

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Killaloe** Ref: **73**
County: **Clare** Mark: **230**
Category: **C** Date(s): **26/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	38
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	27
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	230

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for your completed application form and Sketch Map. All were of help to the adjudicator. It would be advisable at this stage to introduce a town plan, over the next 3 years. A plan allows one to have measurable benchmarks to work to. This is highly advised for next year's competition and it will help Killaloe progress in the National Tidy Towns Competition. Good to note that you have good involvement with the Local Authority and other relevant agencies. Keep up this partnership.

The Built Environment:

The following caught the Adjudicators eye. Roman Catholic Church, the schools, Garda Station, Courthouse, the Historic Street, St. Flannan's Cathedral. Commercial premises, Super Valu, Kincora House Guesthouse, Heaney's Hair Salon, Derg Credit Union and Crottys all deserve credit for maintaining their properties to a very high standard. However, there are two major problems for Killaloe. Carrick Lane and the area next to the AIB are in a poor state of presentation. Derelict areas will keep your marks down in this section.

Landscaping:

This is a category that the town has attained very high marks over successive years. Individual householders deserve credit for complementing the public planting arrangement with some excellent, colourful gardens and an array of hanging baskets. Well done to all concerned. Millstream Residents Association deserve a special mention.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Adjudicator enjoyed the visit to Tobermurrough, there was no sign for its direction. However, once found, what a haven for wildlife. Perhaps you could arrange signposting for next year.

Litter Control:

One has to make allowances that it was the weekend, but there was a proliferation of litter to be seen where young people congregate at the river rest area opposite the coffee pot café. It beholds these people to have pride in their place and desist from the practice of littering. Keep promoting the message of good litter control as part of your community awareness programme. Make sure litter collection is constant and that litter bins are adequate.

Waste Minimisation:

This is a new category, which has to be addressed under the National Tidy Towns Competition. The Race Against Waste is a campaign raising awareness of better waste management practices. It is incumbent on us all to embrace this in light of our poor record among the wider European Community. Refer to the Race Against Waste publication, included with the original application package, for initiatives that would suit your community. An excellent initiative is the Green Flag project for National Schools, organised by An Taisce. Please get the children and teachers involved. Children love such projects and learn at an early stage from best practice. The Bring Bank facility was of average presentation. Please keep an eye to this facility.

Tidiness:

There were a number of verges that had been sprayed and let to rot so it is important to complete the job and clean decayed residue. There are a few sites, some have been mentioned already, which need urgent attention. Ideally you should avoid the use of chemicals in weed control.

Residential Areas:

There are a number of new housing developments that are going up rapidly in the town. Others are just in the early stages so it is not appropriate to comment. The Millstream Estate is one well established. The residents are to be congratulated on all their work to date. This estate should act as a template for other estates in the area. Well done to the residents of Millstream. New developments should be landscaped to a high standard.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The extended footpath from Brian Boru's Fort was apparent and many leisure walkers were noted enjoying same on the day of adjudication. Entry from the Tuamgraney side was top class. However, the Limerick entrance was not in good condition, the road needs to be resurfaced.

General Impression:

Killaloe is a wonderful place to visit throughout the year from a historic/leisure point of view. The high number of developments in recent years both in and around the town are putting great pressure on traffic movement; not least of all at the river bridge. Your challenge is to cope with such developments.