

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **COLLOONEY**
County : **SLIGO**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 21-06-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	20
The Built Environment	40	17
Litter Control	40	12
Tidiness	20	6
Residential Areas	30	12
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	16
General Impression	10	4
TOTAL MARK	300	122

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It sounds as if your committee has hit a low spot this year, with many members deserting the Tidy Towns Committee entirely. This is most unfortunate and it would seem that while some people chose to involve themselves in other community activities, it should not be at the expense of the environment of the town. Part of the problem stems from relying on too few people to do too much. You need to co-ordinate more with other organisations such as the locals schools, business groups, tourism officers and the County Council. You cite that you have had very little support from the community, and it is most unfortunate. The church community may provide an outlet for gathering support, but you must decide to go after this support. It may be disheartening to have lost so many members, but you could try to work with the county planner to develop a plan for the town and see if there are any projects which could bring a boost to the community, such as an upgrading of the railroad station or a new planting scheme. It would be helpful if you photocopied an Ordnance Survey map to accompany your application form, as it would help the adjudicators.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You have stated that you have done nothing this year in regard to this category. It would seem that the town has a potential amenity area at the river on the edge of town and also possibly in regard to hedgerows.

LANDSCAPING

Most of the main street needs a little softening with some flowers in boxes and hanging baskets, such as those seen at AIB. The small green at the junction of the Galway road needs to be weeded and the seats need re-painting.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Innisfree Crystal was freshly-painted and well-presented. Quigleys petrol station and shop could be a contender for a traditional shopfront award if they would simply touch up the paintwork for next year. Tommy Connollys pub should remove the plastic sign and replace it with a more traditional front, as should Teelings Restaurant. The Collooney Auto Parts sign has a rusty pole which detracts from the flowers planted around it. The Three Lights Take-Away looked very well and would be enhanced by flower boxes or hanging baskets as were seen on the black and white house next door. Keegans needs re-painting. Irish Permanent was well-presented. The foodstore near the post office should change the plastic sign to a more traditional one and remove the stickers in the windows, which detract from its appearance. McCanns Bar should replace their plastic signage. The church and grounds were very well-kept. The building across from the National School is in need of attention. The railroad station has buildings and rusty fencing still in need of attention. The hedges here could be trimmed and the window-frames and gates could be painted. The grassy banks at the station were mown recently and that is a good start. It is important to keep the station in good order as it is a point of entry for visitors to the town. You should co-ordinate a plan with the station manager and CIE, as many other towns have received funding for upgrading of station environs.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter was noticeable at the cemeteries and there were no litter bins there. Litter was also evident at the AIB. There was quite a lot of litter near Teelings Restaurant, and in the green at the junction by the church. Some litter was also strewn about on Main Street, and it is critical that the committee keep a handle on litter at weekends.

TIDINESS

The two cemeteries associated with St. Pauls and the Methodist Church are unkempt and in need of maintenance. The view to the back of McCanns Bar is unpleasant and is prominent from the road, so screening is in order.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

It was difficult to determine the extent of the residential areas of the town without any local map for adjudication purposes. The houses on the church road were well-kept but some trees could be planted in the front gardens. The house to the right of Irish Permanent needs re-painting. The house next to the Three Lights was admired.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The right hand side of the Boyle approach road was marred by dumping and there were many broken-down stone walls. Weediness was a problem along this road and the banks were overgrown. The walls at the junction of the main street and the station road need re-painting. The Galway road was quite unkempt - with overgrown stone walls and hedges and a generally weedy appearance.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Plastic signage is a problem in the town, as is the lack of colour or floral displays. The decline of the committee this year has hurt the town in many aspects - litter control, maintenance and general tidiness.