

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **PILTOWN**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	28
The Built Environment	40	28
Litter Control	40	30
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	300	205

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is good to read of the very active support of the Tidy Towns Committee throughout the community, and also of the contacts maintained with local and national organisations. The FAS youth employment scheme should certainly be mutually beneficial. More information would be welcomed on your map.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Marking is generally low in the first year of this new category as most committees have not had time to consider initiatives. You will no doubt build upon the advisory role you are already following.

LANDSCAPING

The riverside amenities at Tybroughney Road and Hatchet Well in the centre of the village were much admired, with the impressive tree planting. Some wonderful flowerbeds (not shown on map) were seen almost opposite the river site, and a broken stone wall - presumably there is development in progress here. This adjudicator agrees with the retention of valerian on walls, but not everyone would! Several attractive areas of planting were seen, for example at the base of the water tower to the west, and in open spaces with flourishing hedges to the east.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both Churches, the handsome Garda Station, and the Schools were very well presented - those with grounds and gardens were really attractively presented. The Iverk factory, with its excellently landscaped frontage, was admired. A curious piece of either dereliction or building about to be restored (which?) was noticed on the side road by the R.C. Church; and a corrugated-iron building near the Church of Ireland needed freshening up with paint. It is hoped that the burnt house can be reinstated. Substantial business premises in the centre of the village are well maintained.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little disposable litter in Piltown on adjudication day, except in the neighbourhood of Foyle's garage.

TIDINESS

This is a comparatively tidy village. All that is needed is detailed co-operation of effort by individual residents and owners of commercial properties to make it first class.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

These are particularly well looked after in Piltown. The village is unusual in the way that older residential properties, council houses, and suburban-style homes, alternate along the length of the main street; many, in all categories, are superbly kept, and gardens and floral decorations were of a generally high standard on adjudication day. In the more conventional out-of-centre estates, the standard is also high. Hillcrest, with its landscaping and imaginative streamside development, is of exceptional quality. New housing under construction nearby looks as if it will be attractive when completed. Private homes in the road (un-named on map) to the north of the town are attractive.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Verges on the main approach roads were very trim. There was a considerable amount of unsightly weed growth along the roadside wall of the Community Centre - surprising because the grounds of the Centre itself are splendid. A spot which could be improved is at the Garden Machinery Centre and Piltown

Engineering, where the curved wall could be painted, the sign erected rather than left on the ground, and weeding of the other end of the village opposite Iverk Products might be looked at. In the neighbourhood there is landfill in progress, there are some well maintained stone walls.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The answers to the questionnaire, as well as the work seen throughout the village, disclose a progressive committee and a prosperous community. In spite of the complication of the new categories, and changes in the marking system, Piltown should be several places higher this year on the list of 25 entries in the county.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (11/08/96)

Litter was noticeable on this visit especially around the vicinity of the R. Pill, the Shell garage and the Well. The great effort in maintenance of private houses is highly commended. The colourful and well maintained planting was a notable feature of the town. Some problem areas persist particularly the derelict garage/shop on Main Street and Piltown Engineering which is very untidy. The houses on tower road looked very attractive, but you need to mow the grass verges along school road. The planting around the school was outstanding - well done! Your detailed plan of the town was very helpful, and we suggest that you take it further and develop a 3 - 5 year plan. Your work to develop the river banks is a step in the right direction.