

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLONEA-POWER**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16
Landscaping	40	16
The Built Environment	40	24
Litter Control	40	18
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18
General Impression	10	4
TOTAL MARK	300	143

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Great strides have been made by Clonea-Power in only its second year in the Competition.

You have responded well to the shift in emphasis in the Tidy Towns Competition and there are many signs indicating a growing acceptance and support for the Tidy Towns movement. Thank you for the fully completed entry form and also for the very useful map.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You have correctly identified the River as an important asset both visually and as a wildlife habitat. The school children might be encouraged to undertake an inventory of the local wildlife, birds and river life and an examination of how best to present wildlife friendly habitats for their use. The splendid new Equestrian Centre is a great addition to the village's resource. The GAA sports ground was very well presented but be careful of weeds and grass. The actual entrance area to the Grounds themselves were very neat and well presented. Signage on the Sports buildings were again appropriate and very neat, while the flagpoles were also a nice touch.

LANDSCAPING

The splendidly positioned Church and its grounds overlooking the River are a significant asset. The bridge itself offers some opportunities. Be sure to remove the spoil which has accumulated at the base of the signpoles. The large area now cleared opposite the bridge offers an opportunity for in-fill building. Alternatively, the area should be suitably fenced to continue a desired feeling of enclosure to the streetscape.

Attention to detail in small matters is applauded, for example, the green tops painted on the white poles of the Sports Ground were a delight as was the taut wires which continue to look very smart. Continue your campaign to remove thistles and nettle infestation and other unsightly weed growth.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The large 1870 school building is an imposing asset but was disfigured by many broken windows and also displaced gutters and downpipes. This building is visually important and attention is directed to its more appropriate presentation. Kenny's Lounge is similarly quite significant and it was well presented with 2 hanging baskets in position. Some of the signage on the visually very significant gable end might be examined for their suitability, but please retain the vintage advertising offer "10 for 3d". Mary's Hair Care Shop is another addition to the village's facilities which is very well presented. The new National School was clear of litter but there was some spoil at the base of the front-facing wall, and again weeds at the entrance gate area. The shell seats at the shop are a delightful novelty. There was some clutter noticed in that same area which detracted a little from the impact of the seats. The Health Centre now needs urgent, remedial action - the paintwork, the cement surround and the extent of disfiguring weeds should be addressed as a matter of urgency. The collection of buildings in the old village, over the bridge, are a delight and the application of simple whitewashing would enhance them greatly.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter management had declined a little since last year. This is a wholly avoidable activity. The energetic involvement and enthusiasm of all in the village is earnestly invited. Pockets of litter were centred around the telephone booth and the provision of suitably sited and appropriately designed litter bin in this area, is recommended. The Sports Grounds were delightfully clear of litter as was the School itself.

TIDINESS

We have referred to the extent of weeds, thistles and nettle which require immediate and continued action for their elimination. They are particularly unsightly at the base of well presented walls. A number of small wheeled vehicles in the house adjoining the GAA entrance area could perhaps, be more appropriately, stored elsewhere.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The house opposite the School was very well presented with delightful window boxes and a fine traditional dry-fill wall with colourful planting on top. The house on the Clonmel road above the shop was similarly very tastefully presented. The housing estate above the Sports Ground featured a number of well presented houses. The practice of informal gaps in the front facing hedge should be avoided. These should be built up and a suitable "pedestrian entrance only" entrance provided. There is a great deal of weeds growing between the kerbs and front facing walls in this estate. The 4 house cluster at the lower end of the estate were a delight and featured excellent floral displays. We noted 2 new houses recently completed.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The village nameplate on the Portlaw road was cracked but otherwise, well presented and the grass was suitably cut back. The 30 mph and "Main Road Ahead" sign were very well presented and generally, all signage was a distinct improvement on last year. In particular the Clonmel road nameplate was very well presented, hedgerows and verges being suitably cut back to give a delightful clear-cut entrance to the village, from this approach.

GENERAL IMPRESSION Clonea-Power has made remarkable progress and while there are still hurdles to be overcome with the co-operation and goodwill of the Community at large, the centre has a bright future in the revised Tidy Towns Competition.