

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilmeade** Ref: **375**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **251**
Category: **A** Date(s): **23/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	40
The Built Environment	50	27
Landscaping	50	39
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	26
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	251

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome Kilmeade to the 2008 Tidy Towns competition. Thank you also for your excellent detailed plan covering most aspects of the Tidy Town requirements. We have also received a good, helpful map and photographs of your most attractive village.

We also welcome your ecological report and note your disappointment over not having 'Sli na Slainte' as yet.

We wish you well in your plans to create one now that you have finished the ecology assessment.

You have five committee members, so you are a busy group. You have the support of your local authority and this is good. Your weekly newsletter must be a very useful means of communication, and the local notes are always read avidly locally, so your message will get through to the public. We are happy that you have regular meetings with your school. We congratulate you on your awards in previous years.

The Gordon Bennett Rally is a great occasion for County Kildare, and your work at Ardscurr is a great background to an important part of this rally.

The Built Environment:

Part of the main village is on a busy main road, which is difficult to manage. The buildings, seeing that the road suffers disadvantages, are reasonably well presented.

The village post office of the Narraghmore side road is well presented. The church and churchyard are excellent and the school, with its quality new extension is also very pristine. There are also derelict sites on the cul de sac road, one of which interferes with a fine view of the moat in the distance.

There is also a need to screen the factory building on Narraghmore Road. The village otherwise is presented to a high standard, with clean fences and good parking. There is also an attractive gate near the weigh bridge, which should be kept and enhanced – other gates in the village require painting, as does the corrugated iron roof on the workshop opposite the graveyard gate. The pump and road sign look extremely well. Also, of a high quality were your circular stone signs on the church.

Landscaping:

Landscaping throughout the village is very good and the highlight is Gordon Bennett Park, beside the moat near the entrance to the village. This has deservedly brought you some prizes. We especially praise the Wildflower garden.

Throughout the rest of the village particularly the church, school and road are well landscaped. However, landscaping could help screen derelict sites and the few unsightly buildings.

There is also a beautiful field of poppies next to the school, which will help wildlife too. The graveyard is also of a high quality planting.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We hope from your report, the areas such as grasslands, hedgerows, graveyards etc, will encourage habitats for wild life. The next step is, as you suggested, providing a sustainable walk.

Litter Control:

On the days of adjudication the town was practically free of litter, except for one or two beer cans and a few papers around the moat areas in the Gordon Bennett Park.

Waste Minimisation:

We note your comments about the battery scheme in the school and inspected the composting site in the graveyard. We also note that you take your recyclable waste to a village three miles away.

Tidiness:

We note the maintenance regime that you have in place and the village has a tidy appearance throughout, particularly in its public areas, such as the Church, school and graveyard, which are all to a very high standard. We note also the council's actions, which are required in maintenance of the village; we note that many road signs are in need of repair and cleaning. It is also essential to agree a tidy policy with the owners of some derelict and overgrown sites through out the village.

Trimming of hedges and verges are excellent. We noticed one worker, working hard on the day of the adjudication – well done.

We look forward to seeing the St. Brigid's signs next year, which are to be checked by the council on your behalf.

Traffic calming system has not been completed in village

Residential Areas:

Moat view is an excellent development, with good landscaping with a good quality stone sign entrance.

St Ita's Park is also of a high standard and well presented.

New Lime grove also was of a very good quality estate with a fine entrance way.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Most approach roads were neat and tidy. Road surfaces in the village were generally satisfactory

General Impression:

Kilmeade is an attractive village and efforts of the community are improving most aspects of the village life.

Having such a busy main road through part of the village is difficult.