

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILRUSH**  
County : **CLARE**  
Category : **D**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-06-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	44	44
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	20
Litter Control	40	31	31
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>218</b>

## **Kilrush, County Clare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Kilrush is very welcome to the 1999 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for all the information supplied with your application. This was more than welcome and must have taken many hours to prepare and complete. The preparation of the application reflects the attention to detail given in the presentation of the town in the competition, well done to those involved in both!

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Golden Vale property is disappointing in its presentation and spoils an excellent entrance to the town from the Kilkee Road. The landscaped space before the nameplate on the Lahinch road looks well, the green verge on which the nameplate is located should now be seeded. The James Clancy property on Vandeleur Street has retained all of its traditional features which is commendable. The overall presentation under this heading is very good and there are many examples of fine architecture and well presented buildings. Congratulations on the Paint Design Scheme. May it continue to be implemented.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaped areas at the speed limit signs on the Ennis road are elegant in their simplicity. The speed limit signs themselves could be cleaned. The number of landscaped areas around the town and its environs are too numerous to identify but well done on a fine effort and do remember that your efforts will be rewarded best by permanent planting of trees and shrubs rather than flowerbeds. Refer to the new Tidy Towns Handbook for ideas and guidelines.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The pitch and putt course looks really well. The large green area between the town and the Scattery Island Centre would make a good waterside community park. Are there plans to develop this site? We note with interest the makeshift goal posts located on it which suggest it is being used for recreation at the moment. Congratulations on wildlife activities to-date and on the proposed wildlife survey. Do send in details of this upon completion and thank you for the excellent photographic report of surveys to-date.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Although litter control was poor at Kellys on High Street, it was quite good overall. Well done on the appointment of a litter warden and the proposed new litter bye laws. Your Clean Up

Kilrush Week appears to have been successful. It is good to note your activities in relation to Cappa Beach.

## **TIDINESS**

Congratulation on your initiative on the problem of derelict buildings (and the redevelopment of some). Unsightly storage in a yard on High Street is a problem under this heading together with the derelict buildings. Perhaps this yard could be screened from public view. There is quite an amount of untidiness, dumping, underdevelopment, and dereliction in the area around the Scatterry Island Centre, presumably this entire area will be redeveloped in due course.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The colourful rows of terraced houses leading into the town from the Kilkee Road play a very important role in the creation of a good first impression of Kilrush. One is slightly disappointed in arriving at the town centre to see the Reidy Motors premises. However it is good to note from your application that the owner has plans to paint same. This should carry the favourable impression of Kilrush right through to the town centre. Roadside boundary walls to St. Josephs Terrace could be cleaned together with a substantial number of other walls around the town. Residential properties on the Ennis road are also in need of attention to boundary walls. Infill properties have been finished to a high standard.

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

A new footpath and a stone wall have been developed out the Ennis Road and both of these are a very welcome development. The painting of seats in the landscaped area on the Cappa Road was in progress during adjudication. The main streets of the town will, of course, look a lot better when the overhead service cables are ducted and more attractive lampstandard are provided. Well done on the excellent bi-lingual street namesigns and the Tourism Signage Policy. Your Laneways and Back Areas Plan is admirable.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

A visit to Kilrush is a very pleasant experience. The town still retains its rural character which has been lost in many rural Irish towns. The majority of buildings still retain their traditional features.

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (08/08/99)**

The attractive and busy town of Kilrush was a pleasure to visit after a number of years for this adjudicator. Some good colour schemes were apparent to the main streets and on the Market Square. The stone beds filled with flowers on the Ennis Road at the 30 mph speed limit sign were admired as

was the new limestone kerbing. Perhaps the area filled with tractors adjacent to the Maxol station could be screened more successfully from public view although the dry stone walling to the front with its colourful flower boxes was admired. The forecourt area to the Texaco station appeared quite bare and is an obvious contender for a landscaping project. The fine timber shopfront of James Clancy's on Vandeleur Street was admired for its fine texture and joinery work to its pilasters. The Central Pharmacy was very fresh in pink and the attractive traditional fronts of Brew's and Crotty's on the square were admired. There is a good use of the Irish language throughout the town and as previously mentioned the buildings surrounding the square looked well with the exception of Linda's Footwear which looked quite shabby in comparison. The Post Office was very fresh in pink. As mentioned by the first adjudicator the area in the vicinity of the Scattery Island Centre looks quite bare and forlorn and some litter by the freshly painted red benches opposite the grotto created a bad impression. An attractive new building (which could possibly be a school?) on the Lahinch Road was greatly admired.