

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CREE**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	35
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	193	186

Cree, Co. Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning completed entry form and outline of your plans for the next three years. You are to be complimented for undertaking many of the suggestions contained in previous reports. Ideally, you should list your intentions for improvement each year and tackle the areas that you have energy for. You also need to liaise closely with other agencies that can be of assistance to you.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There was a great display of colour throughout the village and many residents were observed painting and building a stone wall. On an individual basis owners of commercial premises have presented them to a high standard. The church and environs, together with the school and in particular the hall are well presented. The hall surrounds and the area opposite it offer scope for further improvement. Meaneys and Breathnachs had a lovely display of flowers.

LANDSCAPING

You have scored well in this area and much of the landscaping work of previous years is well maintained. The treatment of the amenity area near the river bridge is excellent. You should now consider tackling the river bank and your suggestion for the development of a river walk is commendable. The great display of flowers, shrubs, trees and in particular wild flowers on the approach hedgerows all combine to project a great air of freshness. The creation of grass banks instead of post and rail fencing many years ago are now showing great benefit. The treatment of the block wall with flag fronting will further enhance when complete. The failte signs on the approach roads are attractive, but you now need to work with the County Council to secure the erection of improved village signs.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Wildlife is not confined to the river area. The hedgerows can also act as suitable habitats. Also, if you are planting extra shrubs or trees, select ones that will give food to wildbirds in autumn and winter.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control in the village was very good except for a plastic bottle or two. Overall, your performance here is praiseworthy and reflects genuine efforts from the Community.

TIDINESS

Some open spaces and untidy forecourts are keeping your marks

down in this section. The garage could be much improved, especially the forecourt. However, in general the village was well presented and most areas are neat and tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of houses is quite high and most have worked hard in presenting them to a high level. There is an improvement with boundary walls and many are freshly painted. Some houses have large attractive gardens with rich displays of flowers, lawns and shrubs.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Road surface is good throughout. Some signage needs attention and many poles have gone rusty and should be replaced. Consider painting some of the farm gates a strong colour - especially those near the village centre. Some houses are untidy at the side and rear and especially those visible from the roadside should be improved as these now form an integral part of the competition.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Well done on a very good display. Keep the community with you in your endeavours and pay attention to the traditional aspects of the village. Dont over decorate - there is no need to whitewash all stone walls. When building make use of local materials. A good performance by Cree.