

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILFINANE**  
County : **LIMERICK**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 14-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	31	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>195</b>

## **Kilfinane, County Limerick**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for returning completed entry form. You do not say if you are working to an agreed improvement plan. For a town with such a small population you have a great deal of area to cover. The town is exceptional in the amount of dereliction it has. Many of these buildings are now quite dangerous and in urgent need of attention. Kilfinane needs a major village renewal plan to tackle the many environmental problems. Such a plan will need the agreement of the community and the backing of the entire commercial, tourism, and sporting, educational, and cultural agencies. Relative to other towns and villages in the county you are now far below average. This is puzzling as there is widespread evidence of excellent community spirit in educational and tourism pursuits.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

There are some fine buildings throughout the town many being presented to a high standard. There are also many old buildings falling into decline. These have an added importance as they relate to the 19th century. The town centre in particular has a great deal of traditional shopfronts. These offer potential for much improvement, but will need the full co-operation of the owners in presenting them to a high standard. In fairness, the plastic popularity of a decade and more ago has now run its course, so you should encourage owners of premises to ensure that restorational and improvement works are in keeping with the traditional style of Kilfinane. Public buildings looked well again this year and Scoil Pól is excellent. The new Ballyhoura offices would now benefit from fresh painting. Centra Supermarket and O'Dohertys are well presented, together with Healy's, which is excellent.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Some of the approach roads have attractive landscaping features (i.e. the Galbally junction) and these add colour to the town. The landscaping at Kilfinane Education Centre is superb and full of environmental surprises. Again this year Woodview B&B stands out as an exceptional individual effort. The Grotto is attractively presented. There are numerous small open spaces in and around the town that would make ideal landscaping features and add colour to the town.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

You should consider getting a survey done locally that would list the popular wildlife of the locality. This might stimulate interest from locals and visitors and enable you to promote and popularise the wildlife of the locality. The survey might be done through the schools.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

You have some litter problems in the main street. Some litterbins are poor in presentation and should be tackled for next year.

### **TIDINESS**

Your problems here relate to the previously mentioned dereliction, unoccupied premises and unattended open spaces. There is much weed growth in the gutters and these should be sprayed in May or June.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

In general, houses are well presented. The terraced houses opposite the Garda Station are well presented, but they need a nameplate. Again, this year Mountain View Estate was well presented. While there is good evidence of individual effort, there is no obvious co-ordination in presenting residential areas to a higher standard.

### **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The road surface area in the town is very poor in areas. The approach to the town centre from Kilmallock is sub-standard. Footpaths in many areas need attention. Because of the inordinate amount of dereliction many side and back areas are poor in presentation. Some of the houses at the Rent an Irish Cottage Scheme are in need of improvement.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Kilfinane is in need of a painting blitz. You should try and broaden your involvement with the many development agencies and formulate a plan that will chart the way forward. You have potential for much improvement in this competition.