

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ORANMORE**
County : **GALWAY**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 15-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	18	15
The Built Environment	40	21	20
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	12
Litter Control	40	24	22
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	17	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	150	140

Oranmore, Co. Galway

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your Oranmore Village Development Plan, maps and completed application form. We would recommend you draw up a five year development programme/plan. Update this plan yearly and allocate specific proposals and works yearly in advance. We would recommend you build on the Village Plan submitted this year and hone in on the various areas within the Tidy Towns Competition. Oranmore has a lot of positive aspects with potential but it also has a number of weak areas which must be tackled. Work to a five year programme with the areas identified.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The majority of commercial premises are making an effort. These include the Hotel and grounds, The Moorings, Bellamy's, Byrnes Garage, McDonagh's Tile Store, Macken's, Keane's, Mullhall's and The Olde Brewery. When work is completed on St Mary's Church this area will look very well. Oranmore Dairies buildings are well maintained but the Garda Station looks neglected. The Convent wall and gates should be painted and the new blocks plastered. Commercial premises side and rear entrances should be screened off.

LANDSCAPING

The tree planting and the flower beds at the welcome sign on the Galway approach road look well, as did the planting and signs on the other approach roads. The flower beds at the "well" looked lovely and colourful, however the "well" itself looked neglected with weeds, litter and loose rocks. The flower beds at the AIB Bank required weeding and some flower tubs should be placed at the front of the premises car park. The planting of trees and shrubs should be encouraged throughout the Village. The existing planting looks well.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

While you acknowledge the wetlands surrounding Oranmore are a unique feature, you should consider erecting an Information Board giving background information on the wildlife and natural amenities of the area. Further investigation of the wildlife, woodland, wetland and coastal habitats, all on your own doorstep, should be undertaken. Expert advice is available and details are given in your Tidy Towns contact list.

LITTER CONTROL

On adjudication day there did not appear to be a problem with litter in the Village and surrounds. However, back areas require monitoring. It is important that a constant watch is kept on litter during the summer months, especially outside the shops and pubs.

TIDINESS

The numerous cars parking in the Village centre take from the overall tidy appearance. Additional tree planting in the village centre would improve the streetscape. Footpaths should be kept free from obstacles to allow free access to pedestrians, especially disabled pedestrians.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses on the Monivea approach road looked well as did the houses on the Maree road approach to the village. Cloonarkin Estate is progressing and we look forward to seeing the completion of the proposed amenity park fronting Cloonarkin Drive. The open space at the end of Carrowmoneasa Estate looks neglected and hopefully will be completed shortly. The fencing on the avenue to the Hotel requires attention. The majority of residents in the Village are making an effort; however, the remaining house owners should be encouraged to support your efforts by the planting of flowers and, where required, by painting their houses.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The work on the approach roads to Oranmore is coming along. However, the approach road to and at the Castle area looks neglected. The old stone walls on approach roads should be repaired and maintained and weed control must be maintained along the walls and road verges, especially where tree planting has taken place. The Dublin approach road looked very well and an obvious effort is being made by the residents. Except for an obvious effort with a small mower the Limerick approach road verges were overgrown and as the back area was very overgrown it took from this approach road. The triangle area in the middle of the road near the Church is neglected and takes from the approach on the two roads.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The wider community must accept ownership and responsibility for the work involved. A committee of fourteen can only do so much. The village has potential but you must work to a long term plan. Oranmore has some hurdles to cross but none are insurmountable. Build on what you have and go forward. It will take time but it will be worth it. Keep up the good work.