

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BUNMAHON**  
County : **WATERFORD**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17
Landscaping	40	21
The Built Environment	40	18
Litter Control	40	21
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21
General Impression	10	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>154</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

**OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH** Thank you for the completed questionnaire incorporating a map of the centre. The presentation of Bunmahon is important to its economic well being and this fact is recognised by the efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee which deserve and are securing the support through fund-raising, of the Community.

It will be necessary now for the Committee to secure the participation and involvement of the Community at large not least in the devising of a suitable 3 year work programme, over the next number of months, which can then be implemented progressively, over the next 3 years. Involvement of FAS and the goodwill indicated by the County Engineer are all primary factors in the further, structured development and better presentation of Bunmahon.

**WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES** The new-look Competition has a heightened emphasis on the identifying, preserving and better presenting of wildlife habitats within the centre itself. The Committee is encouraged to discuss this aspect with local members of the Wildlife Conservancy or similar organisation. It has been found beneficial to encourage the carrying out of a "resource audit" by school children of the wildlife habitat locations and types within the community.

**LANDSCAPING** The new shrubbery on the Dungarvan road was very well sited and all involved are complimented on their achievement. The high rubble wall between the Main road and the sea looks excellent but may be perhaps too high as it gives a sense of confinement. The entrance to the Caravan Park was very well presented and is a splendid improvement. The very fine flowered triangle at the Tramore road junction was a delight. The painted kerbstone and the collection and removal of spoil is important. Very good planting was a feature of the carpark and also noted, with approval, was the work in progress on the flowerbeds at this point. The Mahon River represents an important landscaping possibility and this should be examined, perhaps coupled with its value as a wildlife habitat.

**THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT** The built environment of Stradbally is varied and somewhat dispersed throughout the community. This highlights the importance of connecting walls, in addition to the housing stock itself. The rubble walls on the Stradbally road are a particular delight. Tom Hayes' Pub was very well presented with good window boxes and floodlighting. Work in progress on the new Toilets was noted. The fine Catholic Church is marred somewhat by the extent of weeds at the base of walls and already growing through the newly laid tarmac. The thatch cottage at the base of the hill between here and the School is a delight. The Church of Ireland building, now abandoned, should have its door repositioned - if only to add to its security.

**LITTER CONTROL** The approach roads and most of Bunmahon was pleasantly free of disfiguring litter. Some was noted around the splendid new entrance to the Caravan Park and by the beach entrance beside Kirwin's Bar. This matter would be improved by well sited and appropriately designed litter bins in these areas.

### TIDINESS

The efforts of the Committee are worthwhile and they can point to a number of successes. Pleased to note the removal of the van from the grounds of the Church. Hopefully the Church door and the gates to the grounds might be re-installed and perhaps the grass at least, rough cut, to improve matters.

More capping is now missing from the top of the front-facing wall of the School. Although litter management as such is improving there continues to be quite an amount of weeds between roads and pavements and again between pavements and front facing walls. This task can best be tackled by

encouraging individual householders and/or area committees to assist.

#### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses on the slip road to the left, off the Stradbally road, are excellent, featuring very well presented gardens. The terrace on the Kilmacthomas road are excellent especially the house featuring a fine display of red rose creepers. The elevated terrace overlooking the Mahon River was very well painted while the fencing opposite also was improved. Throughout the centre individual houses were well presented.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The random rubble walls on several approach roads are a delight and have been appropriately presented. Some of the 30 mph signs were off-kilter and should be straightened. The hedgerows were appropriately cut back on the Kilmacthomas road where the speed limit signs and the village nameplate were well presented. The village nameplate on the Tramore road needs attention as do the signs at Mahon River Bridge. The Yield right of way sign (Géill Slí) at the Catholic Church should be refurbished.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Bunmahon is a pleasant seaside resort with the beach, naturally, being the focal point. It has well developed parking area, new Toilets in the course of construction, and is making progress with the better presentation of the village.

During the next months the Committee should concentrate on devising, in close association with the Community at large - a Village Development Programme - to be implemented over the next number of years. The increased emphasis on forward planning in the Tidy Towns movement, hopefully, will serve to concentrate the mind of all those who are working together for the development of Bunmahon so the Community and resort can continue to play a worthwhile role in the tourism industry of Waterford.