

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILMIHIL**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14
Landscaping	40	21
The Built Environment	40	23
Litter Control	40	22
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	163

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for submitting completed entry form and draft of development plan. You are progressing in the right way and you now need to firm up your plan and phase the development. Unfortunately there was little evidence of extra work being done and you still have a lot of work to do. Kilmihil is quite extensive relative to the population and there are many developments required which are beyond the scope of an ordinary Tidy Towns Committee. In this respect you will need to liaise closely with other agencies.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This new category invites committees to get involved in the promotion and propagation of wildlife for which there are valuable marks. You have an opportunity by planting appropriate shrubs and trees that will yield food for wildlife in winter time. Perhaps you might consider designating a special area for such a development. The village environs are endowed with a great variety of wild flowers.

LANDSCAPING

You mention phased tree planting of 50 trees per year - has this started yet? The planting of appropriate species in the main street would be significant. You have ample scope for developing some of the many open spaces in and around the village. Some of the previous year's flower tubs need replacing. An ideal community project would be to clean up and landscape surrounds of the monument in the village centre. One approach road open space is being used for burning rubbish. Try to concentrate on the approach roads. Can you organise a FÁS scheme that could be put working to an agreed plan?

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

You have many fine buildings with character. You also have some attractive shopfronts i.e. McNamaras. The new school is attractive in design and has been landscaped since last year. It is a pity the Telecom pole is not located in a less obtrusive place. Could the grass be kept cut during holidays? The village hall is now unsightly and needs repairs and painting. The many rusty corrugated iron buildings do nothing to improve the overall appearance of the village especially in the village centre. The old school and environs have gone very shabby. Are there plans for improvement? The garage is very well presented, but Golden Vale is poor in presentation. Could the rusty chainlink fencing at the top of the village be replaced with new materials? The Post Office is well presented together with the Credit Union.

LITTER CONTROL

In general litter control is good and was not apparent on adjudication day. This is commendable and reflects good effort by the community. Litter bins seem adequate in number and are well located.

TIDINESS

Because of the many uncared for open spaces and so many buildings requiring painting there is an air of untidiness about the village. This will only improve when you start to tackle the points mentioned earlier. There is an unofficial roadside dump on the Cooraclare road that is quite untidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

This is your strong point and you have many excellent houses, with well developed landscaped gardens. The small housing estate off the Ennis approach has potential to improve. This estate still has no name plate. The landscaping of last year has not been maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

This new category is now placing equal emphasis on side and back entrances with front entrances. There is now an opportunity to encourage people to pay greater attention to such entrances. In particular, areas that are quite visible from passing traffic should be presented to an acceptable level. No doubt your development plan will identify such areas and make recommendations for improvement.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village is in need of full co-operation from all the community. It is not feasible to expect a small committee to implement all the requirements for improvement. You should consider calling a public meeting together with interested relevant agencies and get support from all concerned to implement a phased agreed programme that will achieve a high environmental standard within five years. Keep up the good work and try and involve all sections of the community.