

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLONMELLON**  
County : **WESTMEATH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	28
Litter Control	40	31
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	14
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>191</b>

## **Adjudicator's Comments**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

As the standard of presentation continues to improve the simple elegance of Clonmellon becomes more and more apparent. It is a pleasure to drive through the village with its wide streets, tree scape, freshly presented buildings, absence of unsuitable signage and litter etc. Your overall approach to the development of the village involving the community, local authority and FAS has resulted in substantial progress in recent years and further improvements are evident again this year.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This new section in the competition gives recognition to the importance of conserving wildlife and their habitats. It is important that you make provision for this heading in your plans. Hedgerows, mature trees, gardens, etc. are all important habitats and Clonmellon is well off in this respect. The stream is another sanctuary for flora and fauna. You should seek assistance from local environmentalists as to what more can be done and incorporate these proposals in future plans.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There are many noteworthy landscaping features throughout the village. Most of these are on a small scale but are not less attractive because of this. The well maintained mature trees in the main street and other areas and in many cases attractive surrounds are one of the principle features. Several colourful and well maintained flower beds in various parts of the village stand out. The new stone island at Mullingar road junction with its matching red flowers is a good example. The closely trimmed grass areas on all the approaches are testimony to a high level of on-going maintenance.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

As has already been mentioned most of the buildings and business premises are attractively presented. Many have well planted hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs. the absence of unsuitable signage is a notable feature of the village. There are however still several inappropriate shop fronts; some of these have split block fronts. The iron roof of garage needs painting. The Church and school look very well - the ornamental iron railings at Church are most attractive. The new stone walls at creamery were noted and the stone entrance and iron railings at the garden centre is another nice feature.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control throughout the village is excellent. On the day of inspection no litter was evident on the approaches or village centre. However one or two litter bins require repair and painting, e.g. Kilskyre road.

### **TIDINESS**

The village has a tidy appearance and this is brought about by good litter control, well maintained footpaths, kerbs and gutterings. Neat verges and trimmed hedges together with well maintained buildings all contribute to a high standard of cleanliness.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are many attractive houses and gardens throughout Clonmellon. Several good quality boundary walls were noted especially in Killallon road, e.g. the two storey farmhouse with long white washed wall. Newly planted trees were also noted at the housing estate. Most of the houses maintain gravelled and grassed areas between boundaries and road. The derelict houses on the Kilskyre road were effectively camouflaged. It would be a great pity if the stone gate lodge on the Kilrush road was allowed to become

derelict.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All the approach roads are well maintained. Trimmed hedges and closely cut wide grass margins were particularly noted on the Kells road, Kilrush road and Killallon road. The Kells/Kilrush junction with its flower bed and trees is of a high standard. The landscaping at Killallon junction is most attractive. A length of ornamental chain on one side of this road needs to be replaced. Indeed all approach roads have features worthy of mention. Additional screening trees can still be planted, e.g. at security fencing at two properties on Kilskyre road and at an adjoining concrete fencing. Other good features include the presentation of several water pumps.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village is continuing to improve. However you must not relax your efforts. Continue to work on weaker areas. Attention to detail is now all the more important.