**Tidy Towns 1998**

Adjudication Report

“Caring for our environment”

Centre: **Kilcummin**

County: **Kerry**

Category: **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication: 20-06-98

  **Maximum Mark Mark**

 **Mark Awarded 1998 Awarded 1997**

Overall Development Approach 50 32 31

The Built Environment 40 25 24

Landscaping 40 26 25

Wildlife and Natural Amenities 30 20 19

Litter Control 40 24 24

Tidiness 20 12 12

Residential Areas 30 19 17

Roads, Streets and Back Areas 40 23 22

General Impression 10 7 6

**TOTAL MARK 300 188 180**

**Overall Development Approach:**

The Kilcummin Tidy Towns Committee is obviously a hardworking and diligent one. You seem to have a clear concept of what you would like to achieve for your town’s future. Your plans, both realised and ongoing, are practical and aesthetic. You seem to have a good relationship established with the whole community – everybody working together! Congratulations on the results achieved so far and good luck with future endeavours.

**The Built Environment:**

The attractive modern Church with its beautifully maintained grounds looked magnificent. The school was very fresh and had well maintained grounds – even the rear area had been considered in terms of presentation. This is an area which is often forgotten! The creeper-clad boundary wall to the front is coming along nicely and should improve the appearance of this immensely. The Post Office was very fresh and the Rural Development Association building in the old national school was also well presented. The old Church/Parish Hall however, is badly in need of painting. Hopefully this will be improved upon in future and come up to the standard of the rest of the village.

**Landscaping:**

Landscaping throughout the village was well maintained on adjudication day, however, perhaps concrete post and wire fences around the village could be replaced with hedges – hawthorn or beech would be ideal. The yellow bog irises in a field along the main street was admired. The Mass Rock seemed quite neglected on adjudication day as the grass was quite overgrown, weeds were also evident on the steps leading up to it. This is unfortunate as it is a marvellous facility for the village and a fine item of heritage. The GAA Grounds were well maintained and hedging seemed to have been planted behind the concrete post and wire fence.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

This is an aspect of the competition which you appear to have well in hand. The wormeries are certainly an interesting aspect to this category. The Woodland Walk is a pleasant space to walk along and appreciate the wildlife of the village.

**Litter Control:**

The standard of litter control could have been better on adjudication day. On first appearances the village was virtually litter free, however, in a village of Kilcummin’s size even one or two papers are extremely evident and you must be even more vigilant. A couple of papers were apparent on the Killarney approach and on the Farranfore Road. Also along the road which contains the Mass Rock, in particular outside the entrance area to same and along the road leading to the GAA Grounds.

**Tidiness:**

In terms of tidiness the village again appeared quite neat and ordered on adjudication day. However, there were a few problem areas. Quite a lot of weeds were apparent, presumably this is due to the ongoing road works and the Mass Rock as mentioned previously was quite overgrown and was weedy to the forecourt area and the steps leading up.

**Residential Areas:**

Houses and gardens throughout the village and along approach roads were well-presented on adjudication day. The house opposite the Church appeared to be abandoned but was freshly painted. There were generally attractive gardens to very fresh houses. A stone boundary wall with attractive and well maintained gardens on the road to the GAA Grounds was particularly admired as was an attractive rose garden to a cottage in the village.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Along the Killarney Road the hedges had been cut back. Do bear in mind bird nesting times when undertaking hedge cutting. Ferns and foxgloves were apparent and admired. The new speed limit sign was noted, however, it will be important to maintain these and keep them washed as they appeared quite grubby on adjudication day. The grass on the Farranfore Road had been roughly cut to the verges and the speed limit sign on exiting the town was quite grubby. Road works were in progress on the day. On the Gneeveguilla Road papers were apparent on the quite bare and forlorn forecourt area of the pub. What appeared to be a refrigeration unit was quite evident and visible from the car park, perhaps this could be screened from public view. Ferns and wild flowers were apparent along this road and also on the Mass Rock Road.

**General Impression:**

The village of Kilcummin looked well loved and cared for on adjudication day. Well done on the achievements so far and best of luck with your future endeavours.