

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Killimer** Ref: **74**
County: **Clare** Mark: **238**
Category: **A** Date(s): **27/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	38
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	23
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	238

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you Killimer Tidy Village organisation for your entry on behalf of Killimer village to the 2008 TidyTowns Competition. Welcome to the village of Killimer to the 2008 national TidyTowns competition.

Thanks to your Committee of eight people who take the time and effort to attend your monthly meetings in addition to other TidyTowns events. Your Committee is doing very worthwhile work in this small and picturesque village of Killimer of less than 200 people. A recommendation for your Committee is the preparation of a very basic three-year plan for Killimer to assist you in the development of Tidy Town targets and initiatives. Your three-year plan would be a new initiative next year and could assist the Committee in forward planning and setting targets up to the end of 2011. This is worthwhile and can of course be altered as the Committee's work progresses over time. A maximum of two pages is all that is required and could be set out in bullet points. Keep it simple, it's probably a matter of listing all new and planned projects.

Your ongoing partnership work and those that have supported your activities is of obvious benefit to all. This is a vital ingredient in the success of TidyTowns activities and could in itself be a specific target in your three-year plan. Your communications strategy of the use of Newsletter is worthwhile. The involvement of the local schoolchildren and teachers in discussions on the improvement of the local environment is a strategy that this adjudicator would recommend. The improvement and enhancement of the community is a praiseworthy aim.

Thanks also for your Village sketch Map, outlining key places of activity of TidyTowns.

I wish you all the best with your planned activities into the future. Keep up the good work.

The Built Environment:

The Village of Killimer is spread over approx. two miles on a very busy road. The ferry of course provides the great majority of this traffic. Killimer is on a very beautiful location and includes the old village centre, the ferry port and premises at the new pier areas, working farm households, some excellent older and more recent individual and small-scale residential developments, and some one off commercial premises. Therefore all developments are spread mainly over just one or two roads.

The mixture of new and old residential areas is in balance and in general looked well on the day of my visit.

The new residential estate looked well as did the lovely individual houses around the village. Well done to all concerned.

The planned and ongoing work on the graveyard is to be applauded and is of benefit to Killimer. Also the painting of the Shrine is an important part of this maintenance work.

The old public telephone needs to be replaced. Premises of note included: the Stor Cailin Ban, Cois na Sionna B&B, the Old Brogue Pub.

The Cailin Ban Memorial was impressive, as was the Sli 5km walk map.

Landscaping:

Well done to all involved in the various locations for good landscaping in the Individual houses and the newer residential estate was well presented. The landscaped areas at the Ferry port are also well maintained. While the new footpath and public lighting through the village are impressive and a vital piece of infrastructure it's a pity that the landscape programme of scheduled work was postponed. I look forward to seeing the benefits in 2009.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Killimer is situated on a beautiful location overlooking the waters of the Estuary and the Shannon. Every attempt should be made to take advantage of this location. Your plans for the further research at Rochfords Shore are very positive and the attendance of your members at Bio-diversity seminars is indeed worthwhile. Could further research be undertaken into the feasibility of setting some Wildlife Interpretative panels for display at the Village centre and at the Ferry port. Could these become projects to be included in your three-year plan for discussion with the relevant organisations? Some expert advice should be sought for the protection of existing wildlife and other species and the introduction of further birdlife. Also similar plans to get expert advice on the wild bird habitats might be considered.

The involvement of the school children in appropriate projects such as Wildlife Interpretative Display is so very worthwhile.

Litter Control:

The Village was mainly litter free on the day of my visit and obviously the work of TidyTowns Committee is paying dividends. Well done on the strategy of the allocation of different areas to individual Committee members. It's important to generate the interest of local schoolchildren in this work.

Waste Minimisation:

The purpose of this category is to encourage TidyTowns Committees and the local community to get involved in projects that will reduce waste and encourage recycling. Projects could include community guidance on methods of reducing waste such as segregating litter during clean-up events,

The strategy of working with key influential business interests in this task is worthwhile.

Tidiness:

Killimer looked neat and tidy on the day of my visit. Well done on your strategy of encouraging residents to take responsibility for their own area. The ferry pier areas, a focal point, were mainly neat and tidy.

Some old signs need to be replaced by the Co. Council as planned by your Committee.

Residential Areas:

Some older one off cottages, houses and farms and more recent individual and small-scale residential developments make up the village of Killimer. The residential estate of Woodview looked very well on my visit, with nice stone walls and appropriate tree planting. Good road surface and public lighting are welcome features. The common grassed area was well maintained. The older houses help retain the village character.

The necessary replacement of damaged boundary walls in the course of work on the new footpath will benefit the area.

Congratulations to all concerned on the upkeep of their residential areas.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The access roads were well maintained and the landscaped areas and the new footpath help to show the village to its best advantage. The Killimer stone signage is excellent. These areas clearly help to identify, for the locals and visitors alike, the beauty and attractions of Killimer.

Well done to all concerned.

General Impression:

Killimer is a lovely village on the Estuary with much obvious ferry traffic. This traffic has helped the infrastructure improvements of roads, footpaths, public lighting etc. It's important for the Committee and all involved to maintain Killimer's natural and built beauty for the benefit of locals and visitors alike.

The ongoing co-operation between the public, and others, and the TidyTowns Committee is evident in the progress made by Killimer in the competition.

Congratulations on your 2008 entry to TidyTowns Competition and good luck for the future. I look forward to further visits to your village.