

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILLALOE**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 20-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	33
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	202	198

Killaloe, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for completed application form and map which were useful to the adjudicator on the day of adjudication. We note that you are preparing a 3-5 year plan in conjunction with Clare Co Council which will be available next year. This would be helpful, especially in a town like Killaloe which is changing continually and where, at present, a considerable amount of building is taking place in different areas. We also note that you are liaising with Shannon Development on the heritage aspect of Killaloe; FAS on an employment scheme; the ESB/Telecom regarding underground cabling in conjunction with the sewerage scheme and also with the LEADER programme. The local community support for your efforts appears to be considerable. The managed co-ordination of all these elements is important.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

In general the built environment in Killaloe was good, with Church and Cathedral, Schools, Garda Barracks and Post Office tidy and well presented. Business premises such as the East Clinic, Brian Borus Craft Shop, Kincora Hotel, Heaneys and Reddans all looked well. It is good to note the new buildings opposite St. Flannans Cathedral and at the corner of Grand Parade which will make these areas more attractive when completed. However, Ryans Shop in the town centre is now vacant and has become rather an eyesore. Areas also needing attention regarding presentation are the Auctioneers offices on the way in from Clonlara, the Benson Box Factory, Richardsons in the main street and the lodge/shop near Colaiste Naomh Aire.

LANDSCAPING

The tree planting and landscaping of a number of areas including the Canal walk around the town is effective and mostly well maintained. In this regard more signage would be advocated to direct visitors to this amenity. The planting of shrub varieties in certain areas is to be commended, ensuring all year round interest. Planting was noted at the entrance to Killaloe Pitch and Putt. On the Clonlara approach the second stone edged green area facing the tool hire premises needs to be completed as soon as possible - work was also in progress here during last adjudication.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Killaloe is fortunate to have such a broad canvas to work on in this category with the lakeshore, canal and surrounding countryside. We note that there has been protection of natural habitats in all developments and that the river and streams are re-stocked. No doubt when formulating your 3/5 year plan you will also consult with such wildlife experts as the Irish Wildlife Conservancy to explore the avenues open to you in order to put a greater awareness of the natural flora and fauna of Killaloe in focus.

LITTER CONTROL

By and large litter control appears to be quite good in Killaloe and no doubt your Annual Clean-Up Week sponsored by the Council contributes to this situation. We note that some litter bins have been removed and that you are negotiating with the Co Council on this matter. It is important that there are receptacles for waste available as otherwise it is difficult to enforce litter control. During adjudication some litter was to be seen near the green area on the Clonlara approach but, as mentioned above litter control is mostly good.

TIDINESS

Tidiness is difficult to maintain in Killaloe at present due to the on-going sewerage works and a considerable amount of other building taking place around the town. Care should be taken to ensure that when building /sewerage works are completed that all areas are all left neat and tidy. Outside of this a few places needing attention including the seated area near the bridge on the Killaloe side.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most residential areas are well kept, neat and tidy. It would be helpful to give the name of each estate on standard signage at the entrance. In some cases more early clearing and spraying of weeds on paths and open areas would be good and some surround walls also needed attention. Private houses in the town and on the approach roads are mostly very well kept and attractive.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Again, because of work on the sewerage scheme and also other building work, Killaloe is in rather a state of flux at present and this effects all entrances and the town itself. However, most approaches to the town are quite attractive with perhaps the Clonlara entrance needing most attention. We note that plans are in the negotiating stage with regard to derelict buildings on Carrigs Lane. The town heritage sign on Clonlara road is still a little buckled and needs attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Killaloe continues to improve as a pleasant and vibrant place to live and also as an attractive place to welcome its many visitors. As mentioned on a number of occasions, the town and surrounds is in a process of change and in such a situation the fact that there is a committed and hard working Tidy Towns Committee in place is a great advantage. Keep up the good work and we look forward to future developments.