

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilmihil**

Ref: **403**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **196**

Category: **B**

Date: **25/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	34
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	25	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	26	25
Tidiness	20	15	13
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	196	186

Overall Developmental Approach:

Well done to the Kilmihil Tidy Towns Association in your second year of operation. Much has been achieved, obviously with a partnership approach involving the whole community and the statutory bodies. Kilmihil has a very pleasant location, sitting atop a hillside amidst rolling rural countryside. The town has many approach roads and your challenge is to develop these, and also the heart of the town, to their potential.

Thank you for well completed entry form and one page plan which were very useful on the day of adjudication. Thank you also for your detailed map showing each premises in the town. This was also very helpful but a little unwieldy - a sketch map in the future showing the areas where work has been undertaken and where you are planning future projects would be better.

The Built Environment:

Two areas of building in the town were exceptional - the Shrine to St. Michael together with the adjacent Stations of the Cross and also the Community Centre with its planting and vibrant colour. Some traditional plaster work around the town was admired, as indeed was the good use of colour throughout. Premises including the Church, the Post Office and most other business outlets were well presented. The Industrial Units and the extensive Ceard Scoil were also well maintained.

Landscaping:

The new landscaping at St. Michael's Place was noted and also the other landscaped areas throughout the town. The landscaping on the Ennis Road incorporating an Irish wildflower meadow and picnic area was admired. We would suggest that the small depot type building on the green area here be painted. Also, that the information sign be refurbished and made higher so that people would not have to bend down to read it. Lastly, we would suggest that a space for a car to park alongside the picnic table be provided in order to encourage people to use this facility.

The tree planting on the main street is a good and should be extended.

It should be remembered that projects already undertaken have to be maintained to a high standard each year.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

There is scope to undertake a specific project in this area, perhaps in conjunction with the local School. The planting already undertaken contributes in this category.

Litter Control:

There was very little evidence of litter in Kilmihil on the day of adjudication and obviously your work in this category is effective.

Tidiness:

The town mostly presented a tidy aspect with kerbs and entrances, such as the one into the new grave yard, weed free.

Residential Areas:

Most private houses in and around Kilmihil, with a few notable exceptions, are contributing to the Tidy Towns effort. A number of these express the character of a rural Irish town and it is good to see this heritage remaining.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The new bilingual street names are an asset to the town - indeed all the signage throughout Kilmihil was mostly well presented. The new Sli na Slainte trail was noted and welcomed.

On the approach roads, banks and hedges nearer to the town need to be cut back more severely.

General Impression:

Kilmihil is a town that could do well in the Tidy Towns Competition on the evidence of the projects already undertaken and in train.