

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **PORTMAGEE**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 04-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	35
The Built Environment	40	31	29
Landscaping	40	32	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	16
Litter Control	40	31	30
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	9	8
TOTAL MARK	300	220	208

Portmagee, Co. Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator would like to congratulate your Committee on the most excellent documentation submitted with your Tidy Towns Entry Form. Your Tidy Towns Action Plan is exactly the sort of document that is required by all Committees. You are carrying out some very interesting research – place names and history of the village, and local flora and fauna. The CE Schemes have obviously worked very well for Portmagee and the results are everywhere to see. The concept of the Junior Tidy Towns Competition is imaginative and progressive, as is the schools wildlife competition.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The public toilets are an excellent development that is being very well maintained. Do remove the manufacturers labels from the outside of the windows. It is good to learn that Planning Permission has been sought to restore some of the derelict houses in the Main Street. The Community Hall is extremely well presented as are the many of the houses in Portmagee, the majority of which have been painted recently. Do note that some gable walls have still to be painted and these can look poorly in contrast to the front elevations. The Moorings and the Bridge Bar are just two of the buildings that are well presented.

LANDSCAPING

The quality of landscaping in Portmagee is quite high, and you have a very comprehensive planting programme. The grass areas on the Cahirciveen approach on the right hand side are superbly presented. The work on the river will in time provide an additional amenity for the area, and hopefully you will be able to expand your work in this area. The landscaping at the junction to Valentia Island is looking really well, however the black and yellow kerbing is in need of re-painting. The new stone wall on the approach to the Church has been expertly built and is a credit to those involved.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The flora and fauna and wild bird research is of critical importance to the understanding of the various habitats of the Portmagee area. By understanding these habitats you can then start to protect and expand these habitats for the future. For example you are planting Escalonia so as to encourage Bees to the area. Well done on your success in preventing the removal of gravel from the seashore. The new seashore development on the Cahirciveen approach is an excellent development, that will look really well when fully finished. Are you planning some seating for this area?

LITTER CONTROL

Your Programme to keep the Strand area clean on a weekly basis is commended, and shows very good results. Also the Spring Clean Day is an excellent way of keeping the litter aspects to the forefront. Litter control in the village was very good on adjudication day.

TIDINESS

A fast food outlet was noted near the new Toilet block and the adjudicator wonders if this is a permanent arrangement? At the Burial Ground the gates need to be painted as a matter of urgency and the pile of sand / gravel in this area needs to be removed. The farm gate to the left of the Church steps also needs to be painted – a bright colour perhaps? An untidy space was noted in Lovers Lane with some abandoned tractors and a van. The adjudicator notes that the name plaques for this Lane have either been removed, or have still to be put in place. The timber fencing opposite the School should be repaired and painted. Nearby the car sales area could perhaps be screened. A general tidy up is required at the end of the road beyond the Pier.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

As noted above watch out for gable walls that need to be painted. The new fencing at the estate beyond the School is noted, and the grass and landscaping at this estate is excellent.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Cahirciveen approach is excellently presented and the other approach roads have received attention also. The work in Lovers Lane is beginning to show results.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It was a most pleasant experience to carry out the Portmagee adjudication. You have achieved much to date and do continue the good work for many years to come.