

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ARDPATRICK**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	33	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	32
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	230	224

Ardpatrick, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the very comprehensive questionnaire, community council work plan and detailed sketch map of the village. In contrast to the experience of last year's adjudicator I arrived in Ardpatrick on one of the best days of Summer so far. The Village was looking resplendent to the backdrop of the hill of Ardpatrick which has probably one of the highest graveyards in the country. The efforts of all sections of the community are very admirable and I have no doubt that Ardpatrick will be challenging for the highest honours in the years ahead. It is good to see that the committee has such a good working relationship with so many bodies. The inclusion of Birdwatch Ireland among this group shows progressive thinking.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The standard of presentation of buildings and surrounding areas was very high. It is also good to note that the Church yard was resurfaced with the needs of the elderly and disabled in mind. The School and Church were in immaculate condition a credit to those responsible for their upkeep. Quilrys with its farm machinery interpretative centre, Catherines Hairdressers and Sunvale House looked very well on the day and the Garage has improved since this adjudicator last visited the village. The standard of presentation of private residences was very good. It would be unfair to single out any individual residence for special mention.

LANDSCAPING

The planting of selected trees on the ditch on the Kilfinane Road is very effective. There were nice islands of flowers dotted around the village especially on the approach road from Kildorrery and Kilmallock. The ever impressive Bishop Murphy Park was at its best with shrubs, flowers and green area shown off to good effect. Hopefully your plans for the Old Creamery site will materialise, in the meantime a camouflage of hedging or flowers would take away the bare look.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The committee are to be congratulated for their proposed initiatives under this category.

The involvement of schoolchildren will prove to be very beneficial as they undertake such projects with enthusiasm.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little litter evident on adjudication day, which is a testament to the efforts of the whole community. No further comment needed.

TIDINESS

There was a marked improvement in the area adjacent to the Garage although it still looks untidy compared to other properties in the Village. More effort should be made to camouflage this particular area as it does take away from the overall attractiveness of the village.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of presentation of premises, out-offices and gardens was top class. I presume it was coincidental but there was a flurry of painting of premises taking place on the day of the adjudication. Suggestions re boundary walls made in last year's report have been acted upon.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The entrances to village from all points were very impressive with speed signs and directional signs well kept. The Kildorrery Road was most impressive with its landscaped area on the left as one approaches the outskirts. Good to see that there are plans for the development of the Old Creamery site at the junction of the Ballyhea/Kilmallock Roads.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ardpatrick is a beautiful village that looked resplendent on a fine summer's day. The Committee has worked tirelessly to tackle issues of concern and one can see the results of such endeavour. Keep up the good work.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (11/08/99)

Ardpatrick is set in some magnificent scenery. The adjudicator was pleased to note your plans for the old creamery site as it is currently an unfortunate entrance to an attractive village such as Ardpatrick. The retention of the traditional square sign is commendable. As mentioned by the first adjudicator the red shed and garage will need some attention in future years – even a fresh coat of paint would improve their appearance tremendously. Houses throughout the village and along approach roads were generally well maintained - in particular that at the top of the village with its grassy banks and trees bounding its garden with the road. The Greenwood Inn and Shop looked very fresh in mustard yellow and its garden filled with traditional agricultural equipment was admired. The church and adjacent Bishop Murphy Park were as well maintained as ever. A lot of

community effort is evident in the presentation of the village –
keep up the good work.