

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilcash** Ref: **523**
County: **Tipperary (South)** Mark: **236**
Category: **A** Date(s): **03/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	33
The Built Environment	50	34
Landscaping	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	15
Litter Control	50	36
Waste Minimisation	20	4
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	236

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission which included, a photograph and reports on the wildlife and the Slievenamon Drive. Congratulations to your committee of eight on your endeavours over the past year and particularly your liaison with the local community and school, and your annual fund raising walk to Slievenamon.

The Built Environment:

The buildings in the centre were again well presented and Kehoe's Bar was nicely painted with flower boxes and hanging baskets. together with some planted beds at the gable end addressing the village entrance. The Church Cul de Sac is particularly charming and residences here have a very high standard of garden presentation. The connecting, winding laneway from here to the school is unique. It is one of the highlights of the village which gives it depth and forms part of its unique character. A derelict house which illustrates the smaller scale character of vernacular Irish architecture is nicely treated. It retains its half-door, has nicely appointed windows and a cobbled threshold along the front wall. Well Done! A pleasant surprise. The school overlooking the village green has magnificent grounds and its hedgerows were admired. As were the beautiful beech hedges of the adjacent residences. The Community Hall opposite and the Grotto were nicely adorned with flower displays.

Landscaping:

Well done on your seasonal planting at the Community Hall. The trees in the village green were noted. Additional trees and shrubs in this area would help to emphasise the importance of this focal point..

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We note your application to Tipperary County Council for assistance with your bilingual, wildlife information board. It is to be hoped that you will have success with this project. A central location for such a board would have great educational value and serve to highlight wildlife issues. Congratulations to the school on the bird boxes on the grounds. Kilcash Woods is a wonderful amenity to have so close to the village and must be greatly appreciated by your community.

Litter Control:

Your volunteers are to be congratulated on litter control. On the day of adjudication the village was litter free.

Waste Minimisation:

Recycling bins were prominently located at the side of the open space adjacent to Woodview Heights. This very suitable location was clean and tidy and neatly presented on the day of adjudication. Congratulations on your engagement with local school, households and businesses on this initiative. Perhaps further initiatives in the Race Against Waste booklet will be adopted in the coming years.

Tidiness:

The overall impression of the village is one of general tidiness. However one site opposite the under construction Cois Coille estate could be screened. The area to the rear of Woodview Heights was in need of weed control.

Residential Areas:

The Woodview Heights scheme overlooking the village green was magnificent and the new seating and picnic table on the green were a great addition. Well done! Construction and site works of Cois Coille is nearing completion and this scheme when completed will be a great asset to the village. It is to be hoped that extensive planting and landscaping will take place within this scheme to enhance and reinforce its magnificent woodland setting and backdrop. The old stock of houses in the village is magnificent and one outstanding example of a sympathetically developed traditional house, retaining all its traditional proportion, scale and character is Tom O'Donovan's Furniture Manufacturing Premises.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The standard of presentation of Approach Roads is generally very good. However there remains a slight problem with the Ballypatrick Approach Road. Stone walls alternate from side to side as you enter the village and one farmyard complex remains to be screened, as its appearance is somewhat unsightly. The entrance from the Slievenamon Drive is magnificent and well maintained and offers panoramic views over the valley. The central green area looked magnificent as did the high quality street furniture, litter bins, seating and picnic tables.

General Impression:

The overall impression of Kilcash, situated in the foothills of Slievenamon, is one of an Irish village nestling comfortably in its setting. The village has retained its charm while embracing new development in harmony with the existing.