

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LISDOONVARNA**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	24
Litter Control	40	25
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	178

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning the completed entry form which was excellently filled in, complete with a most informative map. It is good to learn you have a close liaison with various relevant agencies and your efforts on village renewal are commendable. Do you have a working plan for overall improvement? If not, you should consider same. Such a plan would represent your vision for an improved Lisdoonvarna over a period of say five years.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is a new section in the competition offering valuable marks for the promotion of wildlife in your area. You might consider promoting a wildlife project with the schools in association with the I.W.C. Such a project might include listing the names of birds/fishlife in the area. This is a new section that will take time to develop.

LANDSCAPING

You have scored well in this section and the developments at the Square are most praiseworthy. This area is now the focal point for the town and should be maintained to a high standard. The town car park development with some welcome landscaping is a significant improvement for this area. Long-term you should promote the idea of pedestrianising some of the towns streets which would benefit trade and give greater comfort to visitors and locals. The many flower bed developments throughout the town are very well presented and bring welcome colour in the area. You should continue with this policy - especially on the approach roads and at the many open spaces throughout the town and its environs.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The town is endowed with many fine well presented period houses that give the town a distinctive image. You also have problems in this section with a great deal of unoccupied and derelict houses in prominent locations keeping your standard down. For the most part public buildings are well presented and some have been freshly painted. Hotels are very well presented and many have attractive landscaping. Tourism accommodation in general is very good. You also have some very attractive shopfronts in the principal streets. These have improved in recent years with the removal of plastic signs in favour of the more traditional type.

LITTER CONTROL

You have done well in controlling litter and the town was almost litter free on adjudication day. There seems to be a concerted effort to keep the streets clean. Evidence of litter is confined to approach areas and a little at the Smoke House Car Park. Litter bins are well spaced and of good quality. Well done on your recycling efforts.

TIDINESS

You have problems in this section because of the large number of uncared for open spaces, unoccupied houses, derelict sites and poorly presented boundary walls. Much of this situation is beyond the capacity of any Tidy Towns Committee to solve and all you can do is keep up the pressure on owners of such sites. The entrance to the Shannon Development Industrial Estate is very poor and the road surface is way below standard. The Smoke Room and environs are excellent and should take a bow for the condition of the toilets.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of houses throughout is very good. New houses should be encouraged to finish well and

make good use of local materials. Rooska Housing estate would benefit from some community activity in a co-ordinated way. In particular some boundary walls need painting and the grass environs should be tackled by the residents. Housing on the approach roads is good and many have well landscaped gardens.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In general road surfacing is good throughout. The competition is now laying great emphasis on side and back entrances. You now need to encourage commercial operators, in particular, of the necessity to keep side and back areas in good presentation. Connecting laneways should receive special treatment - many of these can be developed into an attractive spectacle. Developers should, as a matter of course, be expected to provide access for persons with disabilities.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Lisdoonvarna has improved in line with most other centres. The urban renewal developments will characterise the town appearance for the next generation and should be carried out with care and attention. The pressure of traffic is being felt by all towns and its discipline and control will need to be handled with good effect. Your committee has an important part to play in any future development that affects the environmental make up of the town. Good luck for '97.