

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilcash**

Ref: **169**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **221**

Category: **A**

Date: **14/08/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	33	31
Landscaping	40	33	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	36	36
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>213</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Your committee of nine seems like a good working number of individuals for a village of Kilcash's size. You mention that South Tipperary County Council are in the process of drawing up a six year plan for you which the adjudicator looks forward reading in your submission for next year's competition. However, why do you not draw up your own simple document outlining your future planned work for the village and setting a timeframe against achieving them? This you would find extremely useful for monitoring your progress as the year's go by. It would also be helpful for the adjudicators to see how you view your village and what you would like to achieve for it.

### The Built Environment:

The fine stone church and ground were admired and it has a magnificent setting and view. The retention of the traditional style and metal hoops for tethering horses was noted and admired at the boundary wall. The National School was very fresh and its grounds were beautifully maintained. The Community Centre was very freshly presented, as was the Village pub. With its tables and chairs set out on a terrace it must be a very attractive place to sit and admire the view on a fine summer's evening!

## **Landscaping:**

The simple stone grotto with its well painted statuary looked very well. The village green was well maintained and must be a lovely place to sit and contemplate. The relatively young ash trees were coming along nicely. A number of attractive stone planted beds throughout the village were admired, such as that at the Community Centre, behind the village pump and those at the church filled with sweet williams either side of the bench.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Bird tables and a weather vane were noted at the school. The adjudicator noted your difficulties in relation to your wildlife and historical boards. Hopefully this will be shortly resolved and in place for next year's competition. Do read your Tidy Towns Handbook for clues for further development of this aspect of the competition. Other centres have been successful in the building and erection of bird tables and nesting boxes, the sowing of wildflower gardens etc.

## **Litter Control:**

The standard of litter control on the day was generally good, although it was noted that some dumping had occurred behind the bench on the Nine Mile House Road.

## **Tidiness:**

The village had a generally neat and ordered appearance on adjudication day, and had a generally good presentation all round. There are some fine traditional iron gateways on approach roads, which would benefit greatly from being painted up and restored to their former glory. The recycling area looked well - perhaps consider some landscaping in this location in order to blend it in more successfully with its surroundings? There is a new award in the competition for recycling areas that are suitably located and treated.

## **Residential Areas:**

It is to be hoped that new housing at Cois Coille will be as sensitively landscaped as possible in order to maintain the integrity of this unique village. Work seemed to have only started taking place on adjudication day. An attractive stone entranceway to a house on the Nine Mile House Road was admired. Another house had a stone boundary wall which sported a magnificent display of foxgloves, cape daisies and marigolds. They had extended their area of interest to roadway outside their house to marvellous effect! Some fine gardens and houses behind the church were admired, as was that opposite with its marvellous display of fuchsia.

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

This is an area of the competition that you could concentrate on more fully. Although the grass verges on the Ballypatrick Road were good, they were patchy in places. The grassy banks, however, on the Nine Mile House Road looked a little neglected - the speed limit sign on this side was obscured by overgrowth. Do try to strike a balance between wildness and over-manicured appearances, in order to achieve a natural look to your approach roads. Perhaps you could consider planting some wildflower seeds? Foxgloves on this road created a good impression in places. The resurfacing to the cul-de-sac behind the church was noted and admired.

## **General Impression:**

Kilcash is a most attractive and unique village clinging as it is to the side of Slieve na Mon in a most distinctive location! It looked extremely well cared for on adjudication day!

