

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **FARRANFORE**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	24
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	23	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	12
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	9	9
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	19
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	161	156

Farranfore, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator would like to thank you for the copy of your 3 Year Tidy Towns Plan. This makes interesting reading and you have some good projects in mind. The walk along the old Valentia railway route could be an excellent development. The adjudicator hopes that FAS will be able to get involved in the environmental works in Farranfore. Likewise hopefully the traffic control plans which you mention will be introduced as soon as possible - this is urgently needed. The adjudicator appreciates the difficulties which high traffic volumes cause for you.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Hopefully the County Council will be able to help you with your plans for much needed footpaths. Your work on derelict buildings is noted and please continue this as opportunity allows. At the Kerry Group Mill the fencing at the entrance is in need of repair, and the dead grass needs to be removed from this fencing. The white railing inside their gate is in need of painting also. Work was in progress at the Railway Station on the day of adjudication. This is an interesting stone building. A property opposite Herlihy's Bar was noted, and the adjudicator wonders if this is being restored. Do remember that if a building built of stone was originally plastered, then the plaster should not be removed without special treatment work to the stone. The old School was well presented but much weed growth was noted at the fence and the path in front of this building. The large site cleared for development near the Furies junction was noted. It is hoped that the plans for any buildings to go onto this site will respect the character of Farranfore. The new School looks really well. However the grounds would be greatly improved if some suitable landscaping was carried out. Perhaps this can incorporate a wildlife project in which the school children might become involved? The S. Sheehan property is simply presented and is effective.

LANDSCAPING

The area opposite the Furniture Hall was examined and you have done good work here. The new fencing looks well, but perhaps you need to paint the timber black for maximum effect. Your plans for window boxes are noted. The use of hanging baskets and flower tubs in carefully selected places will add an interesting splash of colour to any town or village. However make sure that this is not overdone. The river should be cleaned up and this could form an important amenity for Farranfore as it winds through your town.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your river area could be very attractive and important also for wildlife. Try to develop further amenities which will encourage wildlife to your area. Your first step however is to identify the species which inhabit any such areas. Wildlife can be encouraged by the planting of native berry producing trees and shrubs. The provision of bird and bat roosts and

nesting sites in any old buildings might also be considered by your Committee. Make sure that any wildlife areas to which the public have access are properly signposted. Remember the access needs of people with disabilities. The development of these amenity walks and nature trails will add greatly to your area in the years ahead. Has your Committee considered the erection of some information plaques about the wildlife to be seen in the area ?

LITTER CONTROL

It is noted that you are awaiting litter bins. However make sure that when you get them that there is an agreed plan for emptying them on a regular basis. Litter was noted at the football field. In the town itself litter control was generally good.

TIDINESS

Some road-markings need to be re-painted. Fly-posting was noted at the back of one or two road signs and this should be removed immediately. All roadside poles should be painted on a regular basis. Some of the town signs need to be replaced and others cleaned. Watch out for weed growth at the base of road boundary walls as this is a serious problem in various places in Farranfore. At the football field the dead grass in the wire fencing should be removed and the concrete uprights painted white or black. A general clean up of the Railway Station area is required. The area of the level crossing needs early attention as it looks quite untidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The housing on the way to the Football field looked well though some boundary walls require re-painting. Long grass was also noted at the base of some walls here. Other private houses in Farranfore are in general well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Generally all approach roads need some attention, especially the road in from Currow. When you are having banks cut do please keep in mind the nesting and feeding needs of wildlife. Banks and roadside verges therefore should not be cut too low, and do not cut at nesting time.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

You are making progress and carrying out good work. Good luck with your future plan which are encouraging.