

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ENNISTYMON**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-07-97

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1997 | Mark Awarded 1996 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 31 | 30 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 22 | 22 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 23 | 22 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 20 | 20 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 22 | 23 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 14 | 14 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 18 | 18 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 23 | 23 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 179 | 178 |

Ennistymon, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning completed entry form and details of your committee's activity. You are to be complimented for your involvement with other Agencies and your organisation of so many litter clean ups is commendable. Many of the requirements are far beyond the capacity of a Tidy Town's Committee alone and in this respect you will need to continue liaison with the relevant agencies. The information submitted regarding the towns cultural and sporting activity is praiseworthy. The town is quite large and the area under adjudication extends to all approach roads. It would be a help to the adjudicator, and to visitors also no doubt, if the streets and housing estates were identified with appropriate bilingual signs.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The main street has improved. You are maintaining your tradition of presenting attractive shopfronts to a high standard. No improvement noticed at the Leabharlann and the adjacent Ceard Scoil is in need of improved presentation. The Community Centre is excellent and will further improve with extra landscaping. The previously attractive mural near the Leabharlann has now gone shabby. The fire station is well presented but the small flower display needs attention. The Statoil Station is very well presented. Skerritts garage is quite untidy and should be improved on this important approach road. The former craft shop on the Ennis approach needs improvement. In general, buildings are well presented but you have problems with many old unattended buildings - some gone derelict, and over a period these will need to be improved if you are to progress in this section.

LANDSCAPING

You have outlined in your submission some new landscaping at Deerpark Picnic Site which is excellent. The many colourful flower tubs and window boxes - especially in the Main Street are very attractive. Some of the landscaping of previous years is now in need of improved maintenance. The picnic site on the Lahinch approach is poor and overgrown. The river park area near the bridge is now a black spot and commands little respect from those dumping litter, black plastic covered bales of hay, and dumping in the river itself. The excellent mural displays of previous years are now having little effect because of the litter density.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The cascades and the wild area around them abound with wildlife - this is an ideal area for the erection of a wildlife display board. Such a display could illustrate the variety of wildlife in the area.

LITTER CONTROL

You have a problem with litter control and many areas are not being controlled. In particular the area already mentioned at the

river bridge and the road leading up to Riverview Terrace need to be tackled as do the road along by the church and the Ennis approach road itself. The Market Square and Main Street were free of litter and well disciplined.

TIDINESS

You have numerous poorly presented small open spaces receiving no attention in terms of tidiness. This extends to the town centre and the road leading up to the monastery, parallel to Parliament Street which is very untidy. The area opposite Vaughans Joinery is a black spot. There is still a good deal of weed growth in the gutters, including the area fronting the Teach Cheoil. Ideally weed growth should be sprayed in May. The work at the Cattle Mart is acknowledged, but you still have a long way to go here. There is an abandoned car at the Cascades that is an eyesore.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Riverview Terrace is in need of a painting blitz and many gardens in this area are very overgrown. Some residents were observed in a clean up. Could a residents association be formed here to tackle the weak spots? There are some excellent houses and gardens on the Ennis and Lahinch approach roads. Residential premises in the town centre are well presented and most people seem to take pride in presenting their premises to a high standard. Perhaps a local competition would help to generate increased activity.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The town centre has improved but the many wide margins needing surface dressing project an untidy image. This applies particularly on the Ennis approach. The layout of the town offers many views of rear and back entrances and many of these are not well presented. The pedestrian walk developed many years ago from the Cascades should be revitalised and signposted. Some signage is in poor condition and should be improved. There are also many unauthorised signs causing overcrowding on poles. Commercial signs should be well designed and well maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The town has improved marginally in some sections but there have been disimprovements elsewhere. Your biggest single problem is still one of litter control and this extends to river dumping. The Ennis approach is still poor and the many overgrown hedges should receive more regular attention. Your strong point is the many well presented shopfronts and the core area of the town has improved. You should now try and extend this standard outwards. Well done on an active Committee.