

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILMANAGH**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 15-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14
Landscaping	40	28
The Built Environment	40	23
Litter Control	40	33
Tidiness	20	15
Residential Areas	30	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	300	190

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Fortunate is the village which does not have to seek sponsorship! It is good to read in your answers to the questionnaire that you are in contact with the local authority. Have you considered making use of the FAS youth employment scheme, which is very helpful to those employed as well as to the community which employs them? Your Development Plan will be greatly looked forward to next year. Thank you for your map and other information.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

A nominal mark is being given in the first year under this new heading where committees have not had time to make plans.

LANDSCAPING

The open spaces and greens in Kilmanagh are exemplary, and constitute one of the most impressive features of the village. The floral displays in the school and church grounds were splendid. Congratulations on your tree-planting programme: there can never be enough of this. The floral displays at the school were splendid, and it was good to see flowers in so many places, public and private. (Not for marking in this competition - but the fields opposite the Creamery are unusually weed-infested and give a poor impression of local husbandry).

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The churches, the school and the main business premises all looked very well indeed. Some dereliction was noted - but do not demolish unused stone buildings, because they can look superb when eventually rehabilitated. Painting is needed on the woodwork of the Creamery, and the old school needs freshening up with paint.

LITTER CONTROL

There was virtually no disposable litter in Kilmanagh on adjudication day - congratulations.

TIDINESS

Some poorly maintained verges, fences and boundaries give an untidy look which unfortunately outweighs their incidence. There are no obtrusive signs or untidy wirescapes.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private homes were in general looking very good on adjudication day. Two in particular - the two-storied house at the Ballingarry-Tullaroan junction and the thatched cottage in the side road - looked really beautiful with their gardens and creepers. The housing estates on the Callan road was well kept, but more imaginative gardens would be welcome - ramblers and climbers can greatly enhance roadside gardens and their boundary walls.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The left hand side of the approach road from Kilkenny was not trim on adjudication day; fencing on the west side of the bridge was poor. Approach roads from other directions were better. The stone wall below Ryan's pub is so much more attractive than the concrete block wall above it, however well maintained the latter. Ryan's car park, and the car park at McCluskey's were weed-free, but the open space in front of handsome Gothic gate-pillars at the otherwise well kept cemetery was very weedy indeed: it might be preferable to grass it over rather than try laborious weeding. The pump area is

attractive, but verges on either side were very overgrown on adjudication day.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A pretty and prosperous-looking village, where great pride is obviously taken in its appearance.

SECOND ADJUDICATION

The town centre was very well presented on the day of second adjudication. All grass areas were mown and there was no litter visible. Under the heading of wildlife, you should consider increasing your rating by developing the riverside area. Unfortunately, verges on the left of the Kilkenny approach were still not mown. These are important areas in the town and should be attended to. As a small town, you are to be commended in your efforts, which will pay off in the coming years. However, you need to get problem areas under control, particularly maintenance of verges, hedgerows and boundary walls. There is much scope for improvement and you are making good progress.