

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILFENORA**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 20-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	31
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	28	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	188	182

Kilfenora, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for a most succinct and interesting submission that accompanied your entry form. Also, the sketch map on the form was most helpful on adjudication day. Your plans for improvements to the year 2005 are most commendable. You have a village with potential for a high scoring mark in the competition. However, you have your black spots of long standing and these will need to be tackled if you are to progress significantly. The village has improved in recent years and the planned development will boost the permanent residential numbers, together with the planned tourism accommodation. These have not happened yet, so we await the development.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The public buildings looked well this year and the school is presented to a high standard. Shops that looked well included Nagles, Burren Tea Room, and Burren Centre, Máire Rua's and Linnanes Pub. Howleys might consider going traditional with the shop sign – it would improve the appearance overall. The garage is still a let down and the space opposite is really cluttered with old vehicles. You have dereliction and unoccupied houses that are keeping your marks down in this section.

LANDSCAPING

The work of previous years is paying dividends. The freshly cut grass areas on the approach to the village are commendable. The triangular area one and half miles from the village is a good introductory feature. You should consider an attractive Fáilte sign for here – one that would reflect the heritage distinction of the village. There was a great display of window boxes and hanging baskets in bloom on adjudication day. Also the many landscaped areas in the village core continue to enhance.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Have you any plans for this section. Valuable marks are to be gained for the promotion of wildlife. You might consider a school project for next year.

LITTER CONTROL

Well done on the control of litter. It was refuse collection day but the village was quite litter free, save a couple of small areas.

TIDINESS

Your problems here relate to unattended open spaces, excessive weed growth (on the wall leading down from the Cathedral), dereliction, unoccupied houses and the car park at the rear of Vaughans.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

In general houses are very well presented. The terraced houses on the Lisdoonvarna Road are good, but some would benefit from painting of the boundary walls in particular. You have some excellent individual effort in this section and many fine houses are further enhanced with well-developed colourful gardens.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The principal approach roads are very good and present a favourable image for the village. The approach by Máire Rua's is poor and has been for some years. Also the road up by the church is overgrown and needs trimming. The grotto, as ever, on the Ennistymon approach is well presented. Your strong point here is the great amount of well kept stone walls. Could some of the farm gates be painted for next year?

GENERAL IMPRESSION

You have improved a little. You have potential for much more improvement. You now need to give the extra push over the next few years and the planned social housing development and other planned improvements should supply the necessary impetus for village renewal and enhancement.