

Tidy Towns Competition 2012

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kildimo** Ref: **1819**
County: **Limerick** Mark: **246**
Category: **B** Date(s): **29/06/2012**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2011	Mark Awarded 2012
Overall Development Approach	50	39	40
The Built Environment	50	36	37
Landscaping	50	31	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	12	13
Litter Control	50	35	35
Tidiness	30	13	14
Waste Minimisation	20	9	10
Residential Areas	40	30	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26	26
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	400	239	246

Overall Development Approach:

Your adjudicator would like to welcome Kildimo to the 2012 TidyTowns Competition and your participation is important to the competition. Your entry form was a comprehensive one and the supporting documents were of great assistance to your adjudicator. It is good to see that TidyTowns in Kildimo enjoys such strong support with a committee of twelve people. It is suggested that you might find that year round meetings are helpful. Thank you for the series of before and after photographs that illustrate quite clearly positive changes in Kildimo in the past year. The West Limerick TidyTowns Network is a really positive development and this is the first time that this adjudicator has come across this structure. It is good to have one person acting as liaison with the school as this link is really important for future progress. Your evaluation of the approach to your future work programme has been valuable and it is always better to make slow but steady progress. Thank you also for the TidyTowns Plan which is a logical and progressive document that is well structured.

The Built Environment:

Kildimo has a really great feeling of openness and a strong sense of colour. Many properties seemed to have been painted recently and the large house opposite the Adare junction is a case in point where good painting is enhanced by simple landscaping. The painting of the cottage was also noted and the planters at the front of the derelict house opposite the Seven Sisters. It is suggested that the house would be improved if the window and door openings were filled in with Marine Plywood and painted matt black with white glazing bars. Good progress is being made at the library. Is the exposed stone to be the final finish? If the building was originally intended to be plastered when built the removal of that plaster and exposure of the stone could lead to damp ingress issues. However presumably this has already been investigated. It is certainly an attractive building. Attractive landscaping was admired at the Catholic Church as were the old signs at the Post Office. The red brick of the road frontage of the Slattery Building stands out and adds character to Kildimo. At the National School if the concrete block road boundary wall could be plastered and painted it would be such an

improvement. The mural at the Seven Sisters was greatly admired. The use of the Irish language on signage is required under present legislation and this should be encouraged where appropriate. On signage the Irish language must have the primary role.

Landscaping:

Following the work at Slattery's corner the new grass areas looked really well and thank you for the proposed landscaping plan for this area which looks exciting. Native species are really important here. Your vigilance on the issue of invasive species is commended. Attractive planting was admired in front of the community site. It was with dismay that your adjudicator read of the Community Council plans to remove the mature trees here. If the trees are to be removed is a tree felling licence necessary? Does the County Council have a view on this? Many individuals have made a great effort to add natural colour to Kildimo through hanging baskets and window boxes. Your adjudicator reminds the Tidy Towns Committee that the cutting of roadside banks and ditches in the period 1st March to 30th August is not permitted under Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976, incorporating Section 46 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your work on the Daubenton's Bat survey and training is welcomed as is the planned wildlife habitat survey. Do make sure to include birds, fish, plants, insects, butterflies, animals, mammals etc. However the 2011 adjudicator's report indicates that this had already taken place.

Litter Control:

Litter control in Kildimo on the day of the visit was generally good and the central village area was especially impressive. On the road into the Ballyvareen Estate litter was evident. A lonely looking litter bin was noted on the Adare Road. Is this still in use? If so it needs to be painted. Likewise the bin at the GAA entrance would be improved if painted. On the road past the library some litter was also evident. Your involvement in the Spring Clean initiative has been noted from your entry form together with the regular programme of litter pickups. Plans for a Bring Centre are understood to be under discussion with the County Council. It is important that this is heavily landscaped and made a key feature of the village.

Tidiness:

Work on the front boundary wall of Kellett's was seen as was newly painted field gates. Good progress has been made at the entrance to Ballyvareen Estate with the removal of three builder's signs. The frame supporting the remaining sign needs to be painted. Acting on fly posting with the County Council is commended and none was seen in Kildimo.

Waste Minimisation:

The Carbon Footprint Survey made for very interesting reading. The implementation of waste minimisation in Kildimo is now the real challenge. Do consider what changes can be made at the church, school, library and businesses to reduce the annual generation of waste. This goes to the core of this adjudication category. The sourcing of materials locally fits well with this category.

Residential Areas:

Houses on the Limerick approach were well presented and good individual landscaping was evident. However do watch for kerb weed at road boundary walls. Ballyvareen Estate was visited and the presentation here is excellent and the grass area especially impressive. The young trees are doing well and the planted bog oak feature is successful. Houses along the Adare approach have done good work in creating grass verge areas at road boundary walls.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Traffic calming measures seem to be having some positive effect in Kildimo and the new pavement on the Limerick side was examined. On this approach the verge at the Kildimo sign needed a trim and cutting was also needed in the general area of the 50 KPH signage. On the Creamery Road the two large field gates should be painted. Along the Adare Road some stone wall repairs are suggested together with some bank cutting at the appropriate time of the year.

General Impression:

It was a pleasure to visit Kildimo and see the progress that has been made on road re-alignment and other key projects. Good luck in your work programme for the year ahead and we look forward to returning in 2012.

