

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILCUMMIN**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	197	192

Kilcummin, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your presentation with the application form was very useful and made roaming about the village all the more interesting.. An action plan will help greatly. Even though there is so much valuable work carried out plans always help to focus attention and to bring along people in the pursuit of goals. Having help from Fas and the summer students is great for maintaining the progress that has been made. The old and the new combine well in Kilcummin.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The school and church are very well presented and give a strong central focus to the village. The old church is beginning to look a little sad. It is hoped that this will become better utilised and come back into prominence in a different way from the past. The renovations in progress on the old hall opposite the church were noted as were the new footpaths. The removal of overhead wires is a great step forward in every village and town and the sooner they are all underground the better. The Rural Development office and adjoining wall are attractive. The nursing home with the great beech trees at the entrance is well maintained and the new tarmacadam sets it off really well. As mentioned last year while local knowledge may well understand the meaning of the Mass rock, it would be helpful to have some information to assist the uninformed.

LANDSCAPING

The beautiful setting of the village surrounded by such density of mature trees gives a natural landscape hard to copy. The landscaping of the church and school grounds is especially noteworthy . The lovely collection of colourful conifers and heathers, well kept grass and ivies on the walls makes a beautiful picture that can be sustained all year – well done. The millennium project of the garden is progressing and needs further work - with the influence of the church and school grounds a success will follow. The use of the hanging baskets will bring a sparkle of colour. The retention of the natural grass verges is all important with their wealth of wild flowers.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your policy of not trimming hedges in the summer months is commendable and shows results. So often in places these are trimmed just when they are coming to their best. Convincing people of the value of not cutting in summer can be difficult. The woodland walk is a beautiful experience. Mosses, ferns,

ivies and all the canopy of the trees make the walk really enjoyable and this is a lovely asset for your village.. While it was very wet and soft underfoot please do not be tempted to interfere with the surface too much as it could destroy the natural beauty that exists. The development of a fund of wildlife information would be an advantage at this stage. Maybe an information sheet of things that could be observed could be made available at the post office.

LITTER CONTROL

The control of litter is good and a clean state was noted apart from the usual few items of litter that seem to trouble everywhere in Ireland.

TIDINESS

A very tidy arrangement of facilities was noted with the signs, hedges and walls well in order.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The few houses are well kept and these are an integral part of the overall appearance of the village. Credit is due to those who work away silently presenting their homes and gardens in a fine state.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The overhead cables being moved and new lights all contribute to progress of the village as does progress on road re: repairs.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is a very good atmosphere of care and attention in the village and the natural vegetation and woodland walk contribute greatly to the quality of the village.