

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KINNITTY**  
County : **OFFALY**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	30
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	31	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	21
Litter Control	40	32	31
Tidiness	20	15	16
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>212</b>

## **Kinnitty, County Offaly**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for completed entry form and map. The fact that you work with so many agencies in your endeavours to improve and maintain Kinnitty is commendable. Next year, we would recommend that you let us have more detail on the work undertaken during the year and also your future plans.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The main buildings of the two Churches and the Community Centre were very well presented – work was taking place in the grounds of the Roman Catholic Church on the day of adjudication. On the Cadamstown road Scoil Naisiunta Cionn Eitigh was well decorated but had no flowers in the window boxes and flower beds made from large tyres. Buildings looking well included the Slieve Bloom pub with the nice planting outside, the Ardmore B & B, Giltray's Pub, the new stone faced Siopa, the Health Centre, Glendine Bistro, and the Post Office. The streetscape in general is quite pleasant but there are some unoccupied premises which need attention. The new Eircom telephone box was looking fresh and clean. The Garda Barracks could be a very attractive premises if painted and better use made of the window boxes here. Similarly, Peavoy's corner shop could be a feature of the village if painted to suit its character. Kinnitty Castle entrance gates and Lodge were well presented. Good stone walls throughout the village and on approach roads were noted, but a watch needs to be kept to ensure that these are not overrun with ivy and brambles.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The grassed areas and planting on the approach roads were looking well and trees maturing nicely. It was noted that there is no actual picnic area in or around the village and perhaps you could consider developing same. Window boxes and tubs were admired – residents should be encouraged not to use plastic planters – natural materials such as terra cotta pots or wooden planters would be more appropriate. Visitor seating throughout the village was well maintained. At the housing estate on the Birr approach, the nice planting here was admired. However, the graffiti on a feature stone near the entrance should be removed.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The green wildlife area at the Pyramid was noted. The riverside area and other planted areas also contribute under this category.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was little evidence of litter in Kinnitty on the day of adjudication and, obviously, the Welcome signs at the village entrances asking people not to litter are being heeded. However, the litter bins placed in strategic positions around the village must also help in this regard.

### **TIDINESS**

The village presents a mostly neat and tidy appearance throughout and kerbsides and wall bases were weed free. However, on the Roscrea approach past the Church of Ireland there was a rather untidy area just inside the speed signs. This area was grassy, had heaps of gravel and old posts and slabs strewn around.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Private houses in and around Kinnitty are contributing to the Tidy Towns effort fully. However, it should be remembered, when decorating, that walls and gates are as important as the house itself.

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

The underground ducting on the streets was a large project for the Committee to undertake – it will certainly make a big difference to the village. As mentioned above, the Welcome signs on approach roads with Slan agus Beannacht on the other side are commendable. However, on the Kinnitty Castle approach, this Welcome sign and also the Community Alert sign needed to be cleaned. Most other signage in the village is good including the map of the Slieve Bloom Environmental Park. However, the Yield Right of Way sign in the centre of the village was poor and needed repainting.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Kinnitty is an attractive village set in the centre of the Slieve Blooms. The residents obviously have the good of the village at heart and are committed to improving and maintaining what is on offer there to the best of their ability. We look forward to further progress in the years ahead.