

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **NEWMARKET-ON-FERGUS**  
County : **CLARE**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-96

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 27           |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 15           |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 31           |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 26           |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 25           |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 14           |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 17           |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 22           |
| General Impression             | 10           | 6            |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>183</b>   |

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning completed entry form and outline of activities. You are to be complimented for such excellent fund raising and your close association with FÁS is both commendable and fruitful. You have raised your standards considerably in recent years and your work on approach roads in particular is obvious. Do you have an agreed three to five year working plan for the phased improvement. This is desirable especially if you intend continuing with a FÁS scheme in the coming years.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This new section present you with an opportunity to gain valuable marks by promoting wildlife in your area. The area near the stream on the right hand side from Limerick approach is suitable for same. Also when you are planting shrubs, plant those that will yield winter food for birds. You may also consider listing the names of popular wildlife in your area and this could be done in association with the Irish Wildbird Conservancy.

### LANDSCAPING

Undoubtedly your strong point, you have further developed and improved since last year. The two main approach roads are superb and present a great image for the village on this busy road. The flower display at Ballycar Cross is excellent again this year. You should continue and extend this policy of flower and shrub planting on the lesser used approach roads. The individual effort in this section is also praiseworthy and some houses and gardens excel. Your challenge now is to maintain your developments to a high standard. The area around the Church is very well presented. The standard rose display at the bridge is more colourful and attractive.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church is your dominant building and its strategic location at the fair green is a focal point. The school is very well presented again this year. The new G.A.A. sign looks well and compliments the building. The attractive shopfronts referred to last year look well. The library would benefit from painting. In general buildings are presented to a high standard.

### LITTER CONTROL

There seems to be a concerted effort to keep the village litter free and this is commendable. You do have a black spot in the stream at the bridge. Empty beer cans in particular are a problem here and over a two week observation the stream was not cleaned. Otherwise litter was confined to a small amount of some of the greens.

### TIDINESS

Because of the well kept grass areas, high standard of landscaping and freshly painted premises, the village looked tidy throughout. There are a few pockets in private ownership and a black spot on the Limerick approach that needs attention but as a committee you can only use your influence to improve these areas.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Cill na Súile Park has improved a little but needs more effort from the community. Boundary walls in particular need attention. In general the standard of presentation throughout is very good with some excellent individual effort. Some estates are further enhanced by attractive flower bed developments at the entrances. Try and have each housing estate identified.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The emphasis now being placed on side and back entrances is reflected by the valuable marks available under this section. In particular, commercial premises should have side and back areas well presented. Signage is well presented. The two large signs on the Ennis and Limerick approaches are very effective, but why ignore the lovely name Cora Chaitlin on each of them. The commercial sign on the bridge should be painted and relocated. You have excessive through traffic which is beyond your control.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village is well presented throughout, and the extra developments since last year have further enhanced the overall impression. You now need to pay greater attention to detail. In particular you should try to involve the residents in a co-ordinated way. Where feasible you should tone down some of the loud signage on commercial buildings. Your development on the Ennis approach is now almost reaching the garage which should be encouraged to improve its presentation. Good luck for 1997.