**Tidy Towns 1997**

Adjudication Report

“**Caring for our environment”**

Centre: **Kilcummin**

County: **Kerry**

Category: **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication: 17-07-97

  **Maximum Mark Mark**

 **Mark Awarded 1997 Awarded 1996**

Overall Development Approach 50 31 30

The Built Environment 40 24 24

Landscaping 40 25 24

Wildlife and Natural Amenities 30 19 18

Litter Control 40 24 23

Tidiness 20 12 12

Residential Areas 30 17 17

Roads, Streets and Back Areas 40 22 22

General Impression 10 6 6

**TOTAL MARK 300 180 176**

**Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you for submitting your map and outline of a three to five year plan in relation to your community’s future Tidy Towns activities. This is a very attractive rural village and the community is obviously working towards improving the overall appearance of the village. Though the plan which you have outlined is limited in detail it will, however, enable you to work towards these objectives and to bring about further improvement.

**The Built Environment:**

The new church and school buildings were excellently presented. The old Church is a fine building and it is hoped that some worthwhile community use will be found for it. It is important that it does not be allowed to fall into disrepair. The Kilcummin Rural Development Office premises is very attractively presented. In the community plan for the future, consideration should be given to what might be done with the Old Parish Hall. It is rapidly falling into disrepair and if possible should be dealt with early in your programme.

**Landscaping:**

The planting which has been carried out in the village gives some colour. Where appropriate, additional planting should be carried out in the environs of the village. In embarking on such a planting programme it is important that consideration be given to planting some species for long-term effect. The grounds adjoining the school are beautifully landscaped.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The woodland walk is an interesting development. At this stage it is wise to obtain professional advice on plant species etc. on the walk. The walk is well sign-posted. It is stated in point 1 of your outline plan that specific drains in the village are to be piped etc. Such a development could have implications for wildlife habitats in the area. It is suggested therefore that specialist advice (if not already obtained) be sought on this aspect of your plan. If possible it would be very desirable to provide additional habitats for wildlife in the area. The stream which runs close to the Woodland Walk might also be investigated from a wildlife management point of view.

**Litter Control:**

The litter situation within the village was generally quite good. There was, however, some litter in the vicinity of the Mass Rock and it is suggested that a litter bin may be positioned here for the future.

**Tidiness:**

There was a good level of tidiness throughout the village. The Mass Rock has been carefully enclosed but grass both within and outside the wall would need to be trimmed much more carefully. The entrance to Our Lady of Lourdes Nursing Home was very neatly presented; the stone walls here and the seating etc. look well. The entrance to the playing field was quite tidy. Traffic signs in the vicinity of the village were rusty and in need of repainting.

**Residential Areas:**

The houses and gardens in and around the village are carefully attended to. In many instances households have made great efforts in good presentation of their houses and gardens.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The Killarney approach road was reasonably well maintained. The grass verges on the road to the Mass Rock would need to be better trimmed. Roads in the vicinity of the playing field are very much in need of resurfacing. The Mass Rock is an historic aspect of the community and is well sign-posted from the village.

**General Impression:**

The village is a very pleasant one and has the potential to make good progress in the competition. It is hoped that the community will continue to work together to bring about this improvement.