

Tidy Towns 1997

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILMAINE**  
County : **MAYO**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	10	--
The Built Environment	40	20	--
Landscaping	40	15	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	--
Litter Control	40	10	--
Tidiness	20	7	--
Residential Areas	30	10	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	15	--
General Impression	10	4	--
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>--</b>

## **Kilmaine, County Mayo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Welcome to the Competition and many thanks for your report and map submitted by Dennis Walters. Congratulations in your success in getting sponsorship and well done to Mayo County Council, FAS, ESB, Telecom Eireann and the local schools for assisting you. We would like to see you draw up a 5 year Development Plan for the village. The Plan should be compiled in co-operation with all interested parties giving areas of responsibilities, allocating resources and laying down a time limit for completion of work.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Your important buildings are well presented. The church car park and priests house are most attractive and very well maintained. The school looked well especially with the trees and shrubs in the play area. The lawn was in need of cutting and there was litter in evidence. The Abbey is a key attraction and well done with your successful lighting programme. The Abbey area was in need of some maintenance to remove litter and control the weeds, particularly in the area over the wall beside McHales Engineering Works. McHale Engineering works looked well. Some more flower tubs and baskets would be welcome. The Bounce Trailers unit was in poor repair and you have a problem with derelict buildings and poorly maintained out-buildings in the village. In general the commercial premises looked well - Jack Murphys, Flanagans, the Post Office and Maloneys looked well. Watch for litter control in the area around Centra.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Your choice of trees and shrubbery on the church road is to be commended. You need to do more to landscape open areas, remove and control weeds, etc. You should discuss a landscaping programme with the local authority, they may be in a position to offer some advice.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

There is always potential for greater nature conservation in rural Ireland. A good starting point would be to identify the areas indigenous wildlife - both flora and fauna. Invite your local environmental expert to assist you develop an approach to this category of the Competition.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was far too much litter in evidence throughout the village - outside shops, the Abbey, the school and Riverside Close. You need to win the support of the local people to prevent this problem.

## **TIDINESS**

The overall tidy appearance of the village was adversely affected by the litter, lack of weed control and the derelict buildings.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most private home owners made a good effort to present a good appearance of their homes. The home opposite the school car park off the Castlebar / Longford road was very attractive. Some of the homes in Riverside Close and on the church road looked very well. Encourage all home owners to maintain a high standard and assist those who are not in a position to do so.

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

All your approach roads have benefited from some work with good stone walls, planting of trees, etc. The areas needing attention include the ongoing maintenance of grass verges and weed control. You should also consider developing features such as shrub beds or sculpture pieces on the approach roads to Kilmaine. The village streets are in need of attention - I would suggest paved areas and traffic control features to mark car parking areas. Keep an eye on the condition of back areas, especially on the church road.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Your efforts to date are to be commended. We wish you well in seeking continued support from Mayo County Council and FÁS. Try to submit a Development Plan next year.