Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Kildangan - Cill Daingin**	Ref:	**163**
County:	**Kildare**	Mark:	**333**
Category:	**B**	Date(s):	**15/07/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	47	49
Streetscape & Public Places	80	41	43
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	37	39
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	37	39
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	18	20
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	64	66
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	36	38
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	37	39
TOTAL MARK	**600**	**317**	**333**

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

Fáilte go Comórtas Bailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2026. Go raibh maith agaibh as bhur n-iarratas a chur isteach. Maith sibh as an obair atá déanta agaibh in bhur gceantar go dtí seo - guíonn muid gach rath oraibh in bhur dtionscadail amach anseo.

This was my first visit to Kildangan, Co. Kildare in the role of adjudicator for the Tidy Towns Competition for 2026. For 2026, Kildangan Tidy Towns have entered into Category B Village population between 201 and 1000. Your 10 active committee members and a very impressive core of between 20 and 30 volunteers work regularly on your projects.

You are also very well supported by the CE workers in helping keep your locality in good condition, which is always welcomed by any village. You have noted that this employment project is invaluable to the Tidy Towns.

You have successfully taken part in the national Tidy Towns competition for 35 years, which is an excellent record to hold. It is hoped that Kildangan Tidy Towns will continue this legacy for many years to come.
You have submitted a concise and detailed submission, responding to all of the requested categories. You have also included a map with your entry, thank you, it greatly helped the adjudicator's visit. Unfortunately the location markings referred to in the entry were not visible on the village map.

You have highlighted that many local voluntary youth, sporting and residents organisations and local businesses have greatly contributed to the Kildangan work and submission. This local support is essential for your Tidy Towns team - it is very much appreciated.
Without exception all of the entrants from Kildare, including Kildangan, identified the support and assistance of Kildare County Council - the high standard achieved by the county's Tidy Towns family both in the past and in 2026 are a testament to the ongoing commitment and energy of the County Council.
Your setting out of the Tidy Towns means of communication covers all possibilities - it is important that all including new arrivals into Kildangan are made aware of the Tidy Towns activities and encouraged to join in.

As you have noted, Kildangan is looking very well. If possible, it would be very helpful to see a small number of pictures of all the good work that you are doing included in your 2027 entry form, particularly photos from during the year.
You have noted that the main thrust of your work in 2025/2026 related to maintenance projects but as is very much appreciated that the constant need to clean up, pickup litter, paint, water, thin out and and weed around is key to the ongoing presentation of your beautiful village.

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

Kildangan is a typical village ribbon development in a rich rural area, centred around the L3010 linking up with the R417 route.
While there are some older and newer housing estates surrounding the village, the village of Kildangan is largely centred around the landmark Church, the local National School, the Kildangan Community Hall the local Cross Keys hostelry, the shops and filling station, and the local GAA Club which has it's club house and playing pitches located on the Rickardstown Road out of the town.
The impressive entrance to the Kildangan Stud is another landmark of the village.
The Kildangan Bridge carries the L3010 road over the railway line, and traffic over the narrow bridge is managed. The bridge also carries a pedestrian path.
On the day of the visit, there was little traffic in evidence, however it can be assumed that the traffic would be heavier when the schools are open. The school has provision for set-down only on the local road.
The village is characterised by stone walls, neat hedges and timber railings and has good public spaces.
Kildangan also uses high quality metal bollards where appropriate.
There is also a good information board at the crossroads,

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

Kildangan has good green spaces distributed through the village. One of the most prominent spaces is the planted triangle with the bench opposite the entrance to the church with the rowan tree with a lot of berries surrounded by good ground planting.
This area is marked as being managed for wildlife.
Across the road there are three planters surrounding the water pump.
The grounds of the church are in very good condition, planter in the middle of the grass area is a central focal point.
The grounds might provide opportunity for the further development of pollinator friendly areas.
The planters at the Community Hall added a splash of colout to the building.
The Church, the National School and the surroundings to the GAA grounds also have good tree cover.

Thank you for the work in keeping all the green spaces distributed through your town so well maintained and attractive for all.

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

The increased importance of Nature and Biodiversity is recognised in the increased scoring for this category for the 2026 Tidy Towns competition.
Kildangan Tidy Towns have over the years planted trees and herbaceous pollinators in several locations throughout the village. You have discontinued the use of weed killers and have adapted the practice of laying down bark mulch and also pursued manual weeding which has had the desired effect.
Kildangan has recognised the importance of hedging for many of our native species offering wildlife corridors, food and shelter for our birds and insects and assorted wildlife. You have extensive lengths of good hedging, well maintained. Flourishing hedgerows are transformative for the biodiversity of a locality.
It would be important to remember that monoculture is the enemy of biodiversity.
Have you considered the preparation of a Biodiversity Action Plan for Kildangan?
Kildare County Council's Biodiversity Action Plan specifically identifies Tidy Towns as partners who might actively investigate opportunities to improve community biodiversity actions, and the Council and indeed the other Tidy Towns in the network are always willing and generous in sharing their experiences.
Kildangan has great potential in this area.

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

The increased importance of Sustainability for all communities is recognised in the increased scoring for this category for the 2026 Tidy Towns competition.
You have identified your reduced mowing campaign, the move from planters to ground planting and the elimination of the use of weedkillers as examples of sustainable practices in Kildangan, all very welcome and much appreciated.
You have already confirmed that the National School has a very active Green Schools Committee.
The sustainability umbrella covers a multitude of actions and activities that can be included in your future submissions.
For example, the Kildangan GAA clubhouse has invested well in installing an impressive array of solar panels. There may well be opportunity for Tidy Towns to facilitate the increased take up of solar panels by some of the houses and homes in the village as part of the global move away from carbon fuels to the increased use of renewables.
Every effort to encourage the principles of a circular economy should be promoted and encouraged. Some Repak yellow bins were noted at the GAA Club, Does Kildangan have any recycling facilities? It would be interesting to hear more about the work of the Shed4Bikers - they may be recycling unwanted motor bike gear.
The advice of last year's adjudicator to record and document all sustainability related activities is repeated in 2026.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Kildangan Tidy Towns Committee and the volunteers together with the CE employees and Kildare County Council have worked hard to ensure that the village and surrounding area has a high standard of tidiness and litter control in all of the public areas visited.

Your submission has specifically highlighted the work and assistance of Kildangan Scouts, the pupils, teachers and parents of Kildangan National School and the members and players of Kildangan GAA Club.
There was no evidence of litter, fly-tipping or dumping apparent on the day of the visit.
Congratulations on your work.

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

The residents and community of Kildangan maintain and keep their homes, gardens and roa\d to a very high level.
The older single storey bungalows at Bridgeside Cottages, fronting onto the L3010 fronted with a low stone wall were in very good condition, with colourful gardens, some with flower boxes and hanging baskets.
On the opposite side of the road the newer Harristown Drive development is built around a green space and it was encouraging to see provision made for ground planting and a number of trees, mixed species, which were staked and tied.
Similarly, the houses in the Paddocks were well looked after, with trees and wall cover to the verges, some of these houses have a lot of cobblelock paving that might be softened by either the introduction of planters or preferably a reduction in the area of hard cover. The general rule is to have as many flowers as possible and mow less often.
There are a number of one-off houses set back from the road well screened by generous growths of hedging and tree cover, all very well maintained and in good order.
Thank you to all the residents and keen gardeners of Kildangan.

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

From the outstanding landmark entrance to the Kildangan Stud, the approach roads into Kildangan are overall very clean, with clear signage and markings and well maintained.

There was very good hard and soft landscaping throughout, with the hedging in particular catching the eye.

Traffic calming measures including the traffic lights at the bridge ensure that the village remains pedestrian-friendly.

The general condition of roads and paths was excellent, all enhanced by excellent planting and maintenance, and it was a pleasure to walk around the community.

Concluding Remarks:

Thank you for your 2026 entry, This adjudicator was impressed with the presentation of your village and the work the whole community has carried out. You might like to consider preparing a 3-year plan for Kildangan so as to have a clear idea as to how your community keeps moving forward. Thank you again for your work.

Go raibh maith agaibh go léir.