

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CURROW**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	30
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	21
Litter Control	40	31	31
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	211	206

Currow, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The community is overall generally making the effort to improve the village. As pointed out in your application, an early start in the year is desirable and if such an effort is maintained in subsequent months, it would prove to be a more co-ordinated approach towards the improvement of the village. A number of improvements have been carried out over the past year but with a more planned effort, considerable further improvements could be brought about.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings in the village were generally well maintained. The GAA Club premises with its "Welcome You" sign was well maintained. Whilst the premises of Kerry Agri business was well maintained, the area and grass growth along the walls of the premises needed to be attended to. The Centra Foodstore/Post Office and the grocery store premises near the church were also well maintained. Also the school building, Scoil Mhuire, Scoil Naisiunta was well maintained. The Community Centre premises – Ionad Pobal Cillitiana is a valuable asset to the community and is well maintained. The small stand-alone premises of Louise's Salon was very neatly and tastefully presented.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping carried out in the vicinity of the Wildlife Park looks well and many of the tree species planted will have a long term future. Also those species will in time blend in well with the already fine mature trees in this vicinity. Flower tubs were in place at the national school but no flowers were in place in them. In either side of the entrance to the Community Hall, there was an attractive shrub in a suitable container and the immediate area was enhanced as a result. The landscaping in the vicinity of the church was very well maintained – the shrubbery, flower beds etc. in this vicinity give a very good overall effect in the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The village is well located and has many characteristics suitable for wildlife development. In particular the river area has considerable potential in this regard; in the vicinity of the Kerry Agri Business, this area of the river is extremely overgrown. Apart from anything, it looks quite untidy and with some effort, this area could be enhanced considerably and would be able to attract some wildlife species. However the community is to be congratulated in having a fine wildlife project, Kileentierna Wildlife Park, located in the Presbytery land in the vicinity of the village. This is an excellent effort by the community and is in a very attractive mature setting. There were ducks etc. in the pond and overall it should be

very attractive for wildlife, thereby giving much pleasure to the community and also proving to be an attraction for visitors to the area. At the time of adjudication, a large explanatory sign, giving details of the project, wildlife species etc. was in the area but had not been put in place at that stage; having it suitably located within the project area would be an asset.

LITTER CONTROL

There is a need to have vigilance in relation to this throughout the village. There was some litter in the vicinity of the Kerry Agri Business premises and also in the vicinity of the nearby stretch of river. The community has taken the trouble to conceal the Bottle Bank in a wooden surround but there was a very large amount of litter inside this enclosed area and this is not what the area is intended for. There was also some litter and rubble in an external area of the wall surrounding the cemetery. There was also some litter in the area of the old water pump on the Castleisland road. Otherwise in the vicinity of the church and shops in the village, there was no evidence of litter.

TIDINESS

The village centre was quite tidy but other areas could be improved considerably. The open area across from Dicksgrove Lodge was very untidy and overgrown. As already referred to, the general area of the Kerry Agri Business premises could be more tidy. The Church Square area was very tidy and clean. Also the areas in the vicinity of the school and community premises were quite tidy. Also the area around the old water pump on the Castleisland road should be tidied up and could be made into a nice feature. In various areas of the village, weed killer had been used but the resultant effect was an untidy one with the burned grass/weed growth still in place.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

In general houses and gardens in the village and on the approach roads were very nicely presented. Where gardens were attached, these were colourful and in other instances, colourful flower boxes were used effectively. The new residential area at Lake View is noted. The existing residential park on the same road is well maintained with the maturing trees enhancing the area considerably; the large area adjoining was well maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The stone wall on the approach road from the grotto looked well. The place name sign for the village here was nicely painted but the pole to which it was attached was rusted and in need of repainting. The grass verge on the road to the GAA Field was very overgrown and in need of attention. The walls surrounding the church had been painted and the piers were in the process of being cleaned at the time of adjudication. The planting of "creepers" on walls in the village is a good idea. Whilst the cemetery was quite well maintained, the

surrounding wall looked neglected and was very much in need of repainting. The stone wall on the Scartaglen approach is attractive and could be cleaned and better presented. The approach road from Castleisland was reasonably maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The community should continue to follow your plan for the village. As indicated, progress is being made but there are areas where more substantial progress could be made. Therefore it is important that all residents give their support. Also where relevant, the community should work with the Local Authority and such a combined effort could prove to have very encouraging results.