

Tidy Towns Competition 2012

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kildorrery** Ref: **457**
County: **Cork(North)** Mark: **268**
Category: **B** Date(s): **10/07/2012**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2011	Mark Awarded 2012
Overall Development Approach	50	38	38
The Built Environment	50	36	37
Landscaping	50	36	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25	26
Litter Control	50	33	34
Tidiness	30	18	19
Waste Minimisation	20	10	11
Residential Areas	40	24	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31	32
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	400	259	268

Overall Development Approach:

Kildorrery is welcome to the 2012 TidyTowns competition and thank you for your application along with selection of photos. Congratulations to the school on the production of a beautiful, hand drawn map that helped us greatly in finding our way around Kildorrery. You have a strong committee of 20 members – that is excellent for a village of your size. You hold about ten meetings per year and have strong links with Cork Co Co, Ballyhoura Development and the local CE scheme. Well done on your regular updates through use of your church newsletter, local press, notice board, meetings, texting and website to promote you messages. It is good to hear you have a good working relationship with the school. You have the basis for your plan included with your entry – you might consider formalising this a bit more so that you have a 3 year Plan (dated) laid out using the competition categories (so all areas get focus). If you can put timelines and names (individual/group etc) on each specific action, it will help to focus on priority areas moving forward.

The Built Environment:

The Topaz garage was neatly presented. The charming Community Office was admired and it is heartening to hear that you are going to restore it. The only disappointing feature right now is the roof. Many business premises were well presented on the day including A Monaghan's, Sheahan's Foodstore, the Corner House pub, Burke's, the Post Office, Ollie's bar, the Irish Tree Centre (office) and Thornhill's Opticians. The graveyard was neatly maintained – perhaps you might consider painting the gates at some stage. The pretty grotto area was admired. Further out this road is a lovely picnic area – please remove the old sign from under the hedge and refresh the wildlife sign. You might consider painting the back gate also. The school is fresh and inviting – the new rose/ivy beds further enhance the front area here.

Landscaping:

You have made great strides in this category over the last twelve months as a result of getting a landscape architect to draw up a landscaping plan/planting schedule. A good mix of shrubs, flowers and trees has been planted to further enhance the appearance of Kildorrery. It is great to see that you are doing permanent planting for year round colour/interest. Farrahy Road looks wonderful with new permanent planting for year round colour/interest. New hedging was observed at the entrance to the new housing estate. The small playground has been greatly enhanced by the colourful planting in front of it. The tree nursery enhances the Fermoy Road approach. There is a good hedgerow here also. There is a lovely picnic area on the Limerick Road and good tree planting at Bearna Dearná.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your 'wildlife trail' project is near completion - we look forward to seeing the results next time. The wildflower meadow is a lovely feature and we look forward with interest to seeing the 'boardwalk'. Keeping wildlife in mind when choosing new plants/trees, using weedkiller sparingly etc would be encouraged under this category. Certain plants attract butterflies etc. Try to plant native species where possible.

Litter Control:

Taking part in something like the Cork County Council litter challenge is a great way to raise awareness and get people interested so well done to all involved! You obviously have an environmentally responsible community, as the village was virtually litter-free on the day. The bring centre was litter-free. Well done on your litter rotas and purchase of anti-dog fouling signs. Your efforts to tackle cigarette litter are also noted. Please tell us a bit more about how you raise awareness of these issues with the wider community? Awareness is an important part of this category.

Tidiness:

Look out for hanging basket poles with no baskets! These add clutter and should be removed if not being used. There is a 'headless' pole near the post office that should be removed. A road sign near the graveyard needs straightening. The GAA entrance/landscaping/boundaries are excellent – however inside the car park was somewhat untidy due to various items lying around, particularly in the vicinity of the bring centre, which could attract further untidiness. The poor car park surface doesn't help matters. Perhaps the gates could be painted here. The unoccupied black pub has an unsightly pole on the front façade – could this be removed? The notice board at the church looks the worse for wear – otherwise the church and grounds were in excellent order.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done to the school for achieving its first green flag for reducing litter and waste. How are the waste minimisation messages being brought across to the wider community (from the school an/or TidyTowns)? Remember the main aim of this category is to reduce the amount of waste we create in the first place – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. The school will have lots of ideas from their green schools actions. You might be able to widen the scope to the wider community. Good luck with the composting project. Do you segregate the clean-up litter for recycling – please mention this in your entry form.

Residential Areas:

There is an air of pride coming from the residences of Kildorrery and all areas were litter free. Only one or two need to paint gates and maybe these are people who need a helping hand. Many houses along your main village streets have added a splash of colour with window boxes or hanging baskets. Bearna Dearná was neatly presented as was Oaklawn Estate where the new community garden/polytunnel was admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Lovely name stones greet you as you enter your lovely village via beautifully presented approach roads. All the new landscaping efforts were noted (as mentioned above). The new dry stone wall blends in well at Farrahy Rd. The timber fence near the entrance to Bearn Dearna needs treatment soon. You are well set up in terms of visitor information – local map/walking information and points of historical interest were all evident.

General Impression:

There is a great air of pride about Kildorrery and this shows in the presentation of your lovely village. Do try and come up with a 3-year plan for next year and this will help you further progress in the competition. Well done to all involved for your hard work and dedication this year. We wish you well for the forthcoming year.