

*"Caring for our environment"*

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

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 17-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	23
The Built Environment	40	25	23
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	14
Litter Control	40	34	33
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>190</b>

## **Kilmanagh, Co. Kilkenny**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

You have obviously made splendid progress under this heading since last year. Your 3 year plan makes excellent reading and it is noted in particular that you now have a FAS scheme and have been able to raise some financial support. This augers very well for the future. You received an in-depth report in 1996. The following comments should be studied in conjunction with that report with a view to moving forward to the next stage of your action plan.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Your comment regarding the removal of some derelict sites has been noted as has your further comment regarding the involvement of Kilkenny County Council. It is appreciated that, in a small Community, you do not wish to be involved in enforcement but, at the same time, the owners of such derelict sites should be approached perhaps with some suggestions as to how they can be put to better use or at least presented in a more acceptable manner. Many other Tidy Towns Committees have done this successfully. All your public buildings and commercial premises were again very well presented but, as mentioned last year, some painting is still required. Work on the building and refurbishment of walls was noted on adjudication day.

### **LANDSCAPING**

All your floral displays were again excellent this year as indeed were your open spaces. Consider doing some judicious tree and shrub planting. In the case of the latter think in terms of shrubs which will give you some colour on an all-year-round basis. However please do plant everything judiciously as to do otherwise leads to clutter. The objective should be to soften the landscape by carefully planting tree and shrubs in appropriate places. Again take the best advice available from your local engineer, Coillte or a suitably qualified person.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This is a new category in the competition with the emphasis on the conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitats and the environment. Woodland, rivers, ponds, hedgerows, grass margins, open spaces, graveyards and walls are important habitats. Your Committee, as part of the ongoing plan, should try to identify the habitats in your area and determine the appropriate action necessary to conserve and enhance them. Your comments in the plan have been noted and in this respect you are heading in the right direction. If there is a local wildlife expert or a member of your Community with experience in this area please do get them involved. Get and take the best advice you can.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Congratulations to all concerned. There was practically no litter to

be seen on adjudication day.

## **TIDINESS**

The village looked exceptionally neat and tidy on adjudication day but there is a need for ongoing attention to verges and fences. It is appreciated that in wet summer weather these can very quickly get overgrown but there is, nevertheless, a need for constant attention to be given to them.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

All private homes looked exceptionally well. However one or two gardens in the estate on the Callan road looked somewhat in need of attention. Many private houses had magnificent displays of flowers and great credit is due to all concerned.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Most approach roads looked well but there was a need for further trimming. There was evidence that this had been done but, in most cases, it had become overgrown again. Please bear in mind that verges should not be trimmed right back to the hedge. A sufficient amount should be left for the propagation of wild flowers. Trim back therefore approximately half the area between the edge of the road and the hedge. Adjudication normally starts from the town/village nameplate so it is important to pay attention to those areas in terms of verge cutting. Road surfaces were excellent.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Kilmanagh has progressed well since last year and this will be reflected in the marks. There are however areas for further improvement these were mainly outlined in the 1996 report.