

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILFENORA**  
County : **CLARE**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-2001

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2001 | Mark Awarded 2000 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 37                | 33                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 28                | 26                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 30                | 28                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 17                | 15                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 25                | 24                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 14                | 14                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 18                | 18                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 25                | 24                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 6                 | 6                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>200</b>        | <b>188</b>        |

## **Kilfenora, Co. Clare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The Committee is thanked for their fine submission, which included a map. Developments are slowly coming to fruition and it could be said that it is a transition year. However, the new and proposed development will put the village in a very strong position to reap the benefits of their long-term plans.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Because of work on the Centre and various housing projects, the main streets, its footpaths and road edges are at present in a disturbed condition. On the completion of these works it is assumed, footpath and road surfaces will be redone. The many and diverse accommodation proposals will immeasurably strengthen the social fabric of the village. A future hotel, on a vacant site adjoining the Square, would be a fine addition to the creation of an urban space. Congratulations to Kilfenora as winners of the Village Paint Scheme this year and best wishes for a renewed effort for next year.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The adjudicator considered that the cloche for the growing of plants for the many window boxes most interesting and is a good example of the integration of various activities in the village. However, as important as flowers are, trees should be the core plant form for any long term planning. Therefore a tree-planting programme, using indigenous trees of the adjoining countryside would be a most important action for next year's submission.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The many proposals by the Committee for wildlife were noted, especially those involving the local school. Again it is emphasised that trees attractive to wildlife and visually interesting in the winter months should be considered.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Notwithstanding the disruption, due to various building works, there was little litter noticed. However, next year the question of litter control will be judged more carefully. Additional litter bins might be required. Again, it is an admirable action to include the school in the litter patrols and collection.

### **TIDINESS**

Again, there is a general air of untidiness in many parts of the village; on the two narrow roads leading to the Cathedral; unoccupied houses; badly parked cars and in the car and bus parking area.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Many of the individual houses are very well landscaped. A

co-ordinated painting programme of buildings should be worked out and commenced by next year under the Village Paint Scheme.

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

It is assumed that the resurfacing of the Main Street and its footpaths will be commenced by next year, with special attention to road lines and car and bus parking spaces. Entrance roads are very well kept and pleasing. Careful attention must be given to the proper construction of stone walls, their pointing and especially the capping stones. Advice might be sought from Duchas or DoELG. The cement slurry finish to wall tops is not acceptable when judged against the wonderful tradition of Clare walls.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The building work at present under construction is visually disruptive, but their future completion should add greatly to the ambience of this interesting village.