

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DROMCOLLOGHER**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-06-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20
Landscaping	40	28
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	22
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	190

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Judging from your extremely detailed responses to the application form you would appear to have a good working relationship with the appropriate statutory bodies. For next year's competition it will be important to have drawn up a 3/5 year plan of action for your town in order to give yourselves a clear direction for tackling the problem areas within the community.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

A most attractive feature of the town is the stream area which extends to the area opposite the church, although it was rather weedy. It should be restored, along with the stone surrounding wall. Possibly the best way of approaching this category, would be to get in contact your local environmental groups and experts in order to seek advice on this broad-ranging issue. From there, you can then locate your local wildlife habitats and see what species of animals, birds, fish and plantlife these attract. A good idea would be to involve the local schoolchildren in this program-they will hopefully bring a fresh enthusiasm for the abundance of wildlife in their local environment.

LANDSCAPING

The main landscaping features of the town were well maintained on Adjudication Day. The central feature to the main square was reasonably well kept with the grass, trees and planting. The new landscaped area to the Day Care Centre showed great promise on the day and should be most attractive when completed. The extremely dense permanent planting in their native stone surrounded gravel-filled beds adjacent to the Heritage Centre and Co-op museum looked magnificent. The town pump at the junction of the Buttevant road and Milford road would make an attractive feature if restored to its former glory.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The standard in this category was quite inconsistent. O'Kelly's sign was very flaky, and the rusty tin roofed blue shed beside this premises could be attended to. The mosaic detail beneath the fascia is an unusual and very attractive feature. The Co-op museum and Heritage Centre are fine stone buildings. The water tank to latter should be obscured from public view. Aherne's is an attractive old shopfront, as is O'Shea's pub front with its original backboard to the inside of the windows. D.O'Halloran's is another quaint traditional front if a little flaky. There were far too many stickers in the Shop Local window which gave it a very cluttered appearance. Mc.Carthy's cash stores badly needed a fresh coat of paint. The chemist was very fresh in a mint green with petrol blue trim. The Post Office was very fresh. AIB has a fine limestone front. Its pink and red geraniums in timber window boxes looked very cheerful. The Country Fresh fruit and vegetable shop also looked lively with its abundance of flowers. The Garda Station was very grubby, the boundary wall being particularly bad. The grounds were neat if a little bare. The old graveyard and church were in the process of being cleared up. The library is a most unusual and interesting modern building. The grounds had been cut back, but had a bare appearance. The Community School grounds looked truly magnificent with the two yew trees either side of the steps giving a dramatic sense of procession. However, the building and particularly the boundary wall needed painting. The church looked quite well including the grounds. There is a lot of dereliction opposite the library. Centra had some attractive pansy-filled window boxes and looked quite fresh. The Community Hall needed freshening and was quite weedy to the forecourt area.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was a problem on the day. There was a light scattering throughout the town and to the road by the old graveyard. Quite a lot was visible opposite Centra on the main square and to the garden of the library. And also to forecourt area of the GAA grounds.

TIDINESS

Linehan's garage looked messy and quite unsightly with a lot of machinery outside. Weed control was a problem on the day. There was a lot generally throughout the town: to the base of the Cash Stores; to the stream area ; to the base of the stone surrounding wall to same; to the kerbside by the Day Care Centre on the Milford road and to the GAA forecourt on the Newcastle west road-the boundary wall of same was very grubby. The sign to the Irish Dresden Porcelain factory should be freshened up before next year's competition.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category was quite high. The raised gardens up by the old graveyard with colourful displays of peony roses, easter lilies etc., looked magnificent. The bare block work boundary wall opposite the Day Care Centre on the Buttevant road should be plastered and painted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The roads around the town of Dromcollogher were being resurfaced on the day. The retention of the traditional town nameplate signs is to be commended. However, some of the road signs were rather grubby including those in the town square and at the junction of the Milford/Buttevant roads. On the Milford road the speed limit sign was virtually obscured by overgrowth. On the Newcastle west road there was a pebbledashed boundary wall which badly needed painting. There were also a lot of weeds to the kerb, although the verges and hedgerows were neat. It was quite overgrown further out the road, but the wild daisies, buttercups and purple sage were a delight. There was also a rather grubby junction sign on the Broadford road.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The busy market town of Dromcollogher looked well on the day. There is still more work to be done and hopefully the constructive comments in this report will be of some help in preparing for next year's competition.