

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLIFDEN**  
County : **GALWAY**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 27-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	27
The Built Environment	40	26	24
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	22	21
Tidiness	20	7	7
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	7	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>160</b>

## **Clifden, Co. Galway**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH**

Thank you for the very detailed entry form which you submitted, together with the map and copy of the Clifden Regeneration Strategy. It is obvious that the six member committee is working extremely hard in co-ordinating Clifden's involvement in the Tidy Towns Competition and it is very evident that you have the full support of the entire community. On reading through the report you have identified your strengths and weaknesses and set out your aims and objectives. Of course these will not be achieved overnight, but you are certainly going in the right direction and I wish you success. Clifden is the capital of Connemara and it is there to be enjoyed by the visitor and most importantly by the local community.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Overall the business premises are all presented to a very high standard. The shop fronts are all tastefully decorated. I know it can be dangerous to mention some over others, but I will list some as an example of what makes a town or village look good. These include Benview House, Kingston House, Dun Ri Guesthouse, Brookside Hostel, O'Gradys Seafood Restaurant, Lowry's, Supervalu and Mitchell's. Also the Alcock & Brown Hotel and Connemara Woollen Mills are presented to a very good standard. Everybody has made a tremendous effort and the hanging baskets and window boxes particularly at King's Bar really add a great splash of colour to the town. The Church grounds are well maintained and as always are litter free. The library could do with some attention.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscape throughout looks very well. The abundance of hanging baskets and window boxes all greatly enhance the town. The traffic islands are all presented to a good standard. The tree planting is also being managed very well.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

You have entered not applicable in the entry form under this category. Of course you have wildlife in abundance in Clifden. If you need help in identifying local wildlife habitats or getting projects off the ground, you could ask your local environmental experts perhaps from the national park to advise you.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Considering it was market day in Clifden on adjudication day the town looked very clean. You have very good control of the litter problem which is a major cause of concern in many towns of your size. There is no shortage of litter bins throughout the town and again it is very evident that the business community is doing their bit here to keep Clifden litter free. However, there was some

evidence of litter on the Galway Approach Road and in some of the side streets.

## **TIDINESS**

The overall appearance of Clifden is one of neatness and tidiness. Obviously allowances have to be made for the major construction taking place on the Galway Road. When completed and landscaped it will be a real asset to your town.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The standard of private houses is very good, particularly the houses providing accommodation. There are some lovely mature gardens. The Children's play area is a credit to all concerned. It was being well utilized on adjudication day. It is a wonderful amenity both for visitors and local children. The open space all along this area is well presented.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach roads are generally well kept. However, on the Galway approach near the Clifden Glen cottages there are many unsightly rusty barrels to be seen. These really take from the area and should be removed. The entrance to Clifden Glen looks most attractive. As was suggested to you by last year's adjudicator, some planting could be done at the base of the Clifden sign. Also, some weeding is required here. There was some road surfacing being done on the road leading to the sailing club and this is noted. The seat just down from Quay House should be repaired as it serves no purpose this way. The car park opposite the Bank of Ireland is very well maintained and the planting at the side of Joseph Joyce's looks very attractive.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

I enjoyed my visit to Clifden. You have wonderful plans for the betterment of your town. By working closely together I am confident you will achieve your goals. Continued success and I look forward to seeing you up in the winners' enclosure in the future.