

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLONLARA**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	25
The Built Environment	40	23	22
Landscaping	40	20	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	24	23
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	16	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	165	161

Clonlara, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The Development Plan, which is in the course of being produced, is necessary to draw the various interests and projects together and should be a priority. Again, good individual efforts but no evidence of community involvement.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The school, the Church of Ireland, the RC parish Church and well-kept grounds with the nearby village hall, the pubs in the village and Canny's stores and the post office all look well. Stritch's and Begley's are to be commended.

LANDSCAPING

The mature trees and planting along the main street are attractive and flower beds and window boxes and baskets enhance the appearance of the village. The area around the new housing beyond Clonlara House will need landscaping when the building is finished.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The village has the ESB canal (the head-race) and the banks at the bridge end; a pleasant rural setting and, at some distance, the River Shannon and the Falls at Doonass. With proper planning, more could be done to take advantage of the natural setting of Clonlara along the Lough Derg Way.

LITTER CONTROL

The village was mostly litter free and the improvements due to provision of litter bins, regular clean-ups and clearing the canal bank were noted.

TIDINESS

The village was neat and tidy throughout, particularly in the vicinity of the 2 village pubs, the school and the grounds of both Churches and the village hall.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The private residences generally throughout the village are well-maintained and attractively presented - the houses along the main street, the houses at the Derryvinna estate (still with some room for improvement), the large residence below the school and the large 2-storey house beyond the phone box were noted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads, from the main road across the bridge, the road back in from Doonass and the Limerick road (new footpath) have improved somewhat. The road to the new housing development should be fully re-instated when the houses are built.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression is that the work of the Committee is improving the appearance of the village but it still lacks a crispness and there is room for a wider community involvement in what the Committee are trying to achieve. The Falls at Doonass attracts many visitors to the area and the village itself could be as much an attraction as the river if better presented. The Development Plan, over a 3 - 5 year period, would be a useful guide and work programme to achieve this.