

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilmurry**

Ref: **545**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **192**

Category: **B**

Date: **17/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	
The Built Environment	40	25	
Landscaping	40	28	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	
Litter Control	40	27	
Tidiness	20	15	
Residential Areas	30	25	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	
General Impression	10	7	
TOTAL MARK	300	192	

Overall Developmental Approach:

Welcome to the Competition and congratulation to the Committee on taking this initiative. As there is quite an amount of new building going on in Kilmurry, no doubt your Committee of four will expand in the future in order to help you with the work envisaged. The first thing you should do is to make out a one page plan of your aims and objectives for the next three years. This will focus your minds and give you a greater idea of where you want to go. Even if you have to adjust this plan in light of changing circumstances at least you have your objectives in front of you. The Harvest Festival sounds to be a very good idea with positive advantages including the fact that it provides funding for other projects. The Committee should also watch out for other appropriate competitions in the environmental area as follows: National Spring Clean Week, (run by An Taisce); Green Schools; Golden Mile; IBAL (Irish Business Against Litter); Anti Litter League; Pride of Place (all-Ireland competition); LEADER Environmental Initiatives and County Council environmental competitions and enter these if appropriate.

The Built Environment:

With regard to the public buildings in and around the village these are mostly well kept including the Pump House Pub and the shop next door to same. Just one comment, the metal gate into the back yard of the Pump House would need to be painted. The School has really made an effort with planting of window boxes and trees and is to be commended. We note that you plan to paint

the Church in the near future and this is a welcome project.

Landscaping:

As mentioned, a number of premises such as the School have provided hanging baskets and planting. Also, it was noted that trees had been planted in various locations throughout the village and these will leave a legacy for future generations. The village pump from which the Pump House public house gets its name could be a feature in the village and no doubt you have plans to refurbish same. Some walls have ivy encroaching on them and we would suggest that this be removed as soon as possible so that it does not take a permanent hold.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Any planting undertaken in the village contributes under this heading. In the future when planting we would suggest that plants that would attract butterflies and other insects should be a priority. Also, bushes and trees should be berry bearing, thus providing food for birds in the winter. The oak trees planted last year also contribute under this heading.

Litter Control:

On the day, not a lot of litter was noted around the village but we note from your entry that it is a concern. Education in the schools regarding litter awareness would be one way to commence educating children about this problem.

Tidiness:

There is a considerable amount of building taking place in the village of Kilmurry and therefore at the present time it has rather an untidy appearance. This is accentuated by the fact that even where houses have been built the exteriors outside the walls have been left in a very rough condition. Some kerbsides also were rather weedy and we would suggest that these weeds be removed and the kerbs sprayed in May.

Residential Areas:

Private houses in the village are mostly attractive and well presented. However, some of the new houses are rather out of keeping with the character of the village and if further development is planned this point should be brought to the Developers attention. As mentioned above, the new residents should be requested to join with you in your endeavours for the future.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

We note that you feel public lighting is an issue and this matter should be discussed with the County Council. In view of the many new houses and the location of the village we would agree that this should be a priority. The main road surfaces on both roads through the village are of a good standard. This appears to facilitate quite an amount of speeding on what is a busy road. We would suggest that some traffic calming methods be looked at for the future as the traffic on the day of adjudication was not adhering to the speed limit.

It was also noted that there were no green bollards denoting the entrance to the Church road. On the approach roads, inside the speed limit signs, the roadside banks should be cut back.

General Impression:

Kilmurry is a most attractive village and it is good to see that the residents are interested in its well being by entering the Tidy Towns competition. Attention to detail in the future would enhance the work already undertake. We wish you well in your endeavours in the years ahead.