

Tidy Towns Competition 2015

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilbrittain**
County: **Cork(South)**
Category: **A**

Ref: **136**
Mark: **297**
Date(s): **17/07/2015**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014	Mark Awarded 2015
Community Involvement & Planning	60	45	45
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	40	40
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	44	44
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	29	31
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	11	12
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	56	56
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	32	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	36	36
TOTAL MARK	450	293	297

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Kilbrittain is welcomed to the 2015 SuperValu Tidy Towns competition. Thank you for your application, plan, map and supporting photos. Community involvement is evident from your application with the number of groups and agencies that support the committee in their continuous work in the village development. Your participation in the competition is important to the Tidy Towns unit. They are also pleased to note that during the number of years you are taking part in the competition that greater cooperation between groups has occurred, and that the village has been greatly enhanced as a result. You have good means of communication through newsletters, local shops and word of mouth. The village setting as one enters is scenic. The background of Kilbrittain Castle the woodlands and the sound of the waterfall and the rolling fields of corn and grassland make the village setting picturesque. The development of the village so far has complimented this background setting.

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

The new entrance stone signs with suitable landscaping are welcoming and set the standard for the village. The village park was bustling with the sound of children playing. The large skeleton built into the park entrance gives uniqueness and is every watchful over the village. It is good to see past committee members honoured for their work in making the park project a reality. The Church and School in their elevated site overlooking the village were admired on their presentation. The School is complimented on its green flag status and also on the beautiful garden they have created. The grotto in the village with its superb landscaping of plants makes a nice focal point. The seating that surrounds the tree also displays a plaque honouring one of the villages past members. Kilbrittain has a number of exquisite amenities both in the village and the surrounds providing areas for visitors to walk and picnic. The area at the waterfall in one such however around the picnic tables could be better trimmed and presented. Many buildings through the village such as the Parish Hall and the Health Centre were looking pristine. The Amber filling station was bustling, proudly displaying a map of Kilbrittain on the wall of the building. The village pump at the park was brightly painted and is an important feature of the village. Bridges over the river were natural. The bridge at Kilbrittain woods needed some foliage to be cleaned back.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The village has superb natural landscaping in the woodlands that provides its scenic background and you have complimented this by the planting of trees and patches of landscaping dotted throughout the village. The entrance road from Kilbrittain woods had splendid plantings with items of farm machinery and milk churns brightly painted. The village entrance signs were also colourful with some herbaceous planting and bedding plants. Do try and plant sustainable planting where possible creating more seasonal colour and food for wildlife. Beddings plants can be added for extra colour as you do with the hanging baskets and boxes dotted throughout the village. Planting around

the base of trees is not recommended. The landscaped seat was noted but the bag of sand and bollard should be removed as it is taking from this feature. The bank across would benefit from planting of maybe wild flowers to compliment the stone background. New flower beds could be created opposite the graveyard and the existing pots could be utilised better in locations throughout the village.

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

The natural amenities that already exist in the village can be developed further through continuous research into the wildlife that exists within its boundary. The marine board at the entrance to Village Park could be highlighted more and more information on the whale Skelton could be included. Kilbrittain woods are an area that is brimming with different species of wildlife. Coilte maybe could help the committee and the local school carry out surveys on wildlife in the area. You could conduct nature walks through the woods to raise awareness of wildlife in the area. All findings could be documented and would further enhance your existing information boards.

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

Working with the School would benefit the community in looking at ways of reducing waste. The school would have done work already in this field in obtaining their green flags. More efficient management of resources such as energy, transport and water could be looked at. Register with the Green Home programme (<http://www.greenhome.ie>) this will provide useful ideas where savings can be made. Also look at running workshops such as stop food waste in conjunction with the local authority on ways of reducing waste. Check out the stop food waste website at (<http://www.stopfoodwaste.ie>) for more information in this area. Community and home composting are ways of reusing. The most important thing here is to look at reducing the amount of waste being produced in the village in the first place. Try to set out projects for next year and focus on them. Do include any findings with your application.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

This category warrants the full support of the community to make it achievable with all members tending to their own areas and also helping with large clean ups. The busy areas of the Village Park and Kilbrittain woods where there is plenty of activity were tidy. The Bring Bank was also visited and it too was tidy. The School sign needs cleaning. The bag of sand and cone at the planted seat looked untidy.

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

Many residential areas were noted and admired such as Castle view and Meadow view. Houses along the street such as the old Porthouse painted pink with the blue door stood out. Glenview adjacent to the Porthouse with colourful tubs and hanging baskets brought brightness to the streetscape. The stone front houses along the streetscape had good facades. On the approach roads beautiful houses with well-tended green areas and colourful gardens made the entrances to the village more welcoming. Some boundary walls along the street are in need of painting.

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

On the approach road from Bandon the landscaped village sign was admired. Ballinspittle road was also delightful with well-tended green verges and excellent planting with farm machinery brightly painted. The new sign at the crossroads displaying pictures of Kilbrittain provides interesting reading for the community and visitors to the village. Some road surfaces throughout the village need attention. The entrance road to the Bring Bank and Community Centre is very uneven and also is in need of attention.

Concluding Remarks:

Kilbrittain is set in lush green countryside with Glanduff woods and Kilbrittain Castle overlooking the village. It was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate. The village has done good work for this year's competition and are wished continued success in the future.