

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilmihil** Ref: **75**
County: **Clare** Mark: **261**
Category: **B** Date(s): **09/07/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	41
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	21
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	13
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	261

Overall Development Approach:

The adjudicator would like to welcome Kilmihil to the 2009 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for the completed entry form and useful map. Your work for Tidy Towns seems to receive good local support as well as that of FAS and Clare County Council. Congratulations on getting your local web site up and running. Your committee of eight people appears to have a busy annual schedule of meetings. The adjudicator noted that a copy of your 3 Year Tidy Towns Plan was not included. This should guide your work from year to year in the period 2010 to 2012 and it is useful to identify projects by adjudication category.

The Built Environment:

The old Garage and the house on Church Street corner remain your two building problems. Hopefully your work in this regard will bring success. At the Garage even cosmetic work on the front elevation for next year would make a big difference. The presentation of the Sports Ground car park was rather disappointing as it was untidy. The surface here is a terrible one for car tyres and perhaps resurfacing might be considered. The old Graveyard was well presented and Reilig Nua excellently so. At the entrance to the new Graveyard the landscaping is of a very high standard. It is possible to paint the gates here matt black? The Library building has been excellently designed in that it echoes the buildings on either side and across the road. The hanging baskets, flower tubs, the cross and the flags all combine well together to give an excellent visual impact. At The Fiddle Hand (?) the signage was admired. The Catholic Church was well presented and the nearby yellow section of the Ceard Scoil was much admired. However the shelter area over the steps to the more recent section looked like it was in need of attention.

Landscaping:

New tree planting beside the Reilig Nua was much admired however grass across the road had been cut but the cut grass had not been removed. Hanging baskets and tubs are used extensively in Kilmihil and these

bring a great sense of colour to the village. Very good landscaping at the Kilrush road junction caught the eye. Another landscaped area that was examined is that at the Creagh road junction. You have put major effort into landscaping and the great results are there for all to see.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Knockalough Lake is an excellent development and indeed this Report is being written there. Have you considered a wildlife panel for the car park as a lot of wildlife was evident during the visit? The placement of two large rocks in the centre of the car parking area seems to defeat the objective of this car park. The planting at the back of the School that is suitable for wildlife is highly commended as is your aim to preserve hedgerows.

Litter Control:

It is a good move to work with the Litter Warden and they have an important role to play. Much litter was noted in St Michael's Place though excellent landscaping has been carried out here. This was the only serious litter problem noted in Kilmihil. Otherwise litter control on the day of the visit was quite good.

Waste Minimisation:

You have taken a number of excellent initiatives under this adjudication category and it is great to read that the School is actively involved in recycling. Well done on mulching all your grass cuttings and the shredding of paper. The Farm Film Recycling Scheme is another great project and you might let us have further details for next year.

Tidiness:

The results of the April Spring Clean are amazing with 220 kg of rubbish collected. You have been doing important work in respect of weed control and little if any was seen around the village. A wall at Topaz needed to be repaired.

Residential Areas:

Very good presentation of private houses caught the eye on the approach into Kilmihil from the Ennis side. There appeared to be a lot of recent repainting. The Meadow Community Housing was visited and this is a most impressive development. Again along the Creagh road well presented individual houses were evident.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Church Street still awaits resurfacing and the situation here is really urgent. Do keep up your contacts with the County Council in this regard. The main approach roads into Kilmihil were quite well presented and gave a favorable first impression of the village.

General Impression:

This was your adjudicator's first visit to Kilmihil and it was an enjoyable experience. Good luck with your work for next year when we look forward to returning.