

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILKEE**  
County : **CLARE**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 21-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	46	45
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	30	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	24
Litter Control	40	32	34
Tidiness	20	13	14
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	27
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>234</b>

## **KILKEE, CO. CLARE**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The entry form and other documentation, such as details of the Kilkee Habitat Trail 2002, and the Kilkee Environmental Forum, together with the Kilkee Tidy Towns Committee Action Plan, were impressive. The very detailed Environmental Audit which identifies the problems, actions, required timing and responsibilities should greatly improve Kilkee in the future.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Most buildings in Kilkee are kept to a high standard including the Church, the School on the road leading to the Church, all the Hotels, the Garda Barracks and Kilkee Seaworld. On the streets in the town, again most premises were well presented, some with good traditional shop fronts and plasterwork. Unfortunately, there are a few exceptions, one of these being St Senan's GAA club on the entrance to Kilkee, which needs repainting and some landscaping work undertaken on the surrounds. Also, the Boat House near the East End Pier needs refurbishment. The shelter on the way up to George's Head, the toilets, the Bandstand on the Promenade and the seating and other street furniture in these areas were looking exceptionally well.

### **LANDSCAPING**

As it was a very poor year weatherwise leading up to the Adjudication, cognisance was taken of this fact, as some of the planting was rather weedy and overgrown. However, the picnic area at George's Head was admired for its layout & maintenance, except for one broken picnic table. Also, the picnic area near the Ocean Cove Hotel and the seated area near the Pollock Holes were well maintained. Unfortunately, the broken fencing on the way up from the East End, near the crossroads leading to Doonbeg & Lahinch, is still in the same condition. No doubt, this is included in your very comprehensive environmental audit. We would suggest that a statement be made, in a landscaping sense, on the main entrance road to Kilkee from Kilrush / Ennis. Whilst the private houses and other premises (except for the GAA club) are well presented here, there is no great sense of welcome to Kilkee.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Congratulations on the Kilkee Habitat Trail which features display boards in eight locations, each on a different theme. The one on Rock Pools situated near the Pollock Holes was very informative and would certainly encourage a person to follow the complete trail.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Kilkee was virtually litter free on the day of adjudication, which is quite an achievement in a busy seaside resort.

### **TIDINESS**

The town and surrounds was mostly neat and tidy with no kerbside weeds in evidence. However, one disappointing area was at the Golf Club on the road to George's Head. Here the area outside the bar, which is very visible to the road, was quite untidy with barrels, crates, and other items on display. These should be screened off, as they spoil what is one of the most scenic areas in Kilkee. The set back area outside the wall of the Golf Club is very rough and also needs attention.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There is a good use of colour throughout the lodges around the bay, creating a pleasant outlook. Other private houses and holiday homes were mostly well presented.

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

Unfortunately, the road surfaces throughout Kilkee are, in the main, of poor quality and need attention.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

It is evident that there is a very active Tidy Towns Committee in Kilkee. Your excellent Environmental Audit / work programme should bring you further success in the years ahead.

### **SECOND ADJUDICATION (05/08/02)**

The absence of what the first adjudicator terms 'no great sense of welcome' in Kilkee regarding the unusually bleak approach from Ennis, has, in fact, been mentioned several times over the years. This topic does not seem to be specifically listed in your impressive and comprehensive Action Plan, where every other possible discrepancy is minutely covered.

Unfortunately, there was considerable litter at the time of second adjudication. Kilkee is a holiday town and those in authority must be aware that littering is a real possibility at midsummer, requiring additional attention. The wonderful prospect of St George's Head in particular was severely marred. The local authority has powers to exact substantial fines for littering, and it should be easy to do so where perpetrators are caravan based. Weed growth was prominent in several parts of the town, something which can be anticipated during a wet season. In general, Kilkee provided something of a disappointment this year. It is confidently expected that the implementation of the Action Plan will address such issues, and it is earnestly hoped that this will happen soon.