

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **MENLOUGH**  
County : **GALWAY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	--
The Built Environment	40	20	--
Landscaping	40	14	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	--
Litter Control	40	25	--
Tidiness	20	8	--
Residential Areas	30	14	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	15	--
General Impression	10	4	--
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>--</b>

## **Menlough, Co. Galway**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Welcome back to the Tidy Towns Competition and the new adjudication criteria and marking system. We recommend that your committee draw up a simple plan with realistic, yearly objectives. It will help focus your efforts and identify objectives and areas in the village requiring action. Ensure the involvement of as many of the Community as possible and give ownership of the work required to individuals or groups. This will ensure the wider community have an opportunity to take part in the Menlough Tidy Town campaign.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Neglected and derelict buildings initially will be a problem until you have an opportunity to tackle them over time. However, premises such as McLoughlin's, the Funeral Parlour, the Pub and Shop and the Post Office all looked well, with various flower arrangements. The Garda Barracks garden requires attention. The Credit Union Building exterior should be improved. The school grounds could look more colourful with additional shrubs or flowers and the poles in front have no netting or wiring. The GAA Club and Grounds look dull. A pillar on the graveyard wall was broken down and weeds were in evidence at the base of the wall. Various other neglected buildings are in evidence and should be tackled over time and need not be detailed here.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The Grotto area was being weeded and looked well but the chain fencing requires painting. The entrance area to the Church could do with some planting or tubs of flowers and the church gates require painting. Some additional tree and shrub planting at suitable locations throughout the Village would enhance the street scape. Existing flower and shrub beds should not be neglected.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The wildlife habitats of the area should be identified and protected. Perhaps a school project could be undertaken to educate and inform the children and adults alike in the conservation of the natural amenities of the area.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was little evidence of litter on adjudication day but it is important to keep a constant watch on litter control. Sufficient litter bins should always be available.

### **TIDINESS**

The Village should build on what it has by additional landscaping and planting. This would assist the tidiness and neatness. Also of importance is ensuring that you make improvements on the

neglected buildings.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

A number of residents have their properties painted, with very colourful fronts and gardens in evidence - well done. The Church View housing estate has some very well presented houses and gardens the remaining residents should be encouraged to make an effort, some planting around the open spaces should be considered.

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

The approach roads need further improvements, some more than others. Existing stone walls should be free of weeds and tall grass and the repairing of broken walls should be undertaken. Footpaths and grass verges should be cut and tidy. The trees on these roads will look well when matured, watch the weeds etc at their base. Good to see the stone walls being renovated and repaired on the new section of the approach road behind the Grotto; it is important that the new section when completed will be maintained and planted where required.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Menlough has potential but it is vital that you work to a plan. Progress in the Competition will take time and more work needs to be done by all the Community. The size and character of your village with its small number of approach roads gives you an ideal opportunity and a good base from which to restart your efforts - good luck.