

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CURROW**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	19
Litter Control	40	31	30
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	206	201

Currow, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the information supplied with the application form. The historical account of the Priests Lake and the Dicksgrove Stone Wall is very interesting and it is great to have such assets in the village. The proposal for rehabilitating the Currow fish pond is a great project and well done for the efforts with this. The "before" photograph also gives an idea of the work that has been done.

This planned approach should be extended to the entire village; and a three to five year plan is needed to focus and direct activities over the coming years in all aspects of the work of the tidy towns committee.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The few new houses being built are causing some disruption and hopefully when completed will be finished off well and the area reinstated. It is important to keep a watchful eye on building developments as frequently the finishing off process needs to be monitored. The walls in the village form a very important part of the built environment. The walls at Killeentierna Community centre are very well tended to as are the adjoining cream wall with green capping and neatly trimmed laurel hedge. The church, school behind and carpark are well cared for. The carpark is well laid out and marked. The surface is very good. The gate piers of the church need cleaning. Some attention is needed at the Kerry Farm Shop area. The grotto is nicely positioned at the top of the road and the materials fit in nicely with the surrounds.

LANDSCAPING

Individual gardens play a very important part of the landscaping of the overall appearance of the village. In this way everybody has an opportunity to contribute. The large copper beech tree opposite the church is a lovely tree and emphasises how important even one tree is in the landscape. Frequently it is forgotten that the people who planted the large trees that we see today could never have expected to see them to maturity. We owe the same to future generations - hence the importance of tree planting. The climbing plants planted at the high wall past the church carpark are a good idea. Could this be repeated on the high wall facing the church carpark at the farm?

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Roadside verges are very important wildlife habitats. Cutting verges back severely is not helpful to wildlife nor is it attractive - some severe cutting back of hedges was noted. There is a

very attractive little stream by the roadside past the bridge – there are possibilities there for developments under this heading. The pond is a marvellous project and much work is evident. This will be interesting to watch in the future and see the wildlife that colonises. This is an ideal wildlife project and as the restoration activities as planned in your proposal become a reality it will be very rewarding. Information about the wildlife and literature associated with the species can be prepared in the future. Besides the wildlife aspect this is an important recreational facility.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is good in the village. Constant vigilance is needed in this regard.

TIDINESS

Overall there is a tidy appearance. The building construction does cause temporary untidiness but this will hopefully be corrected. There is a certain amount of clutter around three premises – Kerry Farm Shop, Centra and the Post Office. Careless parking causes part of this and perhaps some formula regarding parking could be developed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The individual houses as mentioned above contribute greatly to the overall view of the village and credit is due to homeowners who diligently look after their homes and gardens. Parkmore estate is in good condition.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Roads are in good condition in general. The road to the GAA grounds has many broken areas especially at the beginning.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is a good atmosphere of development and interest evident. The work at the pond is very valuable.