

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILKISHEN**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 29-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	23	22
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	196	194

Kilkishen, County Clare.

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Kilkishen has problems at the moment and it is good to see that the remaining two members of the Tidy Towns Committee are persevering and continuing to try to beautify the village under very difficult circumstances. However, the works at present taking place in the village will not last for ever and then the small Committee (hopefully joined by others from the community) will reap the rewards for their patience and efforts.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church and grounds are well maintained, as is the Kilkishen Community Centre. Three public houses in the village are also very well presented – Donnellon's, Jack's Place and Eva's. Unfortunately, we could not see the School as Whelan's Site Office is nearby and the School was obscured by large heaps of gravel and machinery. What used to be, and maybe still is, an Auction room at the top of the main street has been nicely painted. The brown Eircom telephone box was appropriate for the village and fresh and clean. The Old Forge is imaginatively presented but we would suggest that the galvanised roof here be painted. Under this category the village contains three very visible eyesores which must be addressed if you are to progress in the competition. One is a derelict house in the middle of the street, another is the building which was a Garage and the third is the Take Away next to this. In regard to the first two, there is advice in the Tidy Towns manual regarding derelict buildings and we would suggest that you consult this in order to determine your future action.

LANDSCAPING

The weather has not been kind this year for these endeavours but Kilkishen was looking well, with planting on the approach roads, the lovely rose beds opposite Donnellon's Pub and many window boxes and hanging baskets. Some containers were not filled and the distinctive brackets for hanging baskets at some of your planted areas were empty – we note your comments re dates of competition but these dates have to remain as if there are second and sometimes third adjudication's to take place then there has to be time to do these before the end of August. However, we have seen wonderful hanging baskets in other areas already so it is really a matter of adjusting your work schedule to take account of the judging dates. The grassed areas at the end of both housing estates was long and overgrown. If the County Council cannot cut these areas perhaps the residents would club

together and pay someone to do so as they are losing the use of good amenity areas at present. The quite mature trees on the main street are now rewarding you for your foresight in planting same in the past.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The green areas and planting which you undertake contribute in this category.

LITTER CONTROL

There are bins well placed throughout the village and very little litter was seen on the day except a sprinkling at each of the housing estates. There was a bin in one of these estates which was full and therefore used and we would suggest that a similar container be placed at the other housing estate.

TIDINESS

Because of the work in progress – pipe laying – it is difficult to keep the village neat and tidy looking but Kilkishen was doing its best. Wall bases and kerbs were weed free throughout. At the old Garage, could the broken down container at least be removed? At the Building business premises opposite to the old forge some planting has been undertaken by the owners but the yard here was still rather untidy and weedy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses throughout the village, including in the two housing estates, are fully contributing to the Tidy Towns effort. On the Tulla approach, Turret View is very well kept and landscaped. However, the large plastic container, which appeared to be used as a litter bin outside the gate is rather out of place. As mentioned, you do have a problem with some derelict properties and a long term plan of action, in conjunction with the County Council should be put in place in regard to these.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Signage was good throughout the village. However, the pipe laying naturally is disruptive at the moment.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A lovely rural village with great potential. To maximise your effectiveness and get the necessary works achieved to progress further, we would suggest that it is a matter of necessity that other people from the community become members of your Committee and help you to motivate all

those who live in Kilkishen to maintain and improve its image in the years ahead.