

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **SIXMILEBRIDGE**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 20-06-97

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1997 | Mark Awarded 1996 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 35 | 34 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 23 | 21 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 25 | 21 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 17 | 17 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 22 | 22 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 11 | 11 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 19 | 16 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 22 | 21 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 180 | 169 |

Sixmilebridge, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Sixmilebridge has the potential to do well in the competition and is heading in the right direction. Thank you for completed application form and map together with before and after photographs - these were very helpful to the adjudicator. We note from last years report that you are working to a development plan which no doubt is reviewed at regular intervals. Your co-operation with the GAA in regard to the Community Employment Scheme is very practical and also the local community support in general is commendable together with the support received from Clare County Council.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Square is the heart of the town and the overall picture here is now taking shape satisfactorily. The Pharmacy, OGarneys and the Butchers and Drapers at the top of the village are attractive. The Old House pub and the Village Diner and Coffee Shop also need painting. Work is in progress on the attractive Old Market House and the pump opposite is nicely presented. A very focal premises on the square, J Mulreadys, needs attention in a number of areas - letter missing in sign, wood over sign dilapidated and adjacent gate and walls needing painting. We note that the Committee has plans for the old Church of Ireland, now disused, next to Mulreadys. The Church just off the square on the Limerick approach is well presented and the Garage next door with the strong vibrant colours was neat and tidy. Another focal point in the town is Frederick Square and more use of colour here would define this area in a more meaningful manner. The Riverside Inn needs to be painted and the stone saying Frederick Square 1733 highlighted. The Greyhound Bar and surrounds were well presented. The whitewashed buildings opposite each other on the way to the main square from Frederick Square should be painted. The third focal point in the town is the Green with the Shrine, Church and Halla na Phanoirte - all well presented and nicely maintained, as indeed is Bill McGregors pub and surrounds. Other well presented buildings of note in the town were the Garda Barracks, the Sportfield area, the School opposite, Garney View B & B, the Credit Union and the Mid-West Health Board. Teach na Cuirte needs a facelift. Also the store/depot on the Limerick approach near some nice planting.

LANDSCAPING

Sixmilebridge gained marks here as considerable and worthwhile work has been done in this category both in the town and also throughout the housing estates and on the approach roads. When work on the main Square is completed this area should look very well and at present the walls, display sign, light standards, tree planting and colourful rose bed are very attractive. The area opposite the Old House Pub is no doubt a target for future development. The covering ivy on walls of sports field and also planting here is maturing nicely. The small green tubs of flowers

near the pump on the Market House approach and also situated in the landscaped area at the rear of McGregors pub are attractive but rather lost because of their size in both locations. Perhaps they could be replaced with something more substantial.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river flowing through the town is an excellent natural amenity and no doubt will feature in any wildlife developments in the future. The Greyhound Bar have already shown the way with their geese enclosure. We note that your landscaping plan for Iverstown is to create a naturalised woodland to support wildlife and this is commendable.

LITTER CONTROL

Well done for sponsoring litter bins and maintaining and servicing same with the assistance of FAS workers. There was very little evidence of litter during adjudication.

TIDINESS

It is difficult at present for Sixmilebridge in its search for tidiness in view of the major sewerage scheme being undertaken in the town. The Committee should ensure that when the work is completed that all areas are left neat and tidy. However, outside of this disruption, the town was mostly neat and tidy in most areas.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many estates and private houses were extremely well presented including the grassed and landscaped areas in the housing estates. At Mount Ivers there was a sign for the Estate on one side of the entrance and not on the other. Some walls and fences needed attention here. On the Broadford approach the house for sale and the house next to it had untidy areas outside their walls.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The verges and banks of the approach roads were exceptionally well presented on the day of adjudication. However, in the middle of the town there were some rather unsightly back areas near business premises which could affect further progress in the competition. On the market house approach an old entrance gate to a field should be replaced. On the approaches the Failte Sixmilebridge signs are well maintained and attractive.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is obvious that there is a committed and hard working Committee in Sixmilebridge and that support from most of the community (with a few exceptions) is being achieved. We look forward to seeing ongoing progress in the future.