

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-08-2002

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2002 | Mark Awarded 2001 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 38 | 37 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 32 | 31 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 32 | 32 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 20 | 18 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 31 | 31 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 16 | 15 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 22 | 21 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 26 | 26 |
| General Impression | 10 | 9 | 9 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 226 | 220 |

Portmagee, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Portmagee is welcome to the 2002 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your detailed submission. Work accomplished to date is impressive and we wish you well in the implementation of future projects detailed in your work programme 2002 – 2005. Portmagee enjoys a magnificent setting by the sea and represents a gateway to Valentia Island. The village was beautifully presented in all respects and all involved in the Tidy Towns effort are to be congratulated.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

All buildings looked really well. The school and its grounds were impressive in presentation, the Fishermans's Bar and Restaurant, the Moorings, the Bridge Bar, the Skellig Mist and the Community Centre were also impressive in their presentation. The 'Lover's Lane' signs are a nice touch.

LANDSCAPING

Flower displays throughout the village were colourful and much admired. Grass verges were neat and inviting with their public seating. Well done on the maintenance of trees and the clearing of overgrowth on the river bank. Flowering hedgerow is also appreciated. Congratulations for landscaping of the seafront area and in the carpark.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Planting to attract wildlife is appropriate. Your plan to include an information panel on local wildlife is to be encouraged. Seating and picnic areas should not be located too close to wildlife areas as it might be a discouragement. Well done on the bird tables, do let us have details of the findings of your wildlife survey.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was excellent during our visit, the appointment of the litter warden appears to have been successful. Well done on the National Spring Clean Day and on the acquisition of a digger to clean the strand. Your litter and tidiness awareness programme focusing on young people is a very worthwhile project. Weekly work parties are effective and letters to holiday homes and businesses regarding the disposing of litter is an excellent initiative.

TIDINESS

A few derelict properties were noted during our survey, however your attention does not need to be drawn to these as you are aware of them and have been active in relation to

their possible redevelopment. We wish you well in your activities here. The recycling point was really tidy, well done. Weed control along footpaths and at the base of walls was excellent also.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The colour scheme of Portmagee is one of its most attractive features. New developments have been noted and these are attractive and complement the built environment of the village. Your special appeal to householders appears to have been successful. Congratulations on the construction of a new house on the derelict site at the east end of the village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Well done on resurfacing to date and on the refurbishment and maintenance of natural stone walls. The pier is a fine development and beautifully presented. Nameplates are well presented also as is the public toilet and carpark. The wirescape looks quite poor, hopefully the service cables will be ducted at some stage in the future. Well done on the Lovers Lane initiative and upgrading of gates.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Portmagee is a beautiful village and it is always a pleasure to visit for any purpose. The significant increase in marks this year has been well earned, congratulations!

SECOND ADJUDICATION (05/08/02)

The view of the village from the bridge is marvelous with such an assembly of colour reflected in the water. The wild flower picnic area was looking especially well with a lovely collection of plants in flower, nicely organised with the pathways to the lovely slate picnic table and benches. Despite the very busy bank holiday in the village, there was a very high standard of cleanliness and litter was well taken care of. The presence of the local slate makes the village most interesting – the beautiful slate wall on each side of the short road leading to the church looked particularly well. Some disruption due to building at the start of this road was noted. The carpark and toilet area is very welcome and was very busy with tourists at this visit. The entrance greens and floral displays were attractive – the treatment of the derelict cottage façade with the Nasturtiums and Montbretia is very clever. Also the lovely display of Hydrangeas and colourful containers through the village gives a very summery welcome.