

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILTIMAGH**
County : **MAYO**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	36
The Built Environment	40	27	25
Landscaping	40	28	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	22
Litter Control	40	26	25
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	18	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	197	190

Kiltimagh, County Mayo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

IRD Kiltimagh is obviously a very professional organisation, your development programme seems to be a sensible and organised one. Of particular interest is your proposed river walk linking the town centre with the River Poolagh. Many thanks for your thorough submission and very clear map both of which were most useful on the day.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Kiltimagh gives the impression of a very fresh and colourful market town. Gilmartin's looked quite charming in orange, the school was very fresh although its boundary wall was quite grubby. IRD Kiltimagh was very fresh in yellow and red. There are some attractive traditional shop fronts which would benefit from restoration. Both the Post Office and Hair Image were extremely fresh. The church looked fine although the adjacent yard area could be screened more successfully from public view while the yard should be painted before next year's competition. Some repair work is necessary to the roof of the thatched forge as it was damaged. There is a good use of the Irish language within the town and the adjudicator was pleased to note much activity in the form of the fresh painting of buildings on the day.

LANDSCAPING

This is an aspect of the competition in which you perform extremely strongly. An attractive picnic area on the Knock Road was admired as was the landscaped area at Oxford Cross. The latter sported stone walls interspersed with wild daisies and ferns while the new trees were coming along nicely. New trees were also noted in front of the Medical Supplies on the Knock Road. The planting of colourful snap dragons to the front of Shell is to be commended and further encouragement of commercial premises in particular petrol stations in relation to planting is to be encouraged. Trees breaking up the numerous parking spaces on the main streets are to be commended. Of particular note was the marvellous sculpture garden with its two old men with their sleeping dog at the entrance. This use of the old railway station as a museum and the incorporated sculpture garden is a marvellous asset and one of great interest to the visitor. The Youth Shrine with its stone backdrop and crucifix was well presented. Wild flowers were noted on approach roads such as wild daisies on the Knock Road, wild roses on the Park Road and a multitude of hawthorn hedges. Butterflies were in evidence on the warm day at Wicket's Walkway. The Wildlife Park/Wetlands Park with its artificial lake, multitude of trees and grass roofed shed is maturing nicely and should be a marvellous benefit to the town.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Wild flowers were abundant on adjudication day-daisies on the Knock Road, roses on Park Road and hawthorn hedges throughout. Butterflies were to be found at Wicket's Walk. The Wildlife/Wetlands Park was not yet fully complete. The abundance of trees, the artificial lake and grass-roofed shed were visible, though. This should be a wonderful asset to both resident and visitor in years to come!

LITTER CONTROL

Your work in this regard with Mayo County Council is to be commended. Perhaps further encouragement of the school children in relation to this aspect of the overall tidiness of the town is to be considered. Litter control, given the town's size, was good on the day. However, there were still one or two problem areas. A small amount was evident along Main Street, on Park Road, the Ballina Road and at the sculpture park. More was apparent at the entrance to Greenfield – the boundary wall in this area should also be painted before next year's competition. Another small outbreak was evident beneath the seats at the entrance and at the picnic area to the Wicket's Walkway. The fence at this location was also broken in places.

TIDINESS

A small amount of weed growth was evident to the bases of boundary walls at Park Road. Some staining was apparent to boundary walls e.g. at the new graveyard. Tin roofs throughout the village should be more freshly painted in traditional red or green colours to give outbuildings a more cheerful appearance. Do discourage fly posting. The rear areas to the town i.e. Aiden Street Rear looked quite neglected, the very obvious exception being the bakery, which looked extremely fresh.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

New houses were in progress along the Knock Road -indeed, Kiltimagh seems to be ever expanding. Do try to encourage new developments to integrate into the existing urban fabric. Hanging baskets and window boxes were admired on a yellow house with red trims on Main Street. An attractive garden on Chapel Street looked marvellous. New houses were also noted off Park Road at Cois Abhann. Some boundary walls were in need of attention along the Castlebar Road. A couple of attractive houses with rose gardens and hanging baskets were admired on Main Street. A few of the houses further along Main Street on the Ballina side of the town were quite flaky. The houses to the entrance of the Greenfields Estate were very fresh. However, those further back were a cause for concern as many were quite grubby with cracked walls

(indeed some sported weeds to the gutters). A garden with red poppies on the Swinford Road was admired and St. Aiden's B&B had some marvellously maintained gardens. Another garden of note was one filled with Easter lilies beyond the graveyard.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The standard in this aspect of the competition could be improved upon. The town nameplate sign on Knock Road was quite grubby and it seemed quite overgrown. Along the Balla Road the montbretia was yet to come into bloom – this was admired along with the displays of wild daisies and hawthorn hedges. This is an attractive approach to Kiltimagh as the town rises up before you. Wild roses were also noted in the hedgerows along Park Road – however, fly posting was in evidence on this road. The new ash trees along the Ballina Road were admired and the wild daisies and clover to the grassy banks above the well cut verges were admired. It was quite overgrown by the town nameplate sign, unfortunately. The Swinford Road was in better condition although do paint the yellow and black warning barrier in this location. In relation to street furniture one of the phone boxes at Greenfield had been vandalised.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The busy town of Kiltimagh obviously has great enthusiasm for this competition. You have made steady progress over the years and your efforts in relation to the built environment and the development of landscaping as an amenity for the town's folk is to be highly commended.