

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CURRANS**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	26
The Built Environment	40	27	25
Landscaping	40	26	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	14
Litter Control	40	28	26
Tidiness	20	11	10
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	182	172

Currans, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

As was outlined in last year's report a tidy towns three to five year plan is needed. This plan would enable the committee to focus on the particular issues that need attention and also to develop imaginative ideas from the members of the group. A list of priorities could then be drawn up and a time scale set. As work proceeds adjustments to the plan can be made to suit circumstances.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church is well presented with attractive grounds. The carpark walls seem freshly painted and the height barrier entrance gates to the carpark are attractive – so often such items are ugly – well done in your choice. The Village Inn and Community Care Centre are well presented with good painting. The murals are very effective. The corrugated roof is a little unsightly at this stage. The stone walls are a lovely feature on a couple of houses and the new stone wall with brick piers is a lovely job. Also noteworthy is the house utilising the old walls of a previous building and the neatly trained ivy cladding. The bridge is a lovely part of the village. The old school is deteriorating and causing untidiness. Are there plans to deal with this?

LANDSCAPING

There is a good sense of care and attention to the landscape in the village. The lime tree planting is developing well and will be a great feature in the future. There is a beautiful mature lime tree lined road on leaving the village under the bridge and taking the left hand side road. It is great to see new plantations of such fine trees. The grass verges are kept very well at the limes. The church grounds are nicely planted and the plants are maturing well. There are very attractive gardens on the road by the side of the church. At the start of this road there is very severe cut back of the verge/hedge and further up cut grass is left lying on the verges. There are attractive hawthorn and ash hedgerows with wild roses growing through. These show the value of such hedges and why they should not be cut back in the summer. The planting around the church carpark is very effective.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The area by the river with picnic seating and grassed - access is a lovely feature. This could have possibilities for further development maybe providing a riverside walk. The bridge is attractive in itself. The retention of mosses and ferns is good on the walls at the bridge.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is of a high standard in the village. Some litter at the old school has accumulated. Litter was well in control on the main areas of the village.

TIDINESS

The lime tree plantation, well cared for church and roadsides together with the housing gives Currans a very tidy appearance. The tidiness is marred a little by the old school and by the materials – kegs, pallets, gas cylinders outside the Riverside Inn. There were some weed at the telephone kiosk area.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Residences are very well cared for and give a very good impression of pride in the homes and gardens.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

As was mentioned above, severe cutback of verges and hedgerows is undesirable both from a wildlife point of view and for appearances. If vegetation or growth of hedges is a hazard then of course a commonsense approach has to be taken.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is a very cared for appearance on entry to Currans. The feature of the lime trees roadside planting is very good, as is the riverside area.