

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NARRAGHMORE**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	32
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	34	33
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	36	36
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	224	221

Narraghmore, County Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your entry form and copy of the Village Study prepared by CAAS Environmental Services Ltd., which was read with interest. Many of the recommendations in the study, can only be carried out by Kildare County Council in the longer term. You also need to draw up your own 3/5 year work plan, with projects that the committee will be able to implement themselves with help from the local community. This will help you to make further progress in the competition and build on the considerable work carried out to date.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

This section is less important for Narraghmore than it is for other villages. Buildings in the centre of the village are well presented. The fine grey period residence would benefit from a fresh coat of paint and the telephone box also needs to be re-painted. Several attractive new street lights were noted, ready to be wired into place. This should help solve the lighting problem identified in your report. Wooden seating around the village needs to be painted. Some directional signage in the centre would be of help to visitors.

LANDSCAPING

The grassed verges on all approaches are neatly maintained. Tree planting should become very effective over the next few years. The floral displays around the village centre and on approaches provide a great splash of colour and perhaps could be extended to other locations as well. The proposed village green would be a very pleasant amenity.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Unfortunately no information was provided on work carried out under this heading. This is an important area for Narraghmore, because of its close connection to the surrounding countryside. Conservation of your existing wildlife habitats must be a priority, e.g. hedgerows, mature trees, wooded areas, old walls, streams, etc. are all important areas for wildlife. Planting native berry-producing trees and shrubs and maintaining roosting and nesting sites in the habitats mentioned, could be a first step in developing your own wildlife plan.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is effective. Keep up the good work.

TIDINESS

Narraghmore has a tidy appearance. The only things that detract from this are some uneven surfaces and the pole with overhead wires in the village centre. As recommended in the Village Study, the ducting of the wires underground should be considered as a long term goal in your next development plan.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Houses and gardens around the village and along the approach roads are well presented and play an important part in a centre where there is little other built environment. Hillview is pleasantly maintained, with only a few residents needing to paint boundary walls.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads are attractive with neat verges, some have lovely mature trees and wonderful views of the fertile Kildare countryside. The village name signs in stone look very well. Work in progress on the Curragh Road was noted. Erosion of the verges on the Bog Road is very apparent. There is erosion of the surface around the big tree on the Calverston Road, the base of the tree needs to be protected with kerbing to prevent further damage.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Narraghmore is a pleasant village in an attractive rural setting, where the local community take great pride in caring for their environment. Much valuable work has been achieved to date, and with a planned approach you should continue to make steady progress

SECOND ADJUDICATION (09/08/00)

Narraghmore's Village Study is extremely interesting and impressive. It will be very good to see the dreary expanse of tarmac replaced by a green, for example. The hope will be that the village does not end up looking like a suburb - if this should happen, Narraghmore could lose credibility as a genuine traditional village. Implementation of the Study is warmly looked forward to – congratulations on it.