

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CUIL-AODHA**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	--
The Built Environment	40	25	--
Landscaping	40	20	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	--
Litter Control	40	20	--
Tidiness	20	10	--
Residential Areas	30	20	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	--
General Impression	10	5	--
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>--</b>

## **Cuil-Aodha, County Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Cuil-Aodha is indeed welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition in this its first year of entry. Your three to five year work programme seems quite sensible, logical and ambitious. Do try to set a timescale against the achievements you have set yourself in order that your targets are reached. The adjudicator noted and empathised with the problems you have encountered particularly in relation to the fall in population. Your plans to cover the swimming pool, restore the footbridges over the river, erect stone nameplates for townlands and highlight areas of historical and archaeological interest are indeed highly commendable. Do consider carefully the exact location of the car park for the church.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The charming traditional church with its external bell had been freshly painted. Perhaps you could consider screening the oil barrel in this location. The hall was fine and most buildings were well maintained. The attractive traditional out building with external steps opposite the church is quite charming and should be restored to its former glory. The old church on the Kenmare Road was in very bad condition. The new national school looked well but weed control was required at the drop-off area outside and perhaps some more landscaping could be considered in this location.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There is scope for further development of this aspect of the competition. The attractively marked out area on the Kenmare Road with well cut grass was admired. Your plans in terms of tree planting are to be commended. Do try to ensure that you make good use of permanent planting that will flourish year round. There are a number of timber posts and wire fences around the village and approach roads, these should be replaced with traditional stone walling.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Cuil-Aodha is indeed fortunate in this regard with its marvelous woodland areas, stream and the Little Island area. Perhaps get the local school children involved in drawing up a map indicating areas of wildlife interest in the locality. This could be incorporated with a notice board for walkers indicating the species that are to be seen in the area.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

On first impression the standard of litter control seemed quite good on adjudication day. However closer inspection revealed some litter was apparent on the Kenmare Road and more on the road to the school.

## **TIDINESS**

Out buildings should not be neglected when considering overall presentation. A number of out buildings in the town were in need with a fresh coat of whitewash or having the traditional red colour restored in terms of their tin roofs. Dumping was evident on the school road and this should be actively discouraged. The forecourt area of the swimming pool appeared quite bare and is ripe in terms of developing a landscape project. The timber post and wire fencing to the top of the bank on the Kenmare Road should be replaced with indigenous hedging of beech or hawthorn.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most of the houses on approach roads and in the village centre were well maintained on the day. A charming bungalow with lupins on the Kenmare approach was admired as was the house with rose clad trellis in the centre of the village. A number of attractive gardens were noted throughout.

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

On the Ballyvourney Road no village nameplate was apparent to announce one's arrival into the village. The Kenmare Road was very overgrown and the blue village nameplate on this side appeared quite grubby and unreadable. The traditional square sign should be retained as these are now quite unusual features throughout the country. Signage generally could have been improved upon. Speed limit signs were in bad condition - some were faded and some were quite damaged and battered. You should remove the children crossing sign on the main road as this is no longer required due to the new location of the new school.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Cuil-Aodha is an attractive small village with many areas of unique natural and historical interest. Good luck with your future plans regarding the ongoing development of the village.