

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CULDAFF**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	24
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	182

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The approach of the Culdaff Development Association as outlined in the Landscape Development Plan submitted with the questionnaire is very straightforward. It contains a brief history of the Culdaff area, its strengths and weakness, the amount of the Culdaff catchment area, and it also contains proposals for improvements to the appearance of the village to be carried out in the next few years. There is already a keen community spirit in the village and the local development association are receiving support. They also work closely with the County Council and FAS. Thanks are due to the secretary of the Development Association for returning the already mentioned documents and the excellent map.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The wild sanctuary by the river provides a habitat for many species of birds and wildlife. The protection of the river as mentioned in your questionnaire is an excellent idea, as this is a very important and valuable resource. The provision of hides in this area should be considered for the future.

LANDSCAPING

The village green has an excellent standard of presentation and looked lovely on adjudication day. The grass was nicely trimmed, the seating, the waterpump and gazebo floral displays and treeplanting mark this the centrepiece of the village. Well done. The river walk was in need of attention as the weeds were very prominent on the path. The treeplanting here looked well. The Ardmore Graveyard is well maintained with new flower beds. The shrubbery bed beside the tidied up derelict cottage were somewhat overgrown.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The presentation of many of the buildings in Culdaff is of a high standard. McGrorys, as last year, was outstanding with its traditional signs, seating and flower beds. The church still retains its excellent presentation. The Community Hall with its seating is also worthy of comment, however there is a lot of rubbish at the rear of the building. Your attention to derelict buildings is noted. The Village Cafe needs freshening up, however planning permission is being sought to improve a section of this premises. The stone walls are a feature on the approaches, however because of grass and weeds growing from the walls they did not look their best. The Garda Station looked well and the shrubbery beds had improved somewhat. The view to the left from the village green of corrugated sheds is unsightly. The school building and floral display also looked well.

LITTER CONTROL

The main street was relatively free of litter on adjudication day, although some residual litter was noticeable. As already mentioned litter was very visible to the rear of the community hall and on the river walk

TIDINESS

The overall appearance of Culdaff is of a neat and well cared for village. The effort of the Tidy Towns Committee and the Community is admired. There are problems but you are coming to grips with them, notably the derelict caravans (some of which appeared to have been burned out) on the left of the approach to the river walk.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The housing estate on the Glenged Road, St. Bodens Terrace, looked well. Many of the houses and gardens were well presented with nice gardens and window boxes. The grass at the green area is in

need of trimming. The private houses on the approaches and elsewhere had lightly painted houses, nice floral displays and boundary walls. Particularly nice garden at the home in the vicinity of the telephone kiosk.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The stone walls on the approaches are a credit to all concerned. The bridge on the Malin approach is lovely, however, grass and weeds are growing on walls need to be kept under control. This is a common fault on all the approaches and takes away from the pleasant introduction to the village. The treeplanting is very nice on the right hand side of the Merville approach, but the untidy garage on the left are still visible. Some dereliction on the left and right of the bridge on the Malin approach. Most of the verges were trimmed on the Malin approach. The car park opposite the Garda Station needs resurfacing.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The ongoing effort of the Tidy Towns Committee and the improvements being carried out - walls, treeplanting, flowerbeds, derelict sites, show a consolidation and determination to bring Culdaff a high ranking in the competition. Good luck and keep up the good work.