

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **PORTMAGEE**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	32
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	8	7
TOTAL MARK	300	204	195

Portmagee, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It was a joy to adjudicate the beautiful fishing village of Portmagee on a fine sunny early July day. The adjudicator notes that you are closely involved with FAS and other agencies in the implementation of your Tidy Towns Plan. Thank you for the copy of the Plan which was most useful during adjudication. Your structured approach to your work in Portmagee is strongly welcomed.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

All the works detailed in your Plan for 1999 under this heading have been examined. The new promenade area will look really well when surfaced and landscaped. Perhaps you can provide some seats here also. The Community Centre was excellently presented, as was the Church. The pile of stone in the Church grounds should be removed as soon as possible. Your work on derelict buildings is most effective - well done ! White walls dominate Portmagee and these look really well in the context of other strong colours used on buildings. At the School the gates and railings should be painted matt black.

LANDSCAPING

Your wild flower planting looks well and you should continue with this. The shrubs at the Community Centre show that building off to full effect. The low stone walls in Portmagee are very effective. Seats are nicely painted and well located. Hanging baskets and window boxes complement the works detailed elsewhere in this Report.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It is noted that your main efforts under this heading will begin in 2000. Your river area is 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

Your new policy in relation to Litter Bins, though unusual, does make sense. The bins which you have are nicely painted and effective. The recycling area is noted. Litter control on the day of adjudication was excellent.

TIDINESS

The pile of sand/stone in the Car Park opposite the Community Centre should be removed. The area near the School where the cars and vans are parked in a field should if possible be screened from view. There is at least one derelict car and van here. An untidy open space beyond the Pier was noted. One retail premises is displaying goods on the pathway / roadway. This looks untidy and may cause difficulty for the disabled and road traffic.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The housing estate and other houses in Portmagee are well presented. Remember that regular re-painting of private property is important especially in a location close to the sea.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Roads and streets are very well maintained and presented. On the approach from the Cahirciveen Creamery the pile of sand and stone near the bridge should be removed. However this approach did look really well.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

You are continuing to make significant progress in the Tidy Towns Competition, and to keep the excellent work going. Congratulations to all the individuals and agencies involved in your effort.