

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CURRANS**  
County : **KERRY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-2001

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2001 | Mark Awarded 2000 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 27                | 26                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 29                | 27                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 28                | 26                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 15                | 15                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 29                | 28                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 12                | 11                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 19                | 18                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 24                | 24                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 7                 | 7                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>190</b>        | <b>182</b>        |

## **Currans, County Kerry**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for enclosing the list of activities to be attended to. The community would find it beneficial to work towards such a list of priorities or perhaps to a longer term plan. In any case, this is a start and it sets objectives for the community.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

There is generally a good standard of presentation of buildings throughout the village. The business premises, The Riverside Inn and the Village Inn were both very well presented – the use of window boxes, hanging baskets etc. added considerably to the presentation. The church is a prominent building in the village and is excellently maintained; the adjoining grounds were also well attended to with entrance gates well painted etc. As outlined in your programme of work, the derelict building near the Community Centre has been painted and the mural painted on the refurbished wall, in which various scenes of rural life are depicted, does something to improve this area. The Community Centre premises looked quite well but the roof had not yet been painted; the use of flowers, window boxes and hanging baskets here made a pleasant picture. The old national school premises looked attractive again with effective use of window boxes.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping in the vicinity of the church grounds looked very well. Also the landscaping in the large areas on either side of the road through the village is excellent and well maintained. The species of tree planted are particularly good for the long term. Some tree planting has been carried out near the river bank under the arch of the old bridge – the grass in the immediate area was well trimmed but work needs to be carried out and this area could in fact be made into a very attractive feature of the village.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The proximity of the village to the river is very advantageous for the development and encouragement of a wildlife project. As referred to above, that area of the village under the bridge arch would seem to be an appropriate starting point for such a project. It may be useful for the community to seek some specialist guidance perhaps from Duchas as to how to proceed with such a project. However there is a good foundation and this should be utilised by the community.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The litter situation in the village was generally good and the well positioned litter bin in the vicinity of the church was noted. There was however some litter on the Killarney approach

road. But overall the area within the village is dealing well with this matter and the efforts to curb litter should therefore continue.

## **TIDINESS**

There was generally a good level of tidiness within the village this year. However the immediate area around the telephone kiosk would need to be tidied up. Also in that otherwise pleasant area by the river bank, under the old bridge, there was an untidy effect with a wooden pallet and large plastic bags lying in the nearby river. Whilst the old creamery premises outside the village was quite well presented, the area in the immediate vicinity could be made more tidy.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Houses and gardens in and around the village were well attended to. The houses were well maintained and where gardens were attached, these were well attended to. The use of window boxes and hanging baskets added to the overall pleasant atmosphere. On approach roads, for example on the Castlemaine approach, houses and gardens looked well.

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

In a number of instances in and around the village, there were rusted poles and also some rusted traffic signs and these should be attended to. The Ardcran cemetery near the village was well maintained and it was noted that the old pillars at entrance to the old cemetery were nicely restored. In relation to the grass verges on approach roads, there needs to be a balance – severe cutting back is not desirable but it is essential to trim back to some extent, otherwise an impression of neglect is given. In the case of some approach roads here, grass would need to be more carefully trimmed. The walls of the old bridge were impressively and in most cases carefully cleaned.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

This is a very pleasant village and the community is obviously working to maintain it in a presentable manner. These efforts should be continued and with perhaps a co-ordinated plan for the future, considerable further progress can be made. The community should also liaise with the Local Authority on matters such as traffic signs, poles etc., which need attention. Such a co-operative approach would prove beneficial.