

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KNOCKNAGOSHEL**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	197	194

Knocknagoshel, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The work of your committee of “8 hardworking people” as you state on your application form is truly having an effect on the progress of the village. Thank you for your map, information and fine collection of photographs, which give a great insight into the progress of development in the village with so many before and after photographs of projects. Having more people involved will lessen the burden of work and create extra interest. Your projects are very commendable and there is a good sense of pride coming across in the state of the village.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The general state of painting of buildings is very good and gives a very crisp and clean look to the village. The shops are well maintained and the two works in progress – at the pub and at the corner house, while they are causing some disruption now, will have a positive effect when completed and reinstated. The church and school are particularly well presented and on emerging from the main door of the church the side of the building facing you with lovely stone is most attractive. At the grotto a stone vessel – maybe a baptismal font - is positioned. This seems most likely to be from a previous church and it would be nice to have a plaque giving information about this. It is wise to retain such important features. The stone walls in the village are particularly attractive and the style of using occasional large stones in the pattern is a nice theme to have within the village giving a sense of uniqueness. The wall opposite the post office is not very attractive bounding the carpark. Could this be removed altogether and either not replaced or replaced by a lower stone wall set a little inside the road or perhaps as a retaining wall at the back of the carpark? The restored Lime Kiln is a lovely feature and shows the stone to perfection. The similar stone wall on the way to the cemetery is very attractive and a lovely feature.

LANDSCAPING

The church grounds are landscaped well with the attractive shrub bank. The school also has been well treated in the areas where planting is possible. The wall mentioned above as one approaches the cemetery has been nicely planted with a good range of shrubs and gives a very nice picture which is sustainable all the year with the choice of planting. The Village Park is beautifully laid out and provides a nice little haven in the village. Your work on the Millennium Bible garden is commendable. This is a lovely setting with impressive views. Take care not to rush this project. It would be wise to get the construction of this complete before planting – the millennium

will be with us for a long time so there is no hurry. Ensure that the plastic underneath allows water through and is at a depth sufficient to completely conceal it. Plant dense groups rather than individual plants isolated for best effects.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It is interesting to develop a project in conjunction with the school which enables children to appreciate the natural features of the environment. The wild life habitat is noted beside the post office and the environmental area.

LITTER CONTROL

There is a good level of litter control and apart from some small amounts of litter noted the overall standard was good. Constant vigilance is needed to keep the standard up in this regard.

TIDINESS

A very tidy appearance is present – the disruption of the couple of works at present proceeding in the village will be short term . The wall opposite the post office as mentioned is a problem as is the building needing attention near the Garda station.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

People take great care of their homes and gardens and this is of great overall benefit to the village. The silent work of keeping ones own surrounds well contributes greatly in the overall sense. Looking up side entrances and backs of premises often reveals areas for improvements and this can be focused on where appropriate.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The roadways are well presented and road surfaces are good. This sets off the well-painted buildings.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is a sense of pride and community spirit in the village and the varied works give opportunity for many to become involved. The views, the stonework and the unusual arrangement of the streets giving the church an interesting approach all contribute to the character of Knocknagoshel.