

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Killaloe**

Ref: **363**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **212**

Category: **C**

Date: **22/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	
The Built Environment	40	29	
Landscaping	40	28	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	
Litter Control	40	26	
Tidiness	20	14	
Residential Areas	30	20	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	
General Impression	10	7	
TOTAL MARK	300	212	

Overall Developmental Approach:

Killaloe Community Council is welcome back to the National Tidy Towns Competition 2005 after an absence of three years. The Heritage town of Killaloe is located on the majestic Lough Derg. We note that you have a fine committee of fifteen and work closely with all the local organizations, too numerous to name individually. We would encourage you to prepare a one page Development Plan to focus on your aims for the next three years.

The Built Environment:

Killaloe has many fine buildings including St Flannan's Cathedral with its wonderful high crosses and other antiquities; The Brian Boru Interpretative Centre; St Lua's and many traditional shop fronts - the Buy the Book premises was under reconstruction and it is to be hoped that the new owners retain the traditional features? There is one very unsightly building beside O'Donoghue Insurances, and the whole area around the Shopping Complex needs attention. We would encourage you to consider the refurbishment of the Old Courthouse. The Tennis Club and Pitch & Putt club was well presented, but generally that whole street need upgrading.

Landscaping:

Valerian and other wild plants were growing profusely by the canal and on other stonewalls. The hanging baskets and other containers in the town were admired - very colourful display outside the Kincora Hotel. The green area at the back of the Interpretative Centre was well presented and the picnic bench in full use. Planting at AIB was good, as were the hanging baskets outside Grace's Pub. You might consider replacing the trees in front of the breeze-block wall near the graveyard, and screen the wall by planing some ivy at the base.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done to all concerned with the development of Tobermurragh Park and no doubt that residents and visitors alike will benefit from this project. You have planted many new native trees and shrubs in the Park, but wonder if the Apple Trees will thrive in such a woodland setting. Perhaps the planting, if not already done, of some bluebells and other woodland bulbs would enhance this park in Springtime.

Litter Control:

On the day of judging litter was seen all over the town, including in and around Killine Court Estate, near the Benson Box Company and in the vacant lot beside the Anchor Inn. There was a lot of broken glass on the steps of the foot bridge over the canal. You have many good quality litter bins located throughout the town, all in need of cleaning, and we would ask you to encourage everyone to use them. Perhaps the committee might consider organising a voluntary litter collection campaign, say for one hour on one night a week. Your pooper scooper campaign seems to have worked as there was no visible dog litter on the day of adjudication. Well done.

Tidiness:

Your efforts in tidying up the Aillebawn walk have worked. However there were weeds growing at the base of the outside of the canal wall, and many other walls and kerbs throughout the town. The beer kegs outside The Seanachai Pub are blocking the pavement as were the cardboard boxes outside Heavey's Supermarket. The railing at the entrance to the Interpretative Centre need attention. Would encourage you to continue in your efforts to clean up Carrigs Lane - it is in pretty poor condition at the moment.

Residential Areas:

The dwellings on all entrances to the town were in good condition, as are the dwelling along the canal bank and St Lua's Villas, which has a very tasteful colour scheme. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about the other Housing Estates located around the town. Would suggest you consider the introduction of a 'Tidy Estates' Competition, which might be sponsored by one of your local industries, and this might help improve the situation.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The signs at the Limerick and Tuamgraney entrances were well presented. The roads were mainly in good condition. The introduction of traffic lights, when operational, should improve the traffic flow, and it will certainly help pedestrians to traverse the bridge. You seem to have concentrated upgrading your main streets, and the back areas seem to have been neglected.

General Impression:

The riverside Town of Killaloe is a very fine town, but rear and back areas of the town are now a core part of the competition, and they need upgrading. We wish you well in your endeavours.

