

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILCUMMIN**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	34
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	197	197

Kilcummin, Co. Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator is very concerned to note that a Tidy Towns Work Programme or Plan was not submitted with the entry documentation. A Newsletter from November 1999 does not do credit to the work that you have in hand at this time.

Progress in the competition will be dependent on everyone working towards the same ends. With this in mind you must prepare a "3 /5 Year rolling Tidy Towns Work Programme". This programme should have the support of the community; local groups other agencies and the County Council. It would therefore guide you Tidy Towns actions for the next three to five years. The Work Programme will detail the Tidy Towns objectives to be achieved by your committee in the years ahead. The preparation of such a Plan that is updated annually is now an essential aspect of the Tidy Towns Competition.

Do keep in mind that what is required is a simple Plan or document.

The brochures provided on the old Churchyard and the two walks are most interesting.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church was excellently presented and the stone wall with the ivy is a very attractive feature. The grounds are excellently presented. The nearby Nursing Home is very attractively painted and the landscaping and planting is most effective. The walk from here to the Church is noted. The presentation of the National School and grounds is really excellent – what a lovely environment in which students can work! The extension to the old Hall was in progress at the time of adjudication and this is an important local amenity. Good work was noted at the GAA grounds, though the lower end of the concrete wall needs to be re-painted white. The Rural Development Office was excellently presented, as was the Post office where a very clever and appropriate colour choice was made.

LANDSCAPING

The planting in the new Park is noted. This is an attractive development and the monument is most interesting. However the gates need to be painted as does the fencing.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The brochure on the two walks is most interesting and these walks are an excellent facility. Do continue to keep them in their natural state. The Mass Rock needs a sign or plaque indicating the significance of this site. Also the boundary walls and the boundary wall to the road could do with appropriate

re-painting. There is a large open space between the Church and the new Park and this looks as if it might have potential for amenity wildlife development. The adjudicator wonders if this is a project that can be discussed with the owners?

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is generally good, however litter was noted on the road to the cemetery, and some was also evident in the new Park area.

TIDINESS

The project to under-ground the wire-scape is an excellent one, and hopefully this will be implemented in full. At the Cemetery the boundary wall with the road should be painted and the area in general could do with some work on weed control. Perhaps it is also possible to include the surface on the wall side of the road.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses in general are well presented, and major development was noted on the road to the Mass Rock. It is hoped that the developers of these houses will carry out suitable landscaping. A trend to use concrete road boundary fences for private houses was noted. Some of these do not fit well with the attractive environment of your village. Perhaps new housing can use more traditional road boundaries such as stone and earth.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Public lighting improvement plans are noted, as is work on footpaths. Your approach roads in general need further continuous work. Verges should be trimmed neatly keeping in mind the needs of wildlife. The approach from the Farranfore side with the attractive grass strips at the Speed Limit Signs looks well but continuous maintenance in the growing season is required. On the approach from the Cemetery attractive planting was noted on the left-hand side, though trimming is now due.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is most important that your community puts in place a Tidy Towns Plan as required in this Competition. It should be a simple document with realistic targets that will guide your work for the next few years.