

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilbrittain** Ref: **136**
County: **Cork(South)** Mark: **273**
Category: **A** Date(s): **22/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	42
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	40
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	39
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	13
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	32
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	273

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the filled out entry form and map of the village. I read over your 3 / 5 year plan and also "Kilbrittain our village renewal", and these documents make interesting reading. I enjoyed reading the history of Kilbrittain. You have interesting plans to maintain and improve the village. You have a good size committee of ten and good to find that you are getting support from the scouting organisation, Community Centre and Festival committee. Cork County Council, Fás and Coillte are giving you assistance. You are communicating well with the local people. The engagement with the school is worthwhile. It is pleasing to see that you find the competition to be helpful. Good luck with the social events from 31st July to 9th August. All of this means you have a very good overall development approach.

The Built Environment:

The school and Catholic Church are maintained in great condition with wonderful landscaping. The parish hall, post office and the garda station were well presented. I was pleased with your attention to stone walls. The traditional stone walls are wonderful and could I respectfully suggest repair work, where necessary, should be carried out in the same style as the existing walls, with careful attention given to the mortar, which is mainly lime based and very little cement is used. More information on this is available from the conservation officer at Cork County Council and in some cases grants are available for some of this work. The business houses are kept well and looked attractive.

Landscaping:

The graveyard is maintained in excellent condition and well done to all concerned. I admired the notice board Kilbrittian Landmarks. The Grotto to the Immaculate Conception is beautiful as are the little parks at either side. I loved the arrangement of the three seats joined together with the plaque to Justin Kearney RIP which

was erected by his many friends. This is a most picturesque location. The village park was very well landscaped. I admired the traditional water pump, and could I suggest that it could be painted a softer colour of say black or dark green. The old farm machinery is a great reminder of a bygone day. The millennium is beautiful. Other neat touches of landscaping are visually striking.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

I strolled along the amenity walk – great. I note you plan to plant additional trees and you could get a copy of a book OUR TREES ISBN 0-9518612-5-5 and you will find that an oak tree can accommodate up to 450 different types of insects. In a short time you could be propagating your own trees. There is an abundance of wildlife in all those mature trees and stone walls around Kilbrittian and you could enlist the assistance of some people that are interested in the outdoor pursuits.

Litter Control:

Your attention to litter control is very good with leaflets to the school and weekly clean ups. I note you participate in Cork County Council and Muintir na Tire litter initiatives – well done. I was not surprised, therefore, to find the control of litter was very good with just a few isolated bits in evidence which could easily have come from passing motorists.

Waste Minimisation:

I went to the recycling depot and inspected the ten bins that are well serviced, and that area was clean and orderly. I note you have contact with the teachers to encourage recycling at the school.

Tidiness:

The road sweeping, spraying and cleaning of the signage is noted. The phone kiosk was recently painted. Some cigarette ends were on the streets. However, there was a fresh and neat appearance to the village.

Residential Areas:

The town houses are maintained to a high degree with beautiful shrubs and flowers and nicely decorated. Some of the newer houses had satellite dishes on the front of their houses and this practice is illegal in some locations. The housing estates are well laid out with good landscaping.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The roads from Bandon and Ballinspittle give a welcoming effect on entering the town with good grass margins and flowers adorning the great signposts. The stone bridge is a great old structure. The road up to the recycling depot and GAA club is in very poor condition and in need of attention. The signposts were clean and distinct.

General Impression:

It was a pleasure to visit this most picturesque location where there is a great pride of place evident. You are doing wonderful work. When the time comes you can pass on the "baton" to a new group with pride in what you have achieved, but not for many more years please