

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ENNISKERRY**
County : **WICKLOW**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	44	41
The Built Environment	40	36	36
Landscaping	40	29	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	22
Litter Control	40	25	26
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	226	224

Enniskerry, County Wicklow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Enniskerry has many natural advantages by virtue of its position, nestling within mature trees and having a very picturesque river aspect. The committee has done very well in harnessing so many groups within the village and surrounds to help maximize effort. The Enniskerry 2002 tidy towns submission is both comprehensive and concise. This forms an excellent guideline for developments. The community partnership project in the development of the Bog Meadow is admirable.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Buildings in Enniskerry contribute greatly to the character of the village. Many of the business premises are very well attended to and give a lovely appearance. The National School and the Ferndale and Lislea houses look very well. Foot path construction work currently in process is causing some disruption as is the building construction on the adjacent corner and much dust is being raised from this work. The Memorial beside the toilets is a nice idea and hopefully work on this will reach a conclusion soon. The clock tower is an imposing site and well presented. Carparking surrounding this is very undesirable both visually and practically. The village was over run with parked cars on the day visited, causing difficulty for buses and commercial vehicles to pass. The Churches are impressive buildings and there are many well painted shops. The post office and adjacent video shop need attention. Signposts need a little attention in regards to. The interior of the toilet leaves much to be desired, as does the outside of the telephone kiosk.

LANDSCAPING

Enniskerry has the natural landscape advantage of a great wealth of trees. The trees are right inside the village giving a lovely character. The trees in the Church of Ireland grounds are spectacular and those grounds are kept particularly well. Details such as the Wisteria on a premises close to the post office and a large climbing Hydrangea on another shop add character to the village. Individual gardens add greatly to the overall landscape of the village and there are many well tended gardens. The small green in the housing estate opposite the public toilet is poorly maintained.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Bog Meadow project is an excellent idea and being so close to the village ensures high usage. The partnership arrangement could be a very good example for many projects in towns and villages throughout Ireland. The future

developments here will be very exciting. The Knocksink wood educational center is a lovely project and it was great to see so many children enjoying themselves there. The walkways offer tremendous opportunity for observation of nature and leisure activities. Extra information and guidance for visitors would be welcome. The field of buttercups by the entrance to the Church Of Ireland was especially attractive.

LITTER CONTROL

The projects described in the submission to alleviate litter problems are laudable. The cleanup days and the amount of litter that was collected shows the magnitude of the problem. Litter unfortunately continues to present difficulties in Enniskerry, on the streetside, at the clock tower and in the river as seen from the bridge. Cigarette butts in profusion were observed in spots.

TIDINESS

The layout of the village lends itself to a well organised structure with central clock tower where roads meet. The difficulties being endured at present, due to the foot path laying and parking, hinder the tidiness aspect. Weeds in the gutters above the premises Poppies and Enniskerry Kids also give the wrong impression. The underground cabling is a major advantage and an asset under this heading.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There is an interesting variety of residences comprising of both streetside accommodation and individual houses. A number of gardens are well presented and give a lovely impression by roadsides. The housing estate on the Glenree road is richly planted with trees.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads are interesting . The work done to remove vegetation from the walls on the roadsides is good. Unfortunately this reveals a number of places where wall repairs are now needed. The natural vegetation on some of the roads is very attractive and a balance must be found between leaving a desert-like landscape and allowing vegetation to completely obscure walls. The cobble drains on roads within the village are particularly attractive and every effort must be made to retain these. The footpaths in the village are in poor condition. There are many broken paths and some are quite dangerous.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Enniskerry forms a beautiful setting for a village with its surrounding amenities of the large garden estates and woodlands. The community spirit keeps the focus in the village and hopefully the character will be preserved in spite of pressures of traffic and extra usage.