

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Killucan**

Ref: **434**

County: **Westmeath**

Mark: **163**

Category: **B**

Date: **21/07/2005**

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2005 | Mark Awarded 2004 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 28                | 28                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 22                | 22                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 26                | 26                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 13                | 13                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 18                | 19                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 9                 | 9                 |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 22                | 21                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 20                | 20                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 5                 | 5                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>163</b>        | <b>163</b>        |

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Many thanks for your application form and detailed map. Your submission should also have included a schedule of work completed for the year and a brief three-to-five year Development Plan. This plan will help you identify what can be done to improve the village over the next few years and the resources you will require. In addition, the works-completed schedule will allow you to monitor your achievements on a regular basis.

### The Built Environment:

Ennis' Pub is a very attractive building, as is Cleary's. The Church of Ireland church also warrants mention and the Mahogany Pub is very well presented. The Market House is a beautiful building with huge potential and it was a pity to see that it's yard looked like a storage area on the day of inspection. This building could be the focal point of the village – all it would take is a little effort. The walls around the park are an attractive feature, and the nursing home also looked very well.

### Landscaping:

As noted in previous years, the ivy on the walls of the Church of Ireland church is very attractive and enhances the entrance to the village from the Mullingar side. Business premises' efforts were noted for the strong yet tasteful use of flowers. The village green, with its mature trees, was very

well maintained and there was some lovely shrubbery and plantings inside and outside of Killucan Park.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

As mentioned in last year's report, Killucan needs to focus more on wildlife in order to gain marks in this category.

### **Litter Control:**

Killucan Park was most disappointing, bins were vandalised and public seating destroyed. While litter control efforts were obvious throughout the village, on the day of inspection the park area was in need of a lot of attention. Residential areas were generally litter free.

### **Tidiness:**

Builders' yards remain a problem. It is hoped also that the Market House could be neatened and the old clock-face restored. Again, Killucan Park was disastrous in this category – serious effort required here. Some weeding evident on footpaths and approach roads and a lot of clutter, by way of gas bottles, fuel bunkers, fuel and signage was evident outside of village stores. Would a wheelchair pass comfortably?

### **Residential Areas:**

Some lovely, well-landscaped housing developments form part of Killucan's expanding community. The stone facades on some of these developments enhance the village's character. Some residents are to be commended for the effort made in keeping their dwellings in such a well-presented manner, whereas others could follow suit. It is understood that, as an expanding village, Killucan has yet to define its community and in the coming years it is anticipated that it will find its way.

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

Weeding was evident on all approach roads, and verges were in need of maintenance. Approach signs could have been better. Indeed, in one case the mounting poles on the Killucan sign were mismatched. Some road surfaces were poor, but this is most likely a result of the amount of construction underway in the village. The public walkway from the park to the village was in excellent condition. It would be nice to see this effort maintained throughout the village.

### **General Impression:**

It is hard to overlook the general state of disrepair of Killucan Park. It is a pity that a local amenity as such could be let fall into such a state. The village green is a credit to its keepers. It would be nice to see more people involved in the tidy towns committee. That said, the existing committee is doing some great work. Keep it up!

### **Second Round Adjudication:**