

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Killyon**

Ref: **168**

County: **Meath**

Mark: **142**

Category: **A**

Date: **17/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	18	16
The Built Environment	40	16	14
Landscaping	40	18	15
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	8
Litter Control	40	28	24
Tidiness	20	14	9
Residential Areas	30	16	13
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	17	14
General Impression	10	5	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>117</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

The Committee is thanked for their entry into this year's Tidy Towns Competition which included a well completed Entry Form, an outline three-year Development Plan and a Plan of the extended village. For a population of 47, members of the Committee make up a very impressive number of 17. Truly and achievement. Your association with FÁS, the County Council and the local community, serves to focus your Committee on proposed works and also to involve the local community in the spirit of the Tidy Towns Committee. We look forward to the results of your plan of action in the coming years.

### The Built Environment:

The extended village starts at the Hill of Down bridge over the Royal Canal and adjoining the very pleasant Bridge House pub. Unfortunately it was pouring rain on the day of adjudication and its hospitality could not be enjoyed from the seating overlooking the canal. The village continues along the R161 until it meets a minor road leading to the village of Longwood. There is a scattering of houses along the R161. The focus of the community is at a very pleasant new church and a cemetery some distance away. Opposite this new church is an abandoned, much older church, with a tau plan and free-standing tower - a very interesting composition and important as there are few older tau plan churches remaining. Possibly in time it could be restored as a community hall. The new church grounds are most pleasing and the Committee is to be congratulated. The adjoining cemetery is very well maintained, as is the charming picnic site with tables and litter bin. There

should be trees planted behind the surrounding wall to give it an added sense of enclosure. An old cemetery was also seen, but no mention was made of this in the three-year Plan.

### **Landscaping:**

As already commented upon, the grounds of the cemetery and church were very well maintained. Additional tree planting is needed on both sites. Trees should be indigenous to the locality, such as oak, ash, rowan, beech, chestnut, lime and thorn. It is suggested that the Committee considers the creation of a mulch bank from grass cuttings and leaves. The mulch could then be used in various locations. The Killyon Hurling Grounds with external work just being finished, looks good and the Adjudicator looks forward to seeing it completed next year.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

There is no need for bird boxes or feeding trays in a well treed rural area, but new tree planting should respect indigenous trees.

### **Litter Control:**

On the day of adjudication, the picnic site was receiving attention. All that is needed now on this site is the emptying of the litter bin when full. There was no litter on either the church or graveyard grounds.

### **Tidiness:**

There was no untidiness, except at two motor repair establishments, which had a jarring effect on an otherwise rural road. The Committee should encourage tree planting and hedges on the roadsides of these businesses.

### **Residential Areas:**

The front gardens of the scattered housing along the R161 were very well maintained and they offered a feeling of welcome and care to passers-by. They are to be commended. There were a few older houses that were either abandoned or uncared for. Hopefully their status will change as it is disturbing to see these houses.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The road between the Hill of Down bridge and the road to Longwood is a series of wild grass and cut verges and both are pleasant.

### **General Impression:**

Killyon is a peaceful community to drive through, with few areas of emphasis, except around the Church and graveyard. The picnic site is a nice gesture to passing visitors to slow down and relax.