

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **LEENANE**  
County : **GALWAY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	22
Litter Control	40	20
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>159</b>

## **Adjudicator's Comments**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Delighted to learn that you are in the process of replacing your 1990 Development Plan with a new one taking into consideration current needs. I hope your long awaited sewage scheme will be put into operation this year. Evidence abounds of your efforts to improve the attractiveness of Leenane. Your Village is ideally situated to provide locals and visitors with gainful activities.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

You are blessed with natural amenities and you are to be commended on the provision of sign posting of important features. Have you any plans for the collation of information on the habitats of animals and birds as well as the identification of wild flowers. Local environmental experts could be invited to help you with the specialist information you will require.

### **LANDSCAPING**

You are to be commended for your work of fencing and the planting of trees and shrubs. Resolve to have them properly maintained. The stone walls in the Village are very impressive. You must have the most beautifully located Cemetery in Ireland. The gates could be re-painted and maybe the cemetery wall. Are the poles situated in the cemetery really necessary? They take from the overall view. The Calvary situation in the Church grounds has a rusted Cross and the figures need re-painting. The Rockery at the base is covered in grass. Would it not be possible to plant flowers?

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Most of the important buildings are well presented. The property alongside the Village Grill has a sort of annexe that is an eyesore. The Village Pump could be transformed with some paint and flower planting. There is a noticeable lack of floral decoration on properties. The area opposite The Field Restaurant is untidy and much more could be made of this area. Opposite the Garda Station there is what appears to be a Boatyard. The items stored there - barrels etc. spoil a magnificent view. The area between The Leenane Inn and Killary House B&B has been improved and would further benefit from the planting of some flowers. At the MAUM - WESTPORT Sign there is what appears to be a parking/picnic area but no litter bins, no floral tubs or shrubs. In fact it was being used as a store for materials.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was no great evidence of litter except at the parking area opposite Leenane Cultural Centre. The stone faced litter bins were overflowing and the excess was lying at the base. This was at 11 a.m. in the morning. Provision should be made at such popular locations for extra bins or a big barrel nicely painted.

### **TIDINESS**

Tidiness is not merely an absence of litter. It is the feeling of a caring community. Attention to weed control is important and the removal of unsightly items. On the day of adjudication, Leenane looked neat.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The popularity of Leenane will mean an ever increasing residential development. A key factor in the Adjudication Criteria for 1996 is evidence that the total community is involved in the work of caring for the environment. If each home owner ensures that their property is well maintained then the area will be transformed. Encourage the use of window boxes and flower tubs! The overall picture is good.

### **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The Village approach roads were presented to a high standard. The problem of attention to grass verges needs constant attention. Consideration should be given to the provision of Welcome to Leenane Signs on all approach roads, preferably in stone with floral decoration. It is important that in all matters consideration be given to the disabled in gaining access to buildings.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Leenane will always attract visitors because of its natural beauty and environment. The stone wall projects are highly commended. Congratulations on your recently developed Parking & Leisure area. Your efforts to remove poles and have the cables undergrounded is to be commended. Continue to encourage home owners to maintain their property to a high standard. It would be nice to have more floral decoration on private houses. Continue the excellent work.