

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kiltegan** Ref: **254**
County: **Wicklow** Mark: **252**
Category: **A** Date(s): **17/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	34
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	18
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	19
Residential Areas	40	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	39
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	252

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for your 2009 completed entry form, photos, and hand drawn map. The eight members of your committee obviously put in a lot of work, along with other community volunteers. It is noted from your application that the TidyTowns are supported by Fas, Kiltegan Development Committee, local businesses and Parish facilities. You have good communications through the 'Focus' newsletter, postal leaflets and meetings. There are also direct links with the school through a committee liaison member.

The Built Environment:

Most buildings were well presented and many had fresh coats of paint. Katie Lowe's is looking well. The quirky geometric designs on the house at the junction were admired. The street to Rathdangan is a very pretty one. The houses overlooking St Peter's church are well kept, apart from one which has a planning permission sign up so must be due for redevelopment. The church looks very well, as does the school, and also the health centre.

Landscaping:

The streetscape on road to Rathdangan is attractive for its lampposts, grass verge and planted trees. Much effort has been put into the green area where there is a community celebration plaque and several benches.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

There is new planting which supports birds and insects at the crossroads and it was admired, as were the field

maple trees on Baltinglass Road. Is there an area nearby which could be developed as a nature trail? Or a walking route which could be promoted, and the flora fauna along the way identified by an interpretive panel? There are opportunities to gain more marks in this section by promotion of biodiversity in your community.

Litter Control:

The clothes bank at the shop was noted, however, the absence of any banks for glass was also noted. Couldn't more be fitted in here? Overall the village was free of litter. The regular litter patrols are paying off. It is noted that you participated in National Spring Clean.

Waste Minimisation:

There is opportunity to gain far more marks in this category. What is your community doing to prevent and reduce waste? Perhaps do a survey in conjunction with the school's programme towards Green Flags. Do people compost? Do they buy in bulk rather than with excess packaging, long life goods rather than disposables, etc. In the absence of bring banks in the village, where do people bring their recyclables? The information gathered could be circulated and used to promote more environmentally friendly practices. There are a host of ideas in the Race Against Waste pack. As the school is registered for Green Schools, they will no doubt be informing and involving the wider community.

Tidiness:

Quite a few bins were noticed for having missing plates or needing cleaning. There are so many bins in a small area that maybe not all are needed. Directional signpost at the village green was clear.

Residential Areas:

Castle Court was neat and nicely painted. The bare back wall should be softened with planting. There is no sign up but the small estate past Katie Lowes is well presented. The one opposite has a stone not yet engraved. The way the back wall which borders the GAA pitches was planted was admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approaches are well presented, tree lined and verges well maintained. Signs should be checked as some need to be cleaned.

General Impression:

This village has a good shape and there's a positive energy about it. A few places need tidying up, but there are plans in place to address this. There is a strong emphasis on nature conservation and enhancement in all planned projects which shows they understand what the competition is about, as well as a strong sense of community.