

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILMACOW**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	20
The Built Environment	40	21	22
Landscaping	40	20	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	16
Litter Control	40	33	34
Tidiness	20	13	14
Residential Areas	30	18	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	28
General Impression	10	6	7
TOTAL MARK	300	173	181

Kilmacow, County Kilkenny

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

A three to five year plan is now urgently need as was mentioned in the two previous years' reports. With so many oppourtunities for developments it is all the more important to set goals, and the means and the time scale to implement them. Decide what can be done within the resources of the village and where help is required and by lobbying public authorities.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church and many of the business premises are well presented. The Creamery is in a serious state of poor presentation. The moss covered stone wall outside is attractive. The Health Centre is also in need of decoration. There are so many derelict buildings that it may be difficult to decide where to start. This is all the more reason for a plan of action and to set priorities. St. Senans school is in good state of presentation. The hedge boundaries look well. The concrete block wall boundary is unsightly and perhaps this could be helped by tree planting or wall covering plant. Rosedale is very well presented and the stonework in the grounds is admirable.

LANDSCAPING

Individual gardens play a very significant role in the overall appearance of the landscape of a village or town. There are a number of well tended gardens. The new large houses are well overdue in the preparation of their gardens. The gardens should be fitting for such fine houses. The grove of trees on the approach to Rosedale shows how valuable trees can be. These were planted a long time ago. We need to plant now for the future just as was the case with these tree plantings. There are many oppourtunities within upper and lower Kilmacow where planting could be done. Some containers in the village help to brighten up the scene.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river offers a great potential in this regard. A walk from the leisure and sports grounds to the Ida house entrance is pleasant. Involvement with schools and people with local knowledge of the plants and wildlife of the area would be an asset.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter is always a problem and this is not confined to any village or town in Ireland. Awareness and constant vigilance will help.

TIDINESS

There is a much kerbside weed at areas in the upper village. Very good clearing and revealing of stone walls has been done in the lower village. The outside of the Garda station is very weedy and pallets laid outside the creamery do not help.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

As already stated the new large houses towards St. Senans school look fine but will need attention to good landscaping. The housing estate of single storied homes are mature and cared for generally well. The large area of grass at the top needs attention and provides a tree planting opportunity.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The roads are generally good. Broken surfaces should be surveyed and an inventory made for inclusion in the plan. A lobby initiative for repairs can then be concentrated on.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

This is an interesting old village with a good deal of renewal taking place. It is at a transitional stage. Complacency cannot be entertained as there is a great deal of work to be tackled and a strong committee with plenty of help is essential for progression. The number of derelict buildings is astonishing and presents a real challenge