

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Castletown Kilpatrick**

Ref: **39**

County: **Meath**

Mark: **200**

Category: **B**

Date: **05/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	29
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	16	14
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>193</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Castletown is a pleasant village and is evidently well kept. However, it does need a development plan. A development plan need not be extensive or even cost anything. Some of the better plans are put together by the committee themselves who are best placed to assess their own strengths and weaknesses and prepare a plan of action which can realistically be carried out over a five year period. There are also, no doubt, others within the community who are experts in specific areas, such as gardening, and these people could be asked to contribute where possible. A walk around with residents with a tape recorder would go a long way in identifying what you could do - good luck.

### The Built Environment:

There are a small number of commercial businesses and buildings in Castletown and these were all neat and tidy. Finn's shop might benefit from some front planting The church looked well and the graveyard was very neat with well cared for graves and well kept perimeter walls. The Pitch and Putt course has very good landscaping and is a credit to the community - well done! The school would benefit from additional planting and additional stands of single species native trees could be considered in places. The shrub beds were noted though.

## **Landscaping:**

The trees and shrubs throughout the village are beginning to mature nicely. If you do consider a tree planting programme again, perhaps the use of single species native trees might be a possibility as the wide range of different tree species can sometimes look fragmented. Good planting of native beech was noted at the palings on the Ardee road. The pump would benefit from a coat of a traditionally coloured paint. The centre crossroads looked very well and the roses were very nearly in bloom.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

It was noted that there is some pond water within the village - however this did not seem accessible - it may have been private. Work needs to be undertaken in this section as valuable marks can be gained. A project/work undertaken in conjunction with the local school may be the way forward. This would tie well into the primary school curriculum so all would benefit.

## **Litter Control:**

There was little evidence of litter on the day of judging and the use of the very nice green wooden bins is to be commended. The standard type of black bin was also in evidence. Good to see that there is regular litter control. Do you have any plans to involve the children in the process - often they can be made aware of the litter - organize campaigns, paint posters etc.? The road does seem to be a short cut from Navan to Ardee so there is some traffic flow and this may contribute to the litter problem.

## **Tidiness:**

The village was very tidy. The centre of the village had been recently mown and looked very well. There was also evidence of work being undertaken with empty peat bags in evidence around the hedges in the centre.

## **Residential Areas:**

The main residential area is Hillside Drive and most of the residences have made great effort in landscaping and presentation. Work was being undertaken on an old stone cottage on the Kells approach and this will considerably enhance the centre of the village when complete. There is a house towards the Navan road which has an incredible garden of flowers - this must take considerable time - and a couple of doors down, other boxes and stands were overflowing with flowers. There are some enthusiastic gardeners in the area.

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

The Ardee road was newly mown and kept well. The advanced signage is also clean and functional. The pavement of the Lobinstown road requires attention in places. The Navan approach was good and was neat and tidy - well done.

## **General Impression:**

The judges had a very pleasant visit to Castletown Kilpatrick. The priority now is to compile a development plan - this need only be 4/5 pages long, if even that, and consist of the main challenges that need addressing, the time frame each challenge will take and the resources, both financial and persons, needed to tackle them. Each year progress can then be compared to the plan and adjustments made accordingly. By doing so, the committee will be taking a more strategic approach to planning, landscaping, environmental issues, etc. within the village and the fruits of this will very quickly become apparent, both to yourselves but also to the adjudicator who will then be in a clearer position to assess the committee's achievements. For this year, congratulations on the

work you have completed so far and best of luck.