

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILLEIGH**  
County : **OFFALY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 15-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	28
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	32	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	34	35
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>204</b>

## **Killeigh, County Offaly**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your completed application. The village is very beautiful and its fair green is impeccably presented. The adjudicator particularly admired the climbing plant clothing the handball alley. There are some excellent panoramic views of both the village and surrounding countryside on approaching Killeigh from the Tullamore road. A little more attention might be given to the presentation of roadside edges along this road. Well done on identifying what is unique to Killeigh and on promoting this. The development of the site of the Seven Wells is an excellent development and finished to a very high standard. It was a most enjoyable experience, well done also on the planting of the farm boundary walls leading down to the site with climbing plants. These should make this path considerably more attractive as they mature.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Both the old school house (1820) together with the adjoining walls to the burial grounds should be kept well painted or the walls could be allowed to feature a climbing plant. Likewise, the walls to the GAA grounds could also be planted with a climbing plant and the car parking area here resurfaced. If resurfacing is not an option in the short term, then perhaps, if it was well covered with stone chippings, this would be just as good visually speaking. The church looks a little weather stained in sections and would benefit from either cleaning or repainting / re-whitewashing. The same applies to the green corrugated sections of the outbuilding behind it. The drab greyness of the large building in the village centre on the main road is relieved somewhat by the climbing plant which clothes some sections of it. The old forge has been nicely refurbished / renovated. Doyle's public house looks well.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Perhaps the walls of the graveyard could be planted with an attractive climbing plant to brighten their otherwise drab appearance. The landscaped boundary to the 'Millhouse B&B' road would look better had the weeds here not been sprayed. Ideally, they should be removed by hand. The school looks very well. The numerous landscaped areas throughout the village were noted and adjudicated, these are too numerous to list. Well done in particular on the planting of young trees on the banks of the stream on the walk down to the site of the Seven Wells. These will provide greater enclosure to the farm yards here and will stabilise the banks of the stream and, of course, be valuable for wildlife as you have planted indigenous species.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

As noted above the planting of indigenous species will attract wildlife. Is there a specific wildlife project? Your Tidy Towns Handbook is an excellent source of ideas.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was good around the village in general but a particular weak spot was the field beside Gormans's shop and the grass verge leading up to the telephone kiosk from Gorman's shop. As there are two litter bins along this stretch, it would seem that daily litter picking is probably the only answer.

## **TIDINESS**

Weed growth should be removed from the stretch of wall near the speed limit sign. Sprayed weeds along kerbs look untidy when they are discoloured and should be removed. There are no other significant problems under this heading.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The Hillview Crescent residential development is most appealing with its large green roadside boundary and the well maintained bungalows. The handsome two storey Georgian property beside the old forge and looking out over to the green would look rather well with a variegated or a red ivy to its roadside façade. Gardens were much admired.

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

The Portlaoise approach road to Killeigh had been recently cut on the day of adjudication but the grass cuttings had not been removed and had become discoloured. A number of signs, e.g. fingerposts need refurbishment. Wild flower displays on the 'Millhouse B&B' road were dazzling in the June sunshine. Flowering hedgerow along an approach road is quite beautiful. Do provide a nameplate for the Geashill road.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The general impression of Killeigh is extremely favourable, it is a beautiful village with a handsome village centre. You have correctly identified what is unique to Killeigh and are actively promoting this, well done all round! Some of the points listed above might be incorporated into your work programme for next year.