounds. Well done.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of your important buildings were very well presented. St Brigids National School was very well presented with a nice mural noted in the playground. Also, a nice feature was noted in the school ground with the shrubbery with a sign "Where litter lies, the beauty dies", its good to encourage awareness of litter control among the children. The entrance to the Manor was very well presented. The Parish Church grounds was well maintained. The hall needs to be painted but the grounds outside it were not too bad. At W. Craul it was litter free and a good effort was noted with flowers. Further out at Cooneys Bar was in need of painting and replace the broken sign. Overall, with the relatively small amount of buildings it is essential to ensure that they are all very well presented.

### LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was not too bad along the main area, i.e. near shop, church, school etc. Some litter was noted near the Sally Gap junction. Watch the collection of grit and gravel alongside the kerbs - this takes from the overall appearance and also small sprinklings of litter were noted down by the graveyard.

### TIDINESS

Overall, the appearance of the village was not one of neatness and tidiness. More attention is needed in the maintenance of kerbs, removal of weeds and particularly, the removal of grit. Cutting of grass also improves the appearance. Try to remove the collection of gravel by the car parking area at the graveyard.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are some good individual efforts noted with the residential areas, for example, Avonbrook and Ferndell. A number of new developments are taking place which are incorporating nice features, such as

stones walls, e.g. the house being built by Wyckham Builders. Try to encourage the residents to adopt a spot outside their premises, for cutting of grass, planting etc.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The adjudicators did not note nameplates for Manor Kilbride. Perhaps these were located further out. Tree planting was noted at the bend on the approach from the North. Near the Sally Gap junction more landscaping is needed where the thistles were overgrown. Stone walls had been rebuilt on the left hand side. Well done. Try to cut the verges and pay attention to weeds along by kerbs which were quite bad in places. There is room for improvement here.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is some limited evidence of works being carried out. You are going to have to sort out grass verges and remove gravel as this takes from the overall appearance. It is a small village. Try to encourage "adopt a spot" programmes by residents and look at options for the development of wildlife and also for the provision of further tree planting, shrubs and flowers.