

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILCOMMON**
County : **TIPPERARY NORTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	23
The Built Environment	40	23	22
Landscaping	40	23	15
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	23	22
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	17	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	19
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	160	145

Kilcommon, Tipperary N. R.

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The small Committee of six in Kilcommon are to be congratulated for their perseverance in the Tidy Towns Competition. This is a charming village with much potential for further development. You have proved that you have exceptional organisational and developmental skills through the designing and putting in place the impressive Prayer Garden. This organisational expertise and commitment should now be utilised in order to bring the rest of the village up to the same standard. This will involve a partnership approach with FAS and the Local Authority but most importantly with the entire community in Kilcommon and surrounds. We would suggest that the Committee travel to other centres such as Silvermines and Terryglass in North Tipperary and Galbally in County Limerick to see the overall approach adopted in these villages.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church and surrounds are well maintained and also most businesses. The good stone walls throughout the village were noted. The black fencing on the right hand side near the river needed painting.

LANDSCAPING

Obviously the Prayer Garden is your major feature in this category and, as mentioned above, it is extremely impressive. A haven of peace and tranquility, with lovely flower beds and areas for peaceful meditation. However, constant vigilance must be maintained to keep this up to standard as there was a little litter here, both in the gardens and through a couple of empty plant boxes being thrown into the river. In the Church grounds the Marian Shrine with the water feature was also admired. We would suggest that the two stone containers outside the main door of the Church be painted in more muted colours. It was noted that most premises in the village were contributing through providing containers of flowers - however, some of these were rather bedraggled looking and plastic containers should never be used. Your second major landscaping feature in the village is beside the bridge and this has great potential. On the green area here, picnic tables and seating would be good so that those who come to pray, or just visit your village, could stay to eat. More work is needed though, to achieve a more pleasant environment for the visitor as there was quite a considerable amount of black plastic thrown around and the green plastic underneath the gravel on the pathway was very visible. Other planting on approach roads was noted - here again constant weeding would be necessary.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The village is set in natural rural surroundings and the work undertaken in planting contributes to this category.

LITTER CONTROL

A very small amount of litter was noted throughout the village. A very battered litter bin at the shop on the Newport approach should be replaced.

TIDINESS

Kilcommon did not give an impression of tidiness partly due to the very many different types of planting containers used, the road verges and entrances needing attention in certain areas and some back yards also needing to be tidied up. Weeds should be cleared at kerb sides and pathways in the Spring and spraying undertaken at that stage.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most residential properties are quite well maintained. It must be remembered that surround walls and entrances are also important.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The road surfaces appeared good in the village and on the approaches. Some hedgerows needed to be cut back - there was a good display of ferns and foxgloves in these hedgerows but in a number of instances they were rather overgrown looking.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A village that with more attention to detail and raising standards should improve dramatically in the years ahead.