

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilmeade** Ref: **375**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **245**
Category: **A** Date(s): **23/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	39
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	245

Overall Development Approach:

Kilmeade is welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission and your excellent colour coded plan with photographs. All have been useful in the adjudication process. Kilmeade is located on a very busy thoroughfare, the N78 and the difficulty of keeping a village to a high standard of presentation is acknowledged. Well done on your cooperation with other agencies and on your communications of the Tidy Towns initiative with the community. It is good to note that you have constant contact with the school board and parents committee. Your plan to establish a walking route in your area and undertaking an ecology survey are wonderful, we look forward to the result of both these studies.

The Built Environment:

Both the church and its grounds together with the school and grounds are presented to the highest standard and one has to admire the charming aspect of St. Ita's Church, well done. Congratulations also on the installation of a grotto in the church grounds, this is a perfect touch. We wish you every success in your planned work programmes for 2008 such as the installation of an information board and negotiations with the area engineer regarding the curbing of grass verges. Well done on the completion of the Whitethorn hedging at the junction of the Church and the New Line Road. We wish you every success in the continuation of the hedgerow along the access laneway to the old Fitzgerald graveyard.

Landscaping:

The Gordon Bennett Park is a wonderful amenity and offers the travelling public an oasis on a very busy road. Well done on the planting of 900 Cotoneaster on one bank of the moate and work in progress on the other. No doubt the additional trees planted and those yet to be planted will be native species to encourage wildlife habitats. The curtilage area of the Kilmeade Business Park should be landscaped.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The installation of a St. Brigid's Cross sculptor in your wildflower area is an excellent initiative. We look forward to the installation of a name plate at both entrances to the wildlife garden at New Line Road and providing information on species present; this would make an excellent Green Flag School project. Well done on the bird nesting boxes in the church ground and at the picnic area and thank you for the photographs. Do let us have a copy of the ecology study when this is available.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent at the time of adjudication, well done to all who participate in your weekly cleaning and maintenance activities. It is good to note that the committee liaise with Kildare County Council regarding street cleaning. Some consideration might be given to the segregation of collected litter for recycling.

Waste Minimisation:

Thank you for the information this year regarding your waste minimisation activities. We note from your submission that you avoid using weed killer unless absolutely necessary and that communal grass was cut with lawnmowers using a mulching system and composted. We acknowledge also the battery recycling system in the local school. It is good to note that residents use the recycling point/waste disposal facility provided by the council which is three miles from your village, well done.

Tidiness:

The site for sale on the main road looked well on adjudication day with its outbreak of red poppies. The village has an overall tidy appearance and no doubt the committee work hard with property owners to maintain its tidy appearance. Well done on the regular cleaning and maintenance of the village that is necessary to maintain an acceptable level of tidiness.

Residential Areas:

Moate View is a lovely development and young trees have established themselves well here, grass was a tad too long however given the amount of rain and heat we've had so far this summer one could not reasonably expect it to be otherwise. Grassed roadside areas to the boundary wall of dwellings on a side road make a strong positive visual impact, most gardens, boundary walls and curtilage areas are nicely presented. We note from your submission there is a possibility of further residential development and are pleased that you will make efforts to incorporate new residents into the Tidy Towns initiative.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Name stones for Kilmeade are a most attractive feature. The surface of the N78 is quite good and car parks are well presented in general and in particular the church car park was admired. The water pump and name stone at the junction of the road leading to the church is a nice touch and enjoys good visibility. Street furniture looks well.

General Impression:

Kilmeade is a tiny but most attractive village where the commitment of the local community to their home place is evident.