

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CROSSMOLINA**
County : **MAYO**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-96

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 26 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 12 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 25 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 22 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 17 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 12 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 26 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 25 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 171 |

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

You need to submit a 3-5 year plan for the town. The key areas should include the River Deel and Main Street. Your recent efforts to improve the approach roads are a good strategy. You should now focus on other areas and extend the development of amenities to other areas.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The River Deel in the heart of the town is very scenic, and would be the envy of many Tidy Towns committees. Your riverside walk on the north side is admired, especially for the lighting which you have chosen. However, the view across from this area is not very attractive and should be improved, especially with regard to the painting of gable walls.

LANDSCAPING

The park in front of Abbeytown is not maintained, likewise the concrete planters into the estate. You are forgetting past projects. The Church grounds were generally well-maintained. The monument at the intersection looked well, though the riverside park at Rake Street was not maintained. The stone wall here looked well and was generally weed free, but the fencing should be planted up. There are two tree pits at the junction of main street and Rake street - but there were no trees in them. Overall the appearance of Main Street is somewhat drab. While there is admittedly little scope for tree planting, the committee should form a sub-committee for windowboxes. The tree planting at the Ballina road near the crescent looks well, as did the tree planting in St. Patricks estate.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Crossmolina is fortunate to have so many traditional shopfronts. Some of these shops could be enhanced with fresh painting and a lively colour scheme. Hineys bar and the Thatch Inn looked well, as did the Dolphin Hotel. Davis Bros. grocery is well presented, but their storage area opposite is in need of attention. The Tea Rooms were admired for their colourful shopfront. Good work on the painting of derelict buildings on the Ballina side of Main Street. The public library is a real detraction from the Castlebar side of the town. This building needs major attention. Tierneys shop and post office and the Sticks bar look well presented. On Rake Street, Cawleys pub and Tolans butchers are potential candidates for an award if they touch up paintwork and display some windowboxes. Almost all of the shopfronts along this street were well presented.

LITTER CONTROL

There was litter present on Main Street, particularly along the Belmullet side. The most affected area was at the entrance to the riverside walk along the River Deel. Litter bins were not in good repair, especially outside the Thatch Inn. Litter control along St. Patricks Street, and Abbeytown Road was good. A litter bin should be provided at the park in Rake Street.

TIDINESS

Kerbs along the Castlebar road were weed-free and very tidy around the town sign. The Ballina side of the town was also clear of weeds - good work ! Generally, weed control on kerbs and walls is very good. The yard to the right of Abbeytown has an unkempt appearance and the gate at the junction with Ballycastle road should be painted, as should the shed opposite.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Generally, there was a good standard of presentation in this category. The house next to Cawleys looks well as do the houses near the School. The houses along the Belmullet road are well presented. Some

of the houses along the Ballina road are well presented especially the peach coloured house facing the roundabout. The houses opposite the GAA are well kept with colourful gardens. A sign for St. Patricks estate would look good. There are several front gardens on the Castlebar road which had very tall grass - owners should make some arrangements to have this attended to. Some houses and walls near the town sign along the Castlebar road need painting, as do the boundary walls of bungalows on the Ballina road. The corner house at the front of Abbeytown estate badly needs painting. A suggestion would be to form a committee for the maintenance of the Abbeytown estate.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The floral displays along the Castlebar road are very impressive and welcoming. The trees here are coming along well and grass was recently cut. The display around the town sign was very impressive. The Belmullet road looks well due to the efforts of the householders. The stone wall to the left of the Texaco should be cleaned down, and wire fencing could be planted up. Your excellent efforts along the Ballina road were noted. The colourful flowers and fresh green trees were an impressive entrance to the town. Along the Ballycastle road, the verges could be mown. Planting around the town sign looks well.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your development of planting schemes along the approach roads is commendable, but try to maintain the previous schemes which you have completed. The River Deel is the significant amenity in the town so pay particular attention to properties fronting this area. More colour in the form of windowboxes would dramatically improve the town. You are making good progress but you need to plan out your strategy for the town over the coming years.