

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Killeshandra** Ref: **53**  
County: **Cavan** Mark: **201**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **28/06/2006**

|                                | Maximum<br>Mark | Mark<br>Awarded 2006 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Overall Development Approach   | 50              | 27                   |
| The Built Environment          | 50              | 28                   |
| Landscaping                    | 50              | 26                   |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 50              | 15                   |
| Litter Control                 | 50              | 27                   |
| Waste Minimisation             | 20              | 5                    |
| Tidiness                       | 30              | 14                   |
| Residential Areas              | 40              | 22                   |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 50              | 30                   |
| General Impression             | 10              | 7                    |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>400</b>      | <b>201</b>           |

### **Overall Development Approach:**

The map and information supplied with the entry form was very useful at adjudication time ensuring that all aspects of the town were seen. The overall planning for future development is very important at this stage; this was mentioned last year in the report. Perhaps a detailed plan could now be prepared for the next three to five years plans. This will focus on the priorities and give a pointer towards the future needs. Getting opinions from as wide a range of interests within the town is all important for this process. The plan may be used annually to assess progress and adjustments can be made as time goes by to accommodate any changed circumstances.

### **The Built Environment:**

There are a number of attractive buildings within the town. The resource centre area is well organized and has attractive building features. Many of the shop and house fronts look well along the main streets with good attention to painting and general décor. Some exceptions to this standard need to be prioritized for action. The old School building would make a lovely restoration project. The premises on the corner adjacent to the hotel with the disused petrol pumps needs urgent attention as does the derelict building along further up from that corner. The Garda station and fire station are well maintained and the post office looks exceptionally well. The stone wall features in the town and surrounds give an attractive character to the town. The old remains of the railway bridge are well treated and is a nice reminder of past times. The heritage church is a good asset. Some unsightly tin roof structures visible from the bring back centre need attention.

### **Landscaping:**

The landscaping along some of the roadsides gives a pleasant aspect to the town. The picnic area near the green lake is well presented and makes a nice place to stop for a while. The cream chipping stones are attractive and set off this area well. The Market avenue landscape was noted. Colourful containers are a

welcome inclusion and give good summer impact in the town. Individual gardens do much to enhance the roadside views of the landscape and are to be commended for this. Housing estates play a significant role in the landscape also. The railway road estate – while the grass is well maintained this area offers a great opportunity for tree planting and this should be considered, similarly any other area where sufficient green space exists should be utilized for some tree planting.

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

The lake area offers great opportunity for wild life appreciation and projects relating to this could be developed in conjunction with the school. The strand amenity area is very attractive and further information about what may be observed here and when would be helpful. Local knowledge will help in this regard. Consult the tidy towns handbook also. Having such a lakeside amenity is wonderful. The amenity walk is a great idea and this will give good encouragement for people to enjoy the nature trail and at the same time gain exercise.

#### **Litter Control:**

Litter is well under control in the town and only small evidence of litter was noted. At the bring back centre people had placed cartons and materials alongside the bins which is unhelpful. The work of local groups in the area in helping to reduce litter is very good. Constant persistence with this aspect is needed.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

The bring centre is in operation and is being well used. The emptying of these bins must be such that people do not need to leave materials alongside the bins when they are full – this creates a very untidy appearance and this was occurring on the day of adjudication. A campaign of awareness with both homeowners and business people needs to be started to give an understanding of the importance of waste management and recycling. Compost heaps can be made for green materials, avoidance of using materials that do not degrade easily and separation of the various materials so that they can be recycled.

#### **Tidiness:**

The town has a tidy appearance apart from the small number of derelict buildings and those needing attention to paint and décor. Some protruding shop signs still exist and their need is questionable. The back areas behind buildings – especially where new buildings or car parks open up these areas can cause an untidy aspect and some sort of remedial action is needed. Building developments in general do cause some disruption to tidiness but this is usually only temporary in nature.

#### **Residential Areas:**

The residential sector of the town is well cared for with many homeowners presenting a very attractive picture with their premises and their gardens. Encouragement to participate in the care of their homes and gardens is important. Competitions within or between estates is helpful. The housing estate close to the strand amenity was noticed with many of the front lawns uncared for which is a pity. The green as mentioned above at the railway estate is well cared for but needs a programme of planting. Many individual houses along the approach roads are well cared for and present well to the roadside. Streetside houses look well in the town and it is great to have a mix of residential and business together keeping a life spirit within the main streets. New housing developments were noted and a watchful eye should be kept on these to see that the finished site meets with the requirement.

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

The new road surfaces and footpaths are very attractive. The markings are well done and this gives a very smart appearance to the town. The strand area and nature walk as well as the picnic area are well cared for. Traffic on the main street can be busy and made more difficult with parked cars – perhaps less parking on the main street would alleviate this problem.

#### **General Impression:**

Killeshandra has progressed very well. Good credit is due to all concerned. The town is compact and is retaining its original integrity.