

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilanerin** Ref: **129**
County: **Wexford** Mark: **221**
Category: **A** Date(s): **14/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	31
The Built Environment	50	28
Landscaping	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	221

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the concise application form and the excellent map with ongoing and planned work clearly marked.

It was the adjudicator's first time visiting this attractive village although one heard of it through the exploits of ones of its most famous sporting sons.

Speaking of sport it was pleasure to watch the kids enjoying themselves in the splendidly appointed sports field on the way into the village on a summer's morning.

The spirit of volunteerism has not been totally lost in rural Ireland if one is to judge by the number of adults that were coaching these young stars of the future.

Kilanerin is certainly expanding and must be a sought after location judging by the number of new housing developments.

The Committee of 20 is certainly mobilising the local community and interacting with the local authority and agencies in a practical manner.

The work done over the last few years is major and to be honest not reflected in the marks obtained in the competition to date.

Private and business support is forthcoming and well done to the businessman that sponsored a special project under waste minimisation to the tune of €1,000

The Built Environment:

The standard in this category was very good and it was noticeable that the newer developments are blending in so well with the established and older village houses.

The Church is a very imposing structure, well maintained with tidy grounds surrounding it and ample car parking.

The National School is beautifully maintained with boundary wall dashed in a cream colour with contrasting red gates.

The windows boxes with colourful annuals set it off beautifully.

The Village Hall is also well presented with easy access to parking; there was a nice traditional music practice session ongoing during the adjudication.

Putting wires underground has made a big difference to the entrance to the village; it may be a little disruptive to continue the process as the roads look like they have been recently upgraded.

Excellent new footpaths to new housing developments and to the extremities of the village coupled with new street lights has given Kilanerin a very attractive street scape.

Landscaping:

The standard in this category was very good,with the new minimal maintenance beds at areas such as the Elms being complemented by traditional hanging baskets, tubs and shrub beds.

The addition of nice street seating,such as those at Carraig Vale, will in time blend in with the existing planting arrangements.

A little more colour would not go astray at the stone bed housing the excellently restored parish pump.

Trees are the most important plants in the village or urban landscape and the Village is surrounded by a variety of established species.

Finally one could not leave this category by commenting on the beautiful An Gairdin Alainn,it certainly is most impressive with its colourful flowers such s marigold and nemesia coupled with its vegetable plant.

The school kids have an ideal environment on their doorstep to learn about the flora element of nature.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Kilanerin has a multitude of natural habitats both within the core area of the village and on the outskirts.

The school garden is obviously a jewel in the eyes of the kids who participated in its development and credit to the teachers who facilitated this.

The forest has a number of nice mini trails that are for the benefit of the visitor and local alike, it might be possible to involve a local knowledgeable wild life enthusiast who would devise a series of guided walks.

The information notice board is very informative but one feels that his whole area needs to be exploited in a positive sense a little more.

Consider getting advice from Caoilte or the wildlife section of Wexford County Council.

Litter Control:

Litter control was very good considering it was an early Saturday morning when the adjudicator arrived in town.

The message of good litter management promoted within the community is certainly paying off.

It is good to note that you the Committee has made a very special effort to get the school kids thinking –No Litter in our Village- this will prove to be a very worthwhile in years to come.

Waste Minimisation:

This relatively new initiative that promotes better waste management in communities is something that every village and town should embrace with gusto.

Your plans to encourage the segregation of waste was noted,you should contemplate going one better next year by organising a relevant action.

Kilanerin has entered into the spirit of the Race Against Waste concept and again a comment on the generosity of the builder who hs supported your efforts.

Participating in the Clean up Wexford campaign is also very worthwhile

Do consult your Race against Waste publication for further ideas on projects of this nature,one can also access information on initiatives from the Race against Waste website.

A simple project that involves community action as well as benefiting the village will also gain additional marks in this category.

The centrally located recycling centre was very well maintained and tidy.

The National School is wished well in its endeavours to get Green Flag status.

Tidiness:

The Village was tidy in the general sense,but like other similar sized places it is being subjected to degrees of ongoing development which can cause messy sites and poor road surfaces.

Fly Posting can be problematic in villages and towns,Kilanerin does not have a myriad of shops or pubs so the

problem is not as pronounced, the otherwise well presented Gala shop, has a few too many .
It is time to encourage shop owners in towns and villages all over the country to consider providing notices boards inside premises to try and eliminate this practice.
The provision of additional new footpaths and street lighting as well as the removal of overhead wires from the entrance of the village has given the Kilanerin a very orderly look.

Residential Areas:

Last year's report alluded to the fact that a number of the newer housing developments were still in a state of transition.

Progress has been made since then and it was noticeable that steps have been taken to fast-track the mature look to a few of them particularly the Elms and Fermoyale Manor.

The newly planted saplings at Carragh Wood estate are well staked and have not been subjected to any form of interference thus allowing uniform growth.

Carragh Vale is still in the throes of ongoing work but will be a very nice housing area when completed. The provision of new stone seats is a nice touch.

The older properties in the core area of the original village centre are very well maintained in general, one or two need a small bit of tending to make them fit in with the rest.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The entrances into the village, particularly from Gorey, where well presented verges were maintained in accordance with proper wildlife preservation and nesting guidelines.

The extension of new footpaths to the extremities of the Village is a huge plus in both practical and aesthetic terms.

I presume that all poles will be removed in due course and wires will be put underground.

The present telecom poles have been treated with preservative which gives them a clean look.

Road surfaces are pretty mixed and some, particularly the Hollymount Road, are rather rough.

Keep lobbying your local representatives to make sure that Wexford County Council give preference to the village for a re-surfacing programme after all the housing developments have been completed.

Developers need to be reminded to make good immediate road areas into newer estates.

General Impression:

The village of Kilanerin has not been that successful in the competition over the years, that said it is making massive strides and the enthusiasm for Tidy Towns still prevails and this is reflected in the work to date.

There are some very worthwhile developments that you as a community can feel very proud of.

Finally the village has quite a lot to offer to the casual visitor and it is nice to spend time in places where one can feel relaxed.

Keep up the effort and harness the good will of your community to the full.