

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kildysart**

Ref: **531**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **200**

Category: **B**

Date: **12/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	
The Built Environment	40	29	
Landscaping	40	27	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	
Litter Control	40	26	
Tidiness	20	13	
Residential Areas	30	22	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	
General Impression	10	7	
TOTAL MARK	300	200	

Overall Developmental Approach:

Welcome back to the Competition after a six year absence. We note that your twenty three person Committee reformed in the last few months and would like to wish you every success in your endeavours in the future. Kildysart is a village of character situated on the Shannon Estuary and deserves to reach its full potential. Thank you for the entry form, sketch map and ancillary notes which were helpful on the day of adjudication.

The Built Environment:

Most business premises in the town (with a few exceptions) looked well and it was good to see the preservation of some traditional shop fronts such as J.O'Deas. The Church was well presented as were the two schools seen - St. John Bosco's Community School and the Kildysart National School - the well landscaped grounds at St. John Bosco's were admired. Filling Stations in Kildysart also play their part by providing colour through planting outside their premises. It was good to note that painting work was taking place at a number of premises during our visit. However, the surround wall and gates to the Kildysart Enterprise Centre needed painting and there was a poorly presented building in the centre of the Marina area. Good stone walls were noted throughout.

Landscaping:

The heart of the town was awash with colour with a profusion of colourful hanging baskets throughout. The approach roads were also well landscaped with new tree planting noted in some locations. These will leave a legacy for future generations. With regard to flower containers, stone, metal or wood is preferable to plastic. The Square or triangle in the centre of town was looking well and the information display board sited here was noted.

Work was taking place clearing the weeds at the Marina. No doubt, this will develop into an attractive waterside amenity in the future, but at present this area is in quite a poor state except for the nicely planted roundabout. Weeds should be removed first and then sprayed in May each year.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Situated in the countryside on the Shannon Estuary there is plenty of scope under this heading. See the Tidy Towns Handbook for suggestions on Wildlife projects.

Litter Control:

Litter was not a problem throughout the town and litter bins were positioned in strategic areas. However, some litter was to be seen at the Marina, on the ground and on a picnic table. In the future your litter management rota with FAS should extend to this area.

Tidiness:

The town was mostly tidy and kerbs weed free throughout. However the building and surrounds of the premises making headstones on the Kilrush road presented an untidy appearance. Also, the Marine area overall had an untidy aspect.

Residential Areas:

Houses in and around Kildysart were mostly contributing to the Tidy Towns effort, some featuring nice gardens. A few very attractive two storey stone houses stood out. As in many other towns and villages new housing is coming on stream in Kildysart and no doubt you will be encouraging these new residents to join you in your endeavours. A couple of new houses have been built in the recent past at the Marina and what appears to be another private house is in the course of construction bordering directly on to the open space here, disrupting this area considerably at present. However, this may be a club house of some description relating to waterside activities. If not, it would seem that there is no strategy in place to ensure the future appropriate development of the Marina and this would seem to be a lost opportunity.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The roadworks you mention in your notes had commenced on the Kilrush road. When this work is completed and new footpaths laid this will improve the overall appearance and infrastructure of the town. Signage throughout the town was mostly well maintained and the welcoming signs on the approach roads were of a high standard.

General Impression:

Already it would appear that a tremendous effort is being made by ninety per cent off the community in Kildysart. We look forward to seeing further progress in the future.