

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilteel** Ref: **1123**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **226**
Category: **B** Date(s): **25/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	226

Overall Development Approach:

Kilteel is welcome back into the National Tidy Towns Competition. The adjudicator notes that your last year of entry was 2003 and has enjoyed revisiting your lovely village this year. Kilteel is situated in beautiful countryside with excellent scenic views of which the community must feel proud. Thank you for the enclosed plan. Congratulations on the circulation of 700 copies of your local newsletter and on your proactive approach with the Green Schools committee.

The Built Environment:

Your church remains as always a charming feature of Kilteel and Brennan's pub complements its setting in beautiful countryside, however its curtilage area could be resurfaced. Your work on painting the walls and railings of the park, the pub and seats is acknowledged. It is good to note your action on the repainting of boundary walls of the restored cottage. We wish you every success in providing heritage information panels at roadside locations.

Landscaping:

The park is a beautiful feature in the centre of the village and is being maintained to the highest standard. Its landscaping is well designed and visually attractive. Many young trees have been noted and will mature to provide a legacy for future generations. We note your action regarding consultations with residents to establish a landscape plan for their green open area. Try to ensure that species chosen are native to the surrounding countryside as this will be supportive of wildlife. Container plants look well.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is good to note the existence of your annual wildflower area, perhaps an interpretative panel might also be provided to heighten awareness. Well done on your organic policy and the restricted use of pesticides. You rightly identify hedgerow as an important wildlife habitat in the village. Killeel is located in an area of woodland and would have many woodland habitats, perhaps in time a flora and fauna survey together with a nature trail might be developed for wildlife interest and amenity.

Litter Control:

With the exception of a beer bottle in the car park of the public house, Killeel was litter free which as an excellent standard, no doubt this is due to your weekly litter picking activities. Your participation in the National Spring Clean is acknowledged also. It is important to segregate litter in the interest of waste minimisation.

Waste Minimisation:

Although your primary school is located four miles from the village, your involvement with their Green Schools programme is admirable and your work to provide funds and labour for the school garden and the development of a raised bed to be associated with each class has earned you points under this heading. However to perform well in waste minimisation you need to identify the amount of waste produced and devise a strategy that will help to minimise it.

Tidiness:

Weedy footpaths and derelict vehicles on a site opposite the church are problems under this heading.

Residential Areas:

Scenic views of the Kildare plains from the new residential development which is still a work in progress are wonderful; no doubt the weed growth along the footpaths will be eliminated on the completion of construction work when the final touches are made to the development. Gardens of older dwellings have been admired, all were beautifully presented. An older residential estate which also commands scenic panoramic views was beautifully presented in respect of its green open spaces and enjoyed excellent maintenance, name stones should be provided. The high weather stained walls to the dwelling beside the church would be improved with cleaning and/or painting. Your proposal to repair dry stone walls are acknowledged together with your strategy of keeping grass fronting these low in order to highlight their existence and beauty.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

We wish you every success in your discussions with Kildare County Council regarding the provision of name plates and sign posts for Killeel village. Road side verges throughout the village and on approach roads enjoy good maintenance. The resurfacing of some roads is necessary. You are aware of items of street furniture which are in need of refurbishment.

General Impression:

Killeel enjoys an excellent vantage point allowing uninterrupted views of the Plains of Kildare which must be a pleasure to experience each day. Good luck with the implementation of your plan. Your close liaison with the Gun Club and their activities regarding the planting of species supportive of wildlife is acknowledged.