

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **ARDFIELD**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	28
The Built Environment	40	22	21
Landscaping	40	25	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	31	30
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	21
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>176</b>

## **Ardfield, Co. Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The adjudicator would like to thank you for your work programme, excellent map, photographs and drawings. They were all of great help on adjudication day. You have a small active Committee of just 15 people, but your entry is large in geographical terms. You have however achieved a lot in the work that you have done for the Competition. Do remember that your action plan should be up-dated each year to reflect the achievements of the previous year, and the plans for the coming year. It is good to see that you are working closely with Cork County Council and FAS and that you have local assistance also.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The School renovations have been noted and as soon as possible the railings and gate should be painted. The Porch does not seem to fit with the rest of the stone school. A porch faced in stone would perhaps have been a better option. The new paths project is noted. The problem with the old Hall continues. It is an interesting stone building with attractive windows. Hopefully in the not too distant future you will be able to see the restoration of this building. It is most encouraging to see that a number of new private houses have been built or are under construction in the area. The restoration of the green house near the Church has been really well done and the colour choice is very good. The Graveyard looked well and the boundary wall has been painted. At the Tennis Courts the new stone wall looks well. However in this area some tidying up remains to be done, and building materials removed. The garage / pump area was well presented, neat and tidy. The farm buildings at O'Mahony's continue to be excellently presented. The local information display board at the Graveyard is a good facility and is being used by visitors.

### **LANDSCAPING**

On the Clonakilty approach road the water feature at the village sign is very effective and is being well maintained. The small landscaped area at the Clonakilty end of the car park opposite the Church will look well when it reaches maturity. Below the Tennis Courts an excellent grassed landscaped area was noted. Other smaller landscaped areas added much to the overall presentation of Ardfield.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The small woodland area planted in 1997 is growing well and

is obviously used by wildlife. The old Hall continues to shelter wildlife, and perhaps a wildlife plaque here might be considered by your Committee.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Your participation in the National Spring Clean event in April last is welcomed. It is important to use such occasions to highlight the importance of community involvement in your good work. Work in progress at St. James' Park was noted. Work is also necessary inside the entrance gates to remove weed growth. On the left hand side some boundary between the hard surface and the long grass is required. The long grass can be retained for wildlife.

### **TIDINESS**

Below the Church an area with old machinery was noted and perhaps this can be moved or screened from view. Nearby there is an excellently presented house, with good painting.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Many private houses were excellently presented, and attractive landscaped gardens were noted. At "Hillside" very colourful planting was noted, and "Tra Cottage" looked well with the combination of stone walls and brightly painted concrete plinth.

### **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Approach roads were all well presented, and the adjudicator travelled on each one of them. Grass margins were looking well. Banks had been appropriately cut, keeping in mind the needs of wildlife.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Ardfield covers a large area and in general it is a neat and tidy village where local pride is very much in evidence.