

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kiltimagh**

Ref: **509**

County: **Mayo**

Mark: **225**

Category: **C**

Date: **23/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	40
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	35	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	28	27
Litter Control	40	25	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	225	222

Overall Developmental Approach:

Welcome to the 2004 Tidy Towns Competition. It was a real pleasure for your adjudicator to visit Kiltimagh for adjudication purposes. Thank you for the very comprehensive documentation supplied with your entry form. The excellent maps were especially useful on adjudication day. It is encouraging to see that you are working so closely with IRD, FAS and the Local Authority. Trees are a very strong feature of this area. The adjudicator would like to have had a copy of your on-going Tidy Towns Action Plan. Continued progress in the competition will be dependent on everyone working towards the same ends. With this in mind you should prepare a "3/5 Year rolling Tidy Towns Work Programme". This programme should have the support of the community, local groups other agencies and the County Council. It would therefore guide your Tidy Towns actions for the period 2005 - 2009. The Work Programme will detail the Tidy Towns objectives to be achieved by your committee in the years ahead. The preparation of such a Plan that is updated annually is now an essential aspect of the Tidy Towns Competition.

The Built Environment:

The Sculpture Trail is a marvellous development and each of the pieces are extremely interesting. It would be useful to have a small waterproof plaque erected beside each piece to explain the work and detail the artist involved. It is a pity that a visit to this Park was marred by the presence of a lot of litter right along the new concrete path at the side of the Park. The Museum here is an excellent way of preserving the many memories and stories of the now closed railway. Derelict sites are a problem

and your committee has carried out refurbishment where possible. The Town Hall Theatre an unexpected discovery is well presented in an attractive colour scheme that suits the town. Fine low stone walling was noted here also. The wall of the car park of the Railway Hotel needs to be repainted. The Youth Shrine has a beautiful location and looked very well on adjudication day. Among the buildings that stand out in the town are the brightly coloured IRD building and the Kiltimagh Co-Op. The St. Louis School opposite the church is a fine large building presented immaculately and has used black and white to excellent overall effect. At the Further Education Centre the road boundary wall needs to be painted.

Landscaping:

You have put much work into effective landscaping. The flowers around the base of trees on the main streets look very colourful. The many trees in the town centre help to soften the streetscape and they are maturing well. The provision of additional flower tubs is noted. On the approach roads the landscaping around the town signs looked very well. Good landscaping was also noted at the Catholic Church. The Glone Mill project and the Wetlands Park are excellent developments. At the Wetlands Park landscaping has been made as natural as possible as it should be in such a park area. The small amenity area with seating on the Knock road is very effective. It is simple and easily maintained.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The wetlands Park is a really interesting place to visit and the adjudicator visited all sections of this project. The planting of new aquatic plants and new trees and shrubs looks well. It is a great pity to see that some of the excellent interpretative panels have been vandalised. Damp appears to be getting into some of the panels also. There is a lot of information available at this park and all involved in the project deserve the sincerest congratulations. The new sculpture while rather unusual is very eye catching and fits the atmosphere of the park perfectly. The wildlife survey underway by the School children is welcomed. However you may need some specialist expertise to advise on the survey findings. Your walking routes and brochures are a great way of encouraging visitors to stay longer in your area.

Litter Control:

The erection of additional litter bins is a good idea. and it is great that you have a daily collection and daily cleaning of back street areas. Congratulations on doing so well in the Litter Action League. A lot of litter was noted in the Sculpture Park and it appears that some of it has been there for some time. This is a great pity because it spoils what is otherwise a really interesting experience.

Tidiness:

The Tidy Areas Competition is obviously bringing results as Kiltimagh was quite tidy on adjudication day. On the Bohola road a yellow property might consider some screening from the main road. A derelict car was noted here also.

Residential Areas:

Generally housing estates looked well and many of the gardens had fine mature flower and shrub displays. Trees in housing estates always help to soften the impact of a large number of houses on the local environment. The upgrading of Greenfields by the Local Authority with the planting of trees and shrubs is welcomed. Have you considered organising a tidy estates competition? The adjudicator has been involved in several such competitions and they can bring great results, helping also to develop an even stronger sense of community.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

In general approach roads were well presented but do remember to have cut grass removed immediately after cutting. On the approach to Kiltimagh from Charlestown one of the town signs is missing from the two poles. Trees on the approach roads looked really well. Many of the verges are nicely cut and are being well maintained. Do remember that verges need to be cut every few weeks if a lush green colour is to be maintained.

General Impression:

Congratulations to everyone involved in making Kiltimagh such an enjoyable place to visit even if only for a few hours on a wet June day!