

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILMORE QUAY**
County : **WEXFORD**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 04-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	20
Litter Control	40	27
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	17
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	164

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

You are very welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition and hope you will continue to enter for many years to come. Your village and community will benefit enormously from the various works you will do over the Competition. You will be expected to do a simple 3 - 5 year Programme or Plan which will guide your Tidy Towns activities. It should also set out your objectives for each year. Do involve all the Community. It is not satisfactory that just a few people should be doing all the work. Do liaise with the Local Authority, Regional Tourism Organisation, NRB, FAS, etc. All these agencies have invaluable advice to give you. When the Marina and associated works are fully completed you will then be able to plan ahead.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You have great possibilities in Kilmore Quay to conserve and encourage wildlife. Do invite in a local environmental expert to get involved, advise and provide you with the specialist information that you require. A good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats in your area and see what species of animals, birds and fish these attract. Your idea to publish a small book on wildlife is an excellent one.

LANDSCAPING

Trees are very important plant in an urban landscape. The siting of trees in the village is a key aspect. Shrubs and flowers used in a combination with trees will contribute to a lovely overall effect. All open spaces will have to get attention in the village. The flower planting on top of the stone wall in the village looks stunning. When you sit down to plan for 1997 do prepare a landscaping plan which includes housing estates and all green spaces. The area around the Marina should also be included. Encourage all business people to have window boxes and hanging baskets, etc. A feature could be made of the pump near the parking area.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church was presented beautifully with planters which contained a delightful display of shrubs and flowers. The Tennis Court area looked very well and it is a great amenity for the area. Any shops or business which have plastic signage must be encouraged to replace these with a more suitable type. Most business premises are well presented. Do encourage them to use more flowers to enhance the properties and the village. The Maritime Museum should again look well and be a wonderful visitor attraction when the development works in the area are completed it. The Life Boat House is well maintained and again when the development is completed it will be much easier to keep dust, etc away. The Garda Station does need attention. It will need painting - gates, walls and the building itself. The Public Toilets need attention - the walls need to be painted badly and need a cleaning programme put in place when they are refurbished. Any derelict and unsightly buildings must be tackled. Talk to the owners and the Local Authorities about this aspect.

LITTER CONTROL

Overall litter control was good. It is essential to involve all the Community in the fight against litter. Litter is a big issue and must receive serious attention. Consult your Local Authority about street cleaning programmes. It will involve a huge commitment from the local Community on a voluntary basis ensuring that the area is in a litter-free state.

TIDINESS

It is great to see that you are going to be provided with recycling bins. Do ensure that they are accessible to the Community. Do pay attention to weeding at all kerbs in the village and housing estates, etc. The control of this should be undertaken by the individual property owners on a co-ordinated basis by the Committee.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are some outstanding individual properties which are well maintained. In particular some of the thatched houses look stunning. Derelict and neglected houses must be tackled. Contact the owners and the Local Authority about this aspect. Open spaces in housing estates must be tackled. Encourage the use of window boxes, hanging baskets, planters, etc. It would do wonders for the overall effect.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All the approach roads need attention - ditches to be trimmed and kept neat. All signs need to be kept free of grass and weeds. Also all signs must be clean and in perfect condition. All street surfaces in good condition. Now is the time when the marina/harbour development is in the final stages of completion to do any laneways, back roads, etc. Do talk to the Local Authority. This is now an important element in the adjudication process.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your outlook is extremely positive and when your proposed plans are put into action it will no doubt be a tremendous boast to a village which has vast potential in this Competition for the years ahead. Your proposed approach is going along the right road.