

# Tidy Towns Competition 2015

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kildysart** Ref: **71**  
County: **Clare** Mark: **288**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **17/06/2015**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2014</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2015</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	40	40
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	43	44
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	38	39
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	23	23
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	12	14
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60	60
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	33	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	33	34
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>288</b>

### **Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:**

Thank you for the more detailed map that you provided this year as requested by last year's adjudicator. As is standard with most council maps, they do not have street or estate names included but thankfully you manually added these, and project numbers noting the locations of projects achieved during 2014/15 which was most useful. Also the submissions and additional material from other clubs provided with your application show the breadth of your work with other bodies in the community and thank you for this and the before and after photographs provided. Overall you have provided a well-collated and succinct entry form which was easy to work through. Your adjudicator was taken by the contact name for the community group – it is rare to have a fore name and surname identical. You have good support from a range of local bodies including the County Council, Parish Council, schools, business and the drama society.

It was particularly pleasing to see how the community is working together and the provision of a lease of lands to the GAA has already resulted in a successful large funding application so well done to all involved. This is why the long-term plan is so important as it allows different bodies to input and provide ideas on the long-term benefit of the wider community. So well done to Kildysart Tidy Towns Committee for their achievements in 2015.

### **Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:**

The streetscapes of Kildysart presents well and the central burgundy railings and street furnishing and lovely hanging baskets provides a good focal point in the town centre. Individual homes and business premises are most often excellently presented and it is important to consider how they link together. So the choice of colour for one building should also be considered in how it will compliment the other buildings in the vicinity. There are clusters of buildings where this works very well but at the same time a number of excellently presented building do not blend in as well visually along the Main Street. So perhaps consider of neighbouring buildings is also a consideration in colour choice? O'Dea's hardware store was excellently presented as was the Post Office. Alders public house looked fresh. Some of the paint at Romeo's pizzas was coming off and needs to be redone. Be careful on the use of paper A4 signs on shop windows in a number of premises that they are not too many and do not obscure the interior of the shop. Tommy Fitzgibbon's butchers is a nicely fronted building with mosaic tiles there were so many such signs you could not see into the shop either through the window or door. The colour scheme at Donnellans was bright and fresh. The Corner Bar has used its strategic position nicely with its street furniture matching the doors.

The Garda station was very nicely presented and looked very well. The primary school was agreeably presented and the building works at the rear should make a big different to the community upon completion.

The provision of street and estate names will make a big difference to Kildysart.

### **Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:**

There were some lovely hanging baskets in the centre of Kildysart and on nearly every business premises in the town. Everyone seems to have come on board and is happy to have a floral display on their premises. There was a nice community information board on the Main Street.

### **Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:**

It is suggested you look at all of the newly planted trees in the community and check if the rubber straps/stays to support them are not too tight and hence not damaging them. The new wildlife area was visited and a survey of the wildlife and habitat here would be good to carry out. Be careful in a rural part of the locality such as at the harbour to plant native plants and to have furniture in keeping with the locality.

### **Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:**

It was good to read of the school book rental schemes and the clothing drives that you have completed to date in the community by the school and the Festival Committee

### **Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:**

A number of older tin roofed sheds were noted dotted through Kildysart where either the doors or roofs could be enhanced. It is suggested you audit these and offer to upgrade the front of buildings where safe and ask owners to give them some attention where possible.

The Credit Union looks smart but the canvas sign completely blocks the upper floor windows detracting from the streetscape here.

The completion of works at the Enterprise Centre will make a great different though it did look like all works had stopped on adjudication day.

The harbour is a lovely area and with a little effort a lot could be done to enhance this area. Here paint was flaking off railings and some signs and posts were very rusty. There appeared to be a lot of weed killer used in this area which was of concern to your adjudicator on the shores of a Special Area of Conservation designated as one of the best sites in Europe for wildlife.

A good number of businesses had bins, items for sale, and kegs on display on the pavement outside their premises. Some adjudicators have concerns about this blocking pavements but as all pavements still had plenty of room for prams and wheelchairs to negotiate, this was deemed fine on this occasion. The sign for the squash club could be repainted. There was some chewing gum in the central area of Kildysart.

### **Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:**

The mix of business and residential homes along the Main Streets of Kildysart was good to see. There was a beautiful period residence directly opposite the Parish House with wrought iron railings on the boundary walls. There was another dark and light grey painted home opposite the Church with a yellow front door that caught the eye also.

Dun Glenanna was a nice estate opposite the national school with no name at the entrance. Please do not nail signs to trees as this can introduce infection into the tree and damage it in the long-run. Warning signs could be erected here tied around the outside of the tree and monitoring in the long-run so they do not damage the tree. There were lovely red valerium flowers growing on the stone embankment at this estate showing that many plants do not need top soil in order to grow well. Further along the Ennis road as you come nearer to the village centre is Barrick Court that is in the hands of the receivers. This is one of the less nicely presented parts of Kildysart so please maintain links with Clare County Council on this on how this will be progressed.

Cluin Chormaic was nicely presented but the trees here need a little attention. Also on the Kilrush Road is a smaller estate by the funeral home with a name stone but no name. Hopefully this will be addressed in turn in Autumn as mentioned in the entry form. There are two dead trees at the entrance to this estate. It was nice to see in the hedge at this estate honeysuckle growing which smelt lovely.

### **Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:**

On arrival from Ennis there are nice brown information signs in the Ennis Road advising of the name 'Fisherman's Heaven'. There are many nice trees planted on the approach roads but there concern that the trees near the national school had now got tarmac tightly encasing their trunks. Talk to the Biodiversity Officer at the County Council for advice here please. There is a wonderful planted bed of mature shrubs at the bottom of the Main Street. Likewise there is another wonderful bed on the Kilrush Road.

The gates and brightly painted boundary wall of Kildysart/Coolmeen GAA were very nicely presented so great work to the GAA for this.

The new seat of reflection looked very well sitting within the new stone wall here and there was a lovely stable block

building on the way to the Quay. Side entries off the streets were very clean and well maintained.

**Concluding Remarks:**

It was good to explore your community and see the improvements and efforts made throughout the town. You have worked hard and made good progress Kildysart throughout 2014/5 – keep up the good work.