

# Tidy Towns Competition 2013

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Kilmeade**

Ref: **375**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **281**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **01/07/2013**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2013</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	43	43
The Built Environment	50	32	33
Landscaping	50	42	43
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	31	32
Litter Control	50	35	35
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	9	10
Tidiness	30	18	18
Residential Areas	40	26	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	32	32
General Impression	10	7	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>281</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Many thanks for your entry in this year's competition with your helpful village map, plan and nice photos of your road signs. The name plate's signs are a welcoming approach to the village. Your committee of eight (women only) are working well. Your engagement with the schools and liaising with the council and other relevant agencies is positive. You use the newsletter and papers to communicate but why not use texting or email as they will save the committee time and it is now encouraged to reduce paper used. Delighted to see that the competition has been a positive for your group gaining marks over 22 years. It is good for the competition to see positive feedback.

### **The Built Environment:**

The church is very well presented all neat and tidy. The lovely bed of roses and herbaceous planting in the church grounds were admired. The grotto and seats is a lovely feature in the grounds. The information plaque on the church was admired. The church car park was visited and admired. The school and car park were well presented. The flowers on the school walls added a lovely splash of colour to this area. Fitzgerald's graveyard was visited and found to be very neat and tidy and well kept. Unfortunately litter in this area spoiled the good work done in maintaining this feature of the village.

### **Landscaping:**

The landscaped name plates as you enter the village were an indication of more landscaping to follow and this is certainly true. The planting at the church and school and the very nice planting at the corner opposite the church was admired. St Ita's Park has more pleasant landscaping with nice stone and flowers at the entrance to Moat view estate. The break in the road with trees looks good and works as entrance and exit. The park area at Ardscull has an abundance of all year round planting. The private houses through the village have lovely landscaped gardens. Newline grove also has splendid trees and green area at the entrance.

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

Moat of Ardscull is a lovely amenity and it is good that the TidyTowns group are developing this area. The work you have done here has laid the foundation for further development. The wildflower area has a good mix of plants. The information board when erected will verify this. The moat itself is also a lovely amenity through the

trees and it is used well. The picnic tables and seating add to the facilities enabling visitors to enjoy the park with its vast array of planting. Well done on this project.

### **Litter Control:**

Your work creating litter awareness in the community is working. The village except for the area at Fitzgerald's cemetery was free of litter. The Moat of Ardscull area had litter noted and the bin in this area was overflowing. You are not just dealing with people locally here but many people stopping off to use the facility. This is good but maybe put up take litter home signs as the adjudicator noticed in other amenity areas. It's worth a try.

### **Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:**

This category has caused problems for groups in the past. Not understanding that it was introduced to encourage groups to reduce the waste produced and move beyond recycling. Looking at your entry your group have a good understanding of this category. You are taking steps to encourage the residents to cut back, and extend the work you are doing with the school throughout the community. The community can save money as well as reducing waste. Do continue to encourage the community to reduce and reuse.

### **Tidiness:**

The village was generally tidy but for a few minor problems. The damaged ramp sign at the school looked bad. Some graffiti was noted on the sign on the way into Newline Estate. Your work with this problem is proving worthwhile. A business information sign near the end of the road at the church needs cleaning or replacing. Also on this road foliage needs to be cut back from a bin as it is partially hidden.

### **Residential Areas:**

The residents of the four housing estates are to be commended on the excellent presentation of their areas. The green areas were neat and tidy. A resident was planting flowers at one estate on day of adjudication (another woman). The private houses are all neat and tidy with manicured gardens which show that the residents have pride in their village.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The approach roads into Kilmeade were neat with well maintained verges. The attractive name signs were nicely planted which added to the overall approach to the village. The road surfaces through the village were good with ramps at the church and school slowing down the traffic. It is good to see from your entry you encourage the community not to cut hedges beyond the 01st March.

### **General Impression:**

Kilmeade village was a pleasure to visit. It was your adjudicator's first visit to your village. Your group are well focussed on how you would like to see the village develop in the future. You cannot beat girl power to move work forward. You are applauded for your work in this year's competition and wished every success in the future.