

# Tidy Towns Competition 2012

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Kileely Court** Ref: **2139**  
County: **Limerick** Mark: **185**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **20/06/2012**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2011</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	0	30
The Built Environment	50	0	27
Landscaping	50	0	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	0	11
Litter Control	50	0	26
Tidiness	30	0	15
Waste Minimisation	20	0	5
Residential Areas	40	0	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	0	24
General Impression	10	0	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>185</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Kileely is most welcome to the 2012 Tidy Towns competition and we are delighted that you have taken this step to build on the extensive community work that is already underway. Many thanks for your completed application form, archaeology study, map and photos. The scale of your map was a little small and it is suggested that in 2013 you provide at hand drawn map. Perhaps you have an artist in your ranks that could take on this project. Your map should mark the locations of the main landmarks in your area as well as highlighting the locations of projects that you have undertaken. It is important that the adjudicator can inspect these areas.

Please note that the application form is not the same as a three-year plan. A three-year plan would be a strategic approach to all your activities over this time period and it would set out actions to be completed under each of the headings and define target dates for completion. This is a most worthwhile exercise and would earn you extra points in this category. The Tidy Towns Handbook contains details of how to go through this process and you are urged to consult this most useful document.

You have 15 members on your committee and this is a healthy number. To have an additional 40 upon whom you can call for additional support is excellent and shows that you have wide public participation. You also have good contacts with local businesses and local authority agencies and these will all be of assistance. Are there other sporting clubs or social groups that could also be involved? Best of luck in developing your website and Facebook page and they will no doubt be useful in maintaining public support. It was also wonderful to read how you support the local schools and that they all have green flags.

### **The Built Environment:**

The ring in Kileely is an unusual feature and is notable for its sheer scale. Is this a new feature? Do make sure to mark features like the community centre, shrine etc on your map as the adjudicator does not want to overlook them. St. Leila's national school is looking well and the expansive lawn was very well kept. This area would benefit from some landscaping however and it might soften the effect of the block wall. A native hawthorn hedge would be ideal, with a variety of trees which would also attract birds. There is already such a hedge along one side and this is an attractive feature.

Your report on the graveyard was read with interest. Unfortunately it was not possible to look around as the gates were locked. What is the function of the green container at its entrance? This seems quite intrusive in this location. Thomond Stadium is a very impressive structure that features high on the skyline.

This adjudicator tried to find your new community centre but failed to do so. Could it be the building behind the black wall at the ring? Judging from your photos however it seems a fine facility that will no doubt be a valued addition for your community.

### **Landscaping:**

It is noted that you plan to clean the ring as it has become quite overgrown with moss. This would be a good location for tubs with shrubs or small trees, perhaps even some summer flowers, as it is a significant focal point within Kileely.

The shrine is a very well presented point of interest and was decorated with colourful flowers. The colour scheme and well mown lawns however provide the main attraction. Some flags in the polls would add additional colour and movement.

The park is a nice green area that needs no major intervention due to the attractive wetland in the background. The boundary hedge needs to be trimmed and gaps filled in while there are some minor dumping and litter issues.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Donnellon's field was not marked on your map but it is assumed that it is the area adjacent to the Shannon. This may be a part of the protected lower River Shannon special area of conservation and you could find out by looking at the map the work on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie). The Shannon here is among Ireland's most important sites for nature conservation as it is home to protected species such as otter, kingfisher and salmon.

Before embarking on any works in this area it is important that you consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service as there is a legal requirement to fully assess any potential negative effects.

The wetlands are indeed of high conservation value and is a wonderful feature. Some dumping along the walkway is whoever needs to be attended to.

### **Litter Control:**

Do you take part in the national spring clean in April? This is run by An Taisce and is a fantastic event to get people out and cleanup area. Does your group carry out regular litter patrols? Do you have high-vis vests? You should wear these when working on projects and get Kileely Tidy Towns printed across the back to promote your group. Does your school participate in cleanups? You could hold art contests to help raise awareness.

Generally litter control was good on adjudication day with only minor pockets of litter items.

### **Tidiness:**

Kileely is generally very tidy with no major issues of significance. There is minor graffiti on the wall at the ring while some referendum posters remain to be removed. Elsewhere bus stops are in poor shape and need attention.

A pole coming out of the ground at Hennessey Avenue serves no function and should be removed, while a nearby lamp pole is badly graffitied.

**Waste Minimisation:**

This category encourages communities to take action in reducing our waste mountain. Ireland produces more waste than any other European country per person and much of this goes to landfill or is exported from recycling. We need to try to prevent the generation of this waste to begin with. Your schools have already begun this process in gaining the green flags. Consult with them and see what ideas could be applied across the whole community. Do you have bring banks for recycling? Composting is a vital component of this and has other benefits such as saving money on bin collections and generating material for landscaping schemes. Other ideas can be gained through holding a waste minimisation seminar with Limerick City Council.

**Residential Areas:**

Kenyon Avenue has terraces of well presented homes. Hogan Avenue is particularly noticeable for its abundant greenery. Elsewhere houses were mixed. You could hold gardening events or community painting days to encourage people to enhance their immediate appearance. Dulux had a scheme where they were sponsoring paint and this may be worth investigating.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Road surfaces are generally in good order while footpaths are reasonable. Surfacing of footpaths at the school is broken and poor in appearance. Would Limerick city council engineers help you out to refurbish these? The name Kileely does not appear anywhere around the estate (except for the plaque in the ring). Could this be addressed with some bilingual name stones?

**General Impression:**

Kileely has a lot going for it including heritage and wildlife areas. Making these more accessible would help to generate a greater sense of place. You have made a great start in the contest and we look forward to visiting again in 2013.