

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kildorrery** Ref: **457**
County: **Cork(North)** Mark: **246**
Category: **B** Date(s):

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	246

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the completed entry form and supporting material. The map of the town was very useful on adjudication. I note you have 15 members in the committee which shows great enthusiasm. There is great commitment in spending a lot of time at the 10 meetings per year. You are getting good support from Fás, Cork County Council and Ballyhoura Development. You are communicating very well with the local community, and this is very important. It is very worthwhile to engage with the local school. Your general comments on the competition are positive as it encourages the greater community to make an extra effort for the competition. Good luck with the festival and GAA summer camp. This is an excellent overall development approach to the competition.

The Built Environment:

The town has a fresh and clean appearance and I could see that many of the business houses have been refurbished and painted recently. The trees are welcome features to soften the visual impact of some buildings. I admired Thornhill Chemists. The Catholic Church has defining architectural qualities and is nicely landscaped with a colourful display of roses. The furniture store (once a public house) has a distinctive shop front. Ollies and The Corner Bar looked great as did Spar and the post office. O'Sullivan's garage, Centra and Coach garage are in great condition and the small Garda Station was bright and cheerful. The school was brightly coloured fresh and crisp. The retirement home of the Ardpatrick road is a splendid new structure and tastily landscaped. These are just some of the buildings that caught my eye, but most other shops were just as good.

Landscaping:

The picnic areas are great facilities and very well maintained. The stone feature "The Famous Kildorrery

Town” is a most attractive stone and enhances that great green area as do the other carved stones elsewhere. The landscaping on all the approach roads is first class, especially the landscaping outside the school and GAA. I could see the “footsteps” of an imaginative and progressive committee all around the town. If further planting is contemplated you could consider the purchase of Our Trees ISBN 0 9518612 -5 -5.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The timber framed notice board at the school giving all these details of the birds is attractive and interesting. I liked the other notice board “Kildorrery Loop Walks” giving information on all the outdoor pursuits is very well done and again is very educational. I note you maintain bird tables and feed the birds throughout the winter. I also see you have further plans for wildlife and natural amenities. You could consider the recruitment of someone proficient and interested in wildlife in Kildorrery. The walkways of the neighbouring Ballyhoura are wonderful amenities for the local people.

Litter Control:

You got excellent marks in the first round of the Cork inter-town litter challenge – congratulations. The school children are playing their part by taking part in the clean ups. The litter bins in the picnic areas and around the town are well serviced.

Waste Minimisation:

I inspected the bring bank and the seven bins were well serviced. Unfortunately, some boxes and cartons were dumped there, but this was not a major problem and happens everywhere. The concrete slab is a good idea and further enhances this area.

Tidiness:

I read your comments on the unfinished building projects, and I saw the situation myself, but there is not much you can do about these situations. I understand that builders must put up a bond to the Councils before they start building, therefore, if some builder just walks away from the problem, you have some redress with the council. However this would be a last resort, and in fairness the works appeared to me to be done very well. The town was in a tidy condition.

Residential Areas:

The housing estate on the Fermoy Road has a splendid entrance, but I could not find a nameplate for the estate; it had good lawns, trees and shrubs. There is a part of the site where future work is planned and it may be possible to get the developer to tidy up the appearance of it – maybe by planting some trees and shrubs. Bearn Deara has a great entrance and link road with good houses but the site is unfinished. Hill Crest is well advertised and you could request that a nameplate be constructed. The houses that are finished looked fine. The traditional town houses blend in well with the business houses, and are bright and cheerful. There is an array of beautiful private houses around the town sporting wonderful displays of shrubs, flowers, lawns and trees.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

All the roads around the town are in good condition. The public signposts are clear, clean and distinct. The road verges of grass are wonderful. All the fences by the roadsides are secure and safe. The stone signposts are very good.

General Impression:

You have a great approach to the competition and Kildorrery is looking all the better for your efforts. Congratulations on your success in the Ballyhoura competition last year. I will visit Kildorrery at another time and look forward to the implementation of the plans from Mr Donaldson.