

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KINSALE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	45	44
The Built Environment	40	36	36
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	22
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	27	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	33
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	258	254

Kinsale, Co.Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Kinsale Tidy Towns Committee is one that has shown great enthusiasm and hard work over the years. Your application was very clear, the three year plan concise and relevant and the many maps most useful on adjudication day. The efforts that have been put in over the years, have paid off and Kinsale's development is consistent and relevant.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The numerous new developments in this category were noted and admired. Your architectural advice service is certainly a useful and worthwhile one. Most commercial premises were well cared for – in particular the much frequented hostelrys for which Kinsale is famous! Of note were the Trident Hotel, Merlin's Keep, The Blue Haven with its attractive back lit glass canopy, the Spaniard, the Perryville House with its attractive new trees in the garden and sweet pea clad façade and The Bulman with its cobbled area to the front and attractive hand painted sign. However some buildings were in need of attention, such as the Post Office which was quite flaky (in particular its door), The Juno Gallery at Market Quay, The Kinsale Tile Store with its overgrowth in the gutters and a building by the Yacht Club, which was in similar condition. The sign to Acton's Hotel will need painting before next year's competition, although it was in contrast to the well presented building and grounds. The side area to Commercial Hall is still in need of attention as it looked quite neglected, and the building incorporating a number of shops adjacent to the Post Office looked quite shabby also. Do remember not to neglect upper floors when considering the presentation of your buildings. The adjudicator was pleased to note the good use of the Irish language throughout the main streets.

LANDSCAPING

This category of the competition was to a high standard. The roses and permanent planting at the stone base along the seafront was admired, as was the bed of marigolds at the welcome sign adjacent to St. John's Terrace. The park area in this vicinity also looked well. The landscaped area at Long Quay is coming along very well as is the new area leading from Featherbed Lane to Scilly Bog. The numerous incidental landscaped spaces on the road leading to Scilly and Summer Cove are quite charming. The area in the vicinity of Charles Fort is well kept and sports a magnificent view back to the town across the bay.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Both wildlife areas were well maintained with their information boards in good condition. However information boards on the main streets relating to the previous Entente Florale entry

appeared quite shabby and will need painting up before next year's competition.

LITTER CONTROL

Although little litter was apparent to the main streets of the town the approach roads have distinct problems under this category. The odd paper was apparent along the Coast Road to Bandon and quite a lot on the Upper Bandon Road particularly in the vicinity of the speed limit sign. The new litter bins throughout the town were admired.

TIDINESS

Problem buildings have already been mentioned elsewhere in this report. Other areas where attention is needed are the following. Along the seafront the green stands appeared quite flaky and (presumably as these are meant for hanging baskets) empty! The water features opposite also appeared quite rusty. Yard areas such as the Tool Hire yard on the Cork Road should be more successfully screened from public view. In terms of landscaping the public open space at Ard Carrig Estate contrasts with the beautifully kept landscaped area with bright red bench opposite. The boundary wall to the sports ground should be replaced with a high quality stone boundary. The safety barrier at the bottom of the stony steps opposite Emmett Street appeared quite flaky.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category of the competition was extremely good. Individual houses such as Dromderrig Lodge near the Trident Hotel looked extremely well. The attractive and relatively new development in Scilly, in stone and vertical hung slate was admired, as was the new development on the Cork Road, which was also finished to a high standard and in keeping with the character of the town. St. Eltin's Terrace was mostly freshly painted and the attractive cottages of the Guard Well their well kept green space looked extremely well. Mandeville Terrace also in the center of the town looked quite cheerful with its displays of window boxes and hanging baskets. Most landscaped areas to housing estates were well maintained and your environmental awards in relation to residential areas are obviously paying dividends.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Along the Coast Road to Bandon, dead weeds at the boat yard with the rocky backdrop and rusty gates looked most unfortunate. The Cork Road was extremely well maintained with its welcome sign, freshly cut grass and flower filled boats. The relatively new trees along the bank are coming along well. Along the Upper Bandon Road the entrance sign appeared quite grubby and indeed the sign was barely legible due to overgrowth. Presumably this is due to ongoing road works and will be rectified before too long. Signage in fact was quite inconsistent in its presentation with quite a number of grubby signs being evident in the vicinity of Scilly. Do try to develop a uniformity of signage in relation to the numerous directional

signs for the visitor to the B&B's of the area.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Kinsale continues to do extremely well in the competition. The enormous efforts made by all are paying off. Your vigilance in relation to future developments is a worthy one.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/01)

On the August bank holiday the entire town was bustling with visitors and there was scarcely a carparking space to be found. Commendably Kinsale has sustained its very high level in the competition and congratulations are due to all those concerned. The neat grass, well painted buildings, stone walls and luxuriant planting all contribute so much. However, as you are well aware there are still blemishes which need to be tackled to raise the standard still higher. It was indeed a pleasure to walk around the narrow streets, particularly where the crowds diminished. Despite the number of people about litter seemed well under control. We wish you well with your future endeavours!