

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kildangan** Ref: **163**  
County: **Kildare** Mark: **246**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **09/07/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	33
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	30
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>246</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

Kildangan is welcome to the 2008 TidyTowns competition. You have a large committee for a small village. Well done on the excellent community support with 8 open meetings a year and a large number of groups involved. The map which you submitted is good. The Kildangan plan is well constructed covering all aspects of the TidyTowns. There appears to be close cooperation with all existing and new Residents' Associations in the area.

Local business is helpful, such as Kildangan Stud, the Emo Service Station and Croskeys pub. The primary school is of assistance also to you – especially their participation in the 'Green School' programme. You also have contact with Kildare County Council Roads and Planning departments, Kildare Community and Enterprise department and the Kildare Community and Voluntary Forum. The Community Employment (FAS) Project committee (Kildangan Community Development Association acts as one of the sponsors) are also on your side! The Kildangan Hall Committee is another local group, and last, but not least Kildangan Parish Church and Parish council. Well done on engaging so well!

### The Built Environment:

The church is beautifully kept with a great stone wall and excellent landscaping. There is good and easy parking outside, and a beautiful hedge by the road side. The sculpture on the church lawn and the church gates are beautiful. The church is excellent with five new windows and trees all around. The tarmac is softened by grass.

The school is very well presented. The school was entirely well laid out with attractive walls on both sides. The teacher's residence type house on the opposite side of road to the Church is also well presented.

The Bridge House is nice. There is a fine stone bridge. Kildangan Hall is well maintained. The old post office still needs improving, however there are nice well maintained cottages on the other side. There is an old ruined barn in the Cross keys area on the intersection in the village. This, with renewal, could be a good feature in your built environment.

There is good Irish signage through all parts of the village.

### **Landscaping:**

Well done on the new planting this year, which was excellent, particularly the lovely colourful flower planting at the signposts.

The Kildangan approach is excellently landscaped and the church and school grounds are of a very high standard.

The GAA pitch is of a great quality, with fine landscaping and a good timber stile.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

A wild life and Game reserve has been set up by one of your residents, and it provides a safe environment for many species of flora and fauna. An undisturbed habitat for wild life is contained in Irish Rail's permanent way which dissects the village area. Several residents are members of Birdwatch Ireland. Such an active interest is invaluable for a community. You also have a wildlife reserve which will be attractive for visitors. The school grounds contained a bird box.

### **Litter Control:**

The village looked exceptionally litter free on adjudication day, apart from a small amount of litter in the entrance area to the GAA pitch.

You continue to have regular monitoring of public areas conducted by your local community environment project and you have this co-sponsored by the Kildangan Community Development Association, for which we commend you.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

Your local primary school is in the Green School Programme. Each class room has three bins for non-recyclable, recyclable and compost material, which are emptied daily.

You recycle all the material collected up during the regular tidying and cleaning of your roads and verges, and materials are sorted into categories, and a small composting facility has been installed behind the Community Hall.

We note the enthusiasm the students have for this, and are delighted they have taken the initiative as their own.

You have mentioned that the number of residents now using mowing machines which have a mulching facility has increased, and you have at least two designated locations for disposal of bottles, cans and clothing, etc. but these are outside your village.

You should consult the Race Against Waste booklet to learn how to progress in this category.

### **Tidiness:**

The post office building and an adjacent entrance splay take from the tidiness of the village centre.

You have organised a power-washing session of walls in the village area and continue to give attention to weed growth and kerbs side tidying.

Some foot paths are cracked in Cluain Dara Estate. The estate near the railway bridge entrance requires

completion of its access surfacing.

There is graffiti on an E.S.B. substation, and on an estate entrance sign at the Courtyard estate, as well as on timber fencing.

All the signs throughout the village are clean.

### **Residential Areas:**

The row of cottages in the village was attractively planted, with one particularly good example.

Manor estate has lovely timber- fencing and ash trees with autumnal berries. Castle Park is a large estate with a fine entrance.

The Grove estate has good presentation and an innovative performance area.

The Courtyard estate has good banking at the entrance and timber fencing.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The Kildangan sign and approach road from Kildare side is excellent with beautiful measured verge and hedge. The stud entrance was well painted.

The long road by the school has bi-lingual signs. It has lovely hedging and is fenced on one side. It was well finished, with good footpaths on the school side.

Roads are of a good quality outside the village, but rough inside the village.

The traffic calming in the village is necessary.

### **General Impression:**

The village is very attractive in a beautiful setting and quite spread out on both sides of the Athy to Monasterevin road. There are ever increasing numbers of residents, so it has become essential to provide a commercial and infrastructural input. You have started well with the new commercial centre at Cross Keys which is currently under construction. You have many new people with new ideas coming together to form your group. We wish you luck.