

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kildavin**

Ref: **645**

County: **Carlow**

Mark: **195**

Category: **A**

Date: **26/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	24	23
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	195	191

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you indeed for the information sent with the entry form and for the map which was most useful on adjudication day. While Kildavin is a very small village it is, nevertheless, recommended that you might produce a simple development plan covering the next three to five years in which you would identify what possibly could be done on a year-to-year basis within your physical and financial resources for the greater enhancement of the village. This plan need not be elaborate and could be drawn up in conjunction with your County Council and FÁS. Now that the village has been bypassed some nice opportunities must exist for improving the built environment, additional landscaping etc. In the event of you producing such a plan please send a copy with next years entry form so that the Adjudicator can have sight of it. You received an in-depth report from last years Adjudicator. The following therefore is by way of comment on further progress to date and should be read in conjunction with that report.

The Built Environment:

The Catholic Church, the Church of Ireland and School together with the Village Hall are the most prominent buildings in the village and are being well maintained. The village pump, 1798 Memorial and the WeightBridge are very nice features. The handball alley also holds a prominent position in the village and is nice to have.

Landscaping:

Landscaping in the Church grounds and along the school road is maturing very nicely. There are many areas in Kildavin which could lend themselves to the planting of trees and shrubs and an initiative in this respect could be part of your future planning. The containerised planting, hanging baskets and window boxes where presented also looked exceptionally well particularly on the housing opposite the Church but indeed throughout the village in general. In the event of further landscaping being considered you should seek advice from Carlow County Council who have expertise in the matter. The restored wall in the main street was seen and much admired. This is a lovely feature and greatly enhances that part of the village.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your comments under this heading are noted. It is recommended however that you would undertake a wildlife project in which case the river could be a very interesting site. Perhaps you could do something in conjunction with your school by way of the provision of nesting boxes, feeding tables and perhaps some wildlife signs showing what birds and animal can be seen in the locality. Duchas would be glad to advise you on this. In the meantime you will continue to get the same mark as last year.

Litter Control:

Kildavin was practically litter free on adjudication day. Well done to all concerned. This is an important aspect of the competition and needs constant monitoring.

Tidiness:

Comments in last years report regarding overhead cables etc are still applicable but, in general, the village was presented in a very neat and tidy manner and again reflects the interest which your residents and business community have in their living environment.

Residential Areas:

Houses in the small estate are being very well kept as indeed are the houses directly across the road from the Church which looked resplendent in terms of their decoration and floral displays. The open spaces in the vicinity of the cemetery offer tremendous potential for landscaping. They are presently being very well maintained. Individual houses are well cared for and many have lovely gardens in full bloom which were a joy behold. This type of individual effort is an important part of the competition. In a small village you cannot hope to succeed without it. Great credit is due to all concerned.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approach roads looked very nice with good grass verges, in some places, being nicely maintained. The appearance of approach roads is very important as they tend to set the tone for the rest of the village. Adjudication normally takes place either from the village nameplate signs or the speed limit signs, whichever you opt for. Verges should be strimmed from there on in bearing in mind the guidelines set out in the Tidy Towns Handbook regarding the preservation of wild flowers. Road surfaces within the village are very good and paths are being well maintained. This reflects greatly on Carlow County Council.

General Impression:

Since the village has been bypassed Kildavin has taken on a whole new atmosphere which could be further adorned with additional tree planting and landscaping in general. The village has the potential to do well in the competition and additional marks can be gained through careful planning

and attention to detail. The Adjudicator looks forward to coming back to Kildavin again next year to see further progress made. In the meantime keep up the good work.