

Tidy Towns Competition 2019

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilteevan - Cill Taobháin** Ref: **2189**
County: **Roscommon** Mark: **290**
Category: **A** Date(s): **22/06/2019**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2018	Mark Awarded 2019
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	35	37
Streetscape & Public Places	60	39	40
Green Spaces and Landscaping	60	38	38
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	50	28	31
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	20	21
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	57	57
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	31	31
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	35	35
TOTAL MARK	470	283	290

Community – Your Planning and Involvement / An Pobal - Pleanáil agus Rannpháirtíocht:

Cuireann an moltoir seo failte roimh Kilteevan (Cill Taobhainn) chuig Comortas na mBailte Slachtmhara Super Valu 2019.

Thank you for your extensive and comprehensive entry form with pictorial inserts projects for 2019.

This is quite a detailed document with a lot of content all of which was not possible to be commented on all elements in a 3 page report covering 8 sections.

Feel assured that the adjudication was done in a fair and objective manner and in line with the guidelines of the competition.

Thank you for the map which well served its purpose in identifying points in what was quite a large adjudication area.

Having 92 in total involve in your activities in some form or other is quite amazing for a centre that is Category A.

The main high achievers in the competition nationally would not have this number available to them so well done on this.

One assumes that you have an executive structure with sub committees that report in on a regular basis as that is the most effective way in getting things done.

It seems that you have the support of the vast majority of citizens young and old of the parish.

To attain the level of ranking in the competition that you have in less than 5 years is also a major achievement.

The 3 year report is both practical and doable, you are wished well with this

Your methods of communication are varied a mix of the tried and trusted such as local church notes and community newsletter coupled with selected strands of social media including Facebook is up-to-date and has a large number of followers and keeps informed of activities such as Biodiversity Training delivered by consultants Flynn Furney and facilitated by Roscommon County Council.

The list of public service, other agencies, business entities and community organisations is impressive and this interaction has obviously paid off in practical terms.

Your school and junior tidy town's involvement is impressive and there is no point relaying all back to you suffice to say that it was one of the most impressive contributions observed by his adjudicator.

The projects that have been completed in 2018 have been noted, Straws Sucks seems to have taken Roscommon by storm.

The input and the work that you have done in this category since summer 2018 has earned you an increase in marks. uhh

Streetscape & Public Places / Sráid-Dreach & Áiteanna Poiblí:

The adjudicator after some slight difficulty in getting to grips with the geography of the extended village visited all the projects that you have mentioned in your submission.

The following is cross sections of observations that the adjudicator made during his walkabout, well drive about would be a more apt description because of the elongated nature of the area under adjudication. Ash Park is a facility that one would not see in much bigger centres and one was impressed with the park rules on a very nicely designed notice panel.

All elements of health and safety and unsocial behaviour were covered.

Well done to all volunteers that oversee the effective running of this park.

The adjoining RC Catholic Church and grounds were presented to a very high standard, boundary wall and entrance gates looked as if they had been recently painted.

At this juncture the adjudicator would like to comment favourably on the design and quality on the Kiltveevan Heritage Trail signs that were seen at various historical sites in the village.

The National School had bright feel to it, nice bright wicket fence around the colourful biodiversity garden with well appointed playground.

The visit to Kiltveevan Pioneer Hall, not too many around these times! and to view its history was interesting.

It was quite a distance to Randalstown in 1956 to purchase the original hut which eventually became the parish first community hall.

Well done on improving the area that contains the Post Box your work was noted.

Interesting history on the forged gate that was made in Ballinaboy also.

Your "head office" with its welcome sign was noted here also.

The Village Pump had a pretty large surround wall but it maybe could be enhanced a little with a planting arrangement within.

The Graveyard was in immaculate condition with a beautifully crafted wrought iron entrance gate.

One was rather taken aback when I saw Tom Cruises face staring out at me from one of the Heritage Boards but I soon found out the connection to Kiltveevan.

Visited the grounds of the long established and successful parish GAA Club St Josephs.

The Grounds were well presented but if you were an outsider it is not the easiest grounds to access.

Paddy Finns is a fine establishment well presented with more than ample parking for patrons.

The quality of road surfaces and signage was top class as well.

Overall the standard was very good and warrants an increase for the work you done over the last year.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The work that you have done in the last year has contributed to the ongoing standard that has been achieved in this category since you entered the competition.

To be honest the adjudicator could not find the Crab Apple Tree but your word is your bond.

There were some very nice little appropriate planting arrangements to be seen during the adjudications

Paddy Finns had a nice simple shrub bed and four hanging baskets that were not over populated which is the key to having good hanging baskets arrangements.

Area at the Grotto well presented as well with chain link fence acting as a boundary.

Nice stone arrangement at the bridge and also one at the Graveyard sign which had another chain link fence.

Other arrangements included one at the Church parking area and in Ash Park.

Overall the standard was good but one feels that there is more scope for further sustainable landscaping.

Maybe it would be on the cards to discuss this with the Area Engineer who is probably your first port of call when dealing with Roscommon County Council.

Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality / An Dúlra agus an Bhithéagsúlacht i do cheantar:

The key components of this adjudication category are a) knowledge of local species and habitats and knowledge of local designated areas and b) being able to promote the knowledge gained to the local community and the passing visitor in format that would be easily accessed such as wildlife information boards in a central location.

Good wildlife advice and communication of the importance of the local wildlife heritage to the local community is so important.

Being aware of invasive and possible destructive plants such as Japanese knot weed is also essential.

The adjudicator was very impressed with the number of simple projects that have been put in place since last year.

This category is one of your strong points and one that seems to be favoured by some members of the committee.

There is no point in relaying all these back to you suffice to say that you certainly have embraced the objectives set out in the introductory paragraph and following sentence.

Some major undertakings here from the publication of post cards for bio diversity awareness to the practical installation of Barn Owl Boxes the first time that the adjudicator has seen this in this year's adjudication journey.

One notes from your pictorial inserts that a member of the committee attended a number of bio diversity related events outside of the training programme during the year.

Well done on this.

You have certainly earned an increase in marks for the exceptional proactive work that you have done in this category.

Where did the major funding evolve from for these projects as the adjudicator may have missed reference to it in the body of your entry form?

An update for next year on this category will be awaited with anticipation of even more new project ideas.

Sustainability – Doing more with less / Inmharthanacht - Mórán ar an mbeagán:

The objective in this category has moved on to some extent from one of reduce reuse and recycle to one of promoting the concept of reducing the production of potential waste at source such as excessive packaging.

The concept Doing more with less is a slogan that will be in the public domain more often in the future as we come

to grips with trying tackle the overt waste problem

The list of projects that you have entered in the application is like all your category entries substantial and all are very much in keeping with the ethos of the sector.

Much of what you have included has been replicated in other centres around the country but the adjudicator notes that you have a number that are relevant to your committee and in particular the very progressive Kiltewan National School who showed great creativity in the mini projects that they put forward under this category.

For further idea generation and to come up with some novel ideas for your community do consult the following :www.localprevention.ie for ideas would be www.greenhomes.ie and www.sustainableprocessing.ie

Also something that this adjudicator became aware of late is the circular economy.

It is a bit too long to explain the concept in detail in this report, but if you access the following www.dccae.gov.ie you will get a pretty good idea of what it's all about.

The idea of what is called a linear economy of "take, make and waste" is now being seen as not sustainable and alternatives need to be found.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

A very important input here from the committee in this category is creating awareness of the problem that is motorists litter.

One does realise the degree of this problem until verges at the extremities of villages and towns are cut back and then one sees the extent of it.

It is just quite mind boggling to see the level of waste such as plastic and in some cases glass bottles, disposable coffee cups and other forms of wrappers fast food and the like.

The initiative that Roscommon County Council has put in place is laudable and you are to be commended for becoming one of its partners.

You are wished success with this one but as usual there will be always people who will not conform but at least it has to be addressed.

The village and its surrounds were generally tidy with an odd bit of litter to be seen at the road verge!

The poster free stand was pretty strong in Roscommon County and the adjudicator notes that your committee was respectful also in not resort to naming the individuals that did not accede to your request as happened in another centre.

Overall the standard was good and on par with what was reported on last year.

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

Your village and surrounding area does not have housing clusters that one associates with larger villages and towns.

You were also saved the scourge that other parts of rural Ireland had to put up with "boom time" inappropriate housing developments that were foisted on communities without much consideration being given local concerns.

The farmsteads and private homes viewed were in the main well presented with front and side areas tidy, one or two boundary walls could do with a coat of paint.

It's amazing what such an application can do in transforming a homestead.

Road surfaces are very good and looked as if they had been upgraded within the last year or two.

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

As stated road surfaces were good and traffic calming in the village at appropriate points notably the national school, church, cross roads and Paddy Finns were more than adequate.

There were a few faded road markings at exit roads.

There was a number of welcoming name plates in nice royal blue with white writing that caught the adjudicator's eye.

It was hard at times to establish exact entrances and exits to and from the village as the area covered in your map is quite large.

Overall the standard was good.

Concluding Remarks:

The adjudicator has passed the sign for Kiltewan on more than a few occasions but this was the first time that he actually visited your rural village.

That visit was very pleasant and a return one to do some walking is on the cards.

You are wished well for the future.