

Tidy Towns Competition 2012

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilmeedy** Ref: **223**
County: **Limerick** Mark: **252**
Category: **A** Date(s): **30/06/2012**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2011	Mark Awarded 2012
Overall Development Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	50	37	38
Landscaping	50	36	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	18	19
Litter Control	50	33	35
Tidiness	30	20	20
Waste Minimisation	20	7	7
Residential Areas	40	28	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	246	252

Overall Development Approach:

Your adjudicator would like to welcome Kilmeedy to the 2012 TidyTowns Competition and your participation is important to the competition. The map provided was extremely helpful and above all accurate. Your large committee has frequent meetings and that is a progressive approach to adopt. The appropriate agencies are supporting your work and that is encouraging for the future. It is suggested that you add texting and email to your communications mix. It was good to read of good relationships with the teachers in the school as the school has a key role to play in TidyTowns. Your entry form was a little vague in terms of giving exact details and location for some new projects. Ideally new work should be keyed to the map. It was noted that a 3 Year TidyTowns Plan was not included with your entry and your committee could prepare this in the coming winter. It will be helpful to use the ten adjudication categories as a framework. Your adjudicator is in agreement with the need for a dedicated TidyTowns committee for Kilmeedy.

The Built Environment:

Remedial work by the County Council on one property was noted. The Aras hilde building was greatly admired and it occupies a key location in the village centre. The recently painted road boundary wall at the church looked well as did the half barrels here. The information panels have been very well designed and produced and add much to a visit to Kilmeedy. The garage was tidily presented. However across the road the front facade of the school needs repainting together with the similar coloured house to the side. 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:

Summer planting adds much attractive colour to Kilmeedy but do also look to the needs of year round

planting. This should give year round colour and texture to the village. Across from the Graveyard very attractive planting on top of the stone wall was examined. The seat here is a great idea. Hanging baskets and window boxes have been used wisely in the village. 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:

With difficulty your adjudicator found the Arboretum area. Have you considered some roadside information in regard to the trees planted here and their relationship to wildlife to be found at this location? A fingerpost here for the Arboretum might be considered. You have a number of attractive and interesting scenic walks and some signposting might be considered. A wildlife survey of Kilmeedy is something to be considered for the future if this has not already been completed

Litter Control:

The level of litter control in Kilmeedy on adjudication day was of a high order and your mark has increased again this year. Your entry mentions a Litter Control Programme but it would have been good to have been given a copy of this for examination.

Tidiness:

The signage in and leading to Kilmeedy was all quite clean and presentable. A few field gates need to be painted to a common agreed colour scheme. On the Castlemahon approach road a little kerb weed was evident. A corrugated gate or door on the Clouncagh Road on the right going up the hill needed to be painted together with the iron door to the shed here. At the village crossroads the high concrete wall on two sides of the junction would be greatly improved if painted a suitable colour.

Waste Minimisation:

It was good to hear that the school is involved in recycling. This category is about annual waste reduction in Kilmeedy. You might look at this for next year, first of all establishing what waste is being produced. The next stage is to see how this can be reduced. Waste should include water, electricity, paper and cardboard for a start.

Residential Areas:

On the Castletown approach a brick and stone house was admired. The Fern View Estate was visited and what a surprise this was. The landscaping here has been very well planned and is being excellently maintained. What an attractive place to live!

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The welcome sign in Irish at the Cross of the Glen was good to see. The three main approach roads could have benefited by just a little more work on roadside banks at the correct time of the year. But this was not a major issue. The four approaches provide an attractive introduction to Kilmeedy.

General Impression:

Do consider this winter the question of the setting up of a dedicated Tidy Towns Committee. Kilmeedy is an interesting village well presented that was a pleasure to visit. Good luck with your work in the year ahead when we will be back!