

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILSHEELAN**  
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	30
The Built Environment	40	29	26
Landscaping	40	31	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	22
Litter Control	40	33	28
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	13	28
General Impression	10	8	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>202</b>

## **Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your completed entry form, detailed proposed 3/5 year plan, laminated notes on the history of Kilsheelan and the splendid village map all of which were very useful on the day of adjudication. As a two times National Winner, Kilsheelan has a proud record in the competition and some of this expertise and commitment was very evident during the adjudication. Your detailed notes and concerns about the competition have been noted with interest and we are grateful for them. It is very evident from the manner in which the village is presented that all of the Community are involved in this impressive entry. As the village enjoys the dramatic backdrop of the Comeragh Mountains to the south, strategic planning of landscaping should have regard to the paramount need not to obscure the splendid vista of these mountains.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

For a village of its size, Kilsheelan is very well endowed with significant and imposing buildings most notable being the well presented ruin of the Church dedicated to Saint Siolan. The grounds here were well presented. A delightful feature, throughout the village was the freshly painted kerb stones which did so much to provide a clear visual separation between road and pavement or, more usually, road and well presented grass areas. The School was well presented as was Kilsheelan Health Centre. The very fine rubble wall opposite was most impressive. The Garda Station looked well as did Nagles Bar and O'Sullivan's Bar with their fine executed coat of arms and motto. The Post Office while neat could be improved by the addition of window boxes or hanging baskets. The two small houses just beyond it were a delight in this regard.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Kilsheelan scores very heavily in this category. The extensive areas either side of the main road have been put to good use in the creation of delightful grassed areas and also accommodate mature well placed trees, most notably on the north side of the Clonmel approach and on the south of the Waterford road. It is disappointing to note small amounts of vandalism to young trees on the Clonmel approach. The extensive use of wild red roses are a delight and most suitable in their setting. These were particularly praiseworthy in the Grotto area. The motte was well presented as were the picnic areas on the Waterford road and the parking area leading to the river bank. Although pleasant in themselves it is suggested that perhaps natural looking ground planting rather than the use of tubs for floral display might be considered. In the same vein, the donkey and cart and to a lesser extent, the deer at the picnic area might be looked at afresh. We applaud without reservation the fine display of flags, a practice all too rarely found in Irish villages.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The extensive River Suir and its environs assures a large vibrant natural habitat for both bird, fish and wild life in general. The easy access to it created by the steps from the car park and from the bridge are very positive assets. The ambitious plans to extend the easily walked area towards Clonmel are applauded and wished well. Perhaps the Committee would set itself an annual target to be achieved in this regard. The cutting of the grass without creating a linear riverside lawn is to be approved as appropriate to its use for wildlife and birds and in keeping with the setting of this exciting linear development.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter management was of a very high order as reflected in the marks awarded. The number of litter bins, suitably sited and well maintained is a very positive aid in this regard. We noted litter bins by the telephone kiosk, by the large car park, by grassed areas and in general, throughout the village. There were minor amounts of litter on Upper Church Road.

## **TIDINESS**

Broadly speaking Kilsheelan projects a very neat, orderly and tidy appearance to visitors. The car park area was a delight with newly installed fencing and a well maintained grassed area. The riverbank was well presented as were all the streets and roads within the village. The grassed area outside the School was very good as were the extensive grassed areas on both approach roads. Some weeds were noticed outside the Church and there was a presumably redundant planning permission sign, now unreadable, still in position below the Church.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The houses and communal grassed areas in Clogh Carrigeen off the Clonmel road were very well presented and a delight. Some minor amounts of weeds have been allowed to survive at the base of front facing walls and between pavement and road. There was an excellent display of the houses at Jubilee Terrace which featured a charming display of roses. The small, modern housing group on the Waterford road were a delight. The extensive estate at Railway Cottages off Church Road were in many cases well painted but there was a variation in the presentation of gardens and communal grassed areas. The houses opposite the School were a delight featuring extensive displays of roses.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The main approach roads from Waterford and Clonmel achieve a very high level of presentation marked by extensive grassed areas and the delightful freshly painted kerbing. The Rathcormack road does not achieve this high standard and is further marred by the Gate Lodge which is projecting ever more a forlorn look of an abandoned and soon to be derelict building. The displaced cut stone from the fine entrance to Gurteen-le-Poer should be replaced and we urge the Committee to energetically pursue its plans to secure a suitable use for the delightful Gate Lodge.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Kilsheelan in general and its Tidy Towns Committee in particular can be justifiably pleased with the results they have achieved in this years competition. We have no doubt that they can build on their success today and once again command a position in the highest level of the Tidy Towns competition.