

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **FOYNES**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 17-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	28
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	196	194

Foynes, Co. Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for forwarding your completed questionnaire but the lack of a map meant that the adjudicator was at a slight disadvantage. A 3 year plan should be submitted for next year's competition; this will help the committee to focus on key issues, both short term and long term.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The standard in this category was quite good. Foynes has some very fine stone buildings and nearly all looked very well on adjudication day. The restoration of the old signal box is to be welcomed as it is a link with a period of past history in Foynes. The stone buildings referred to above were eye-catching. Fitzgerald's, Foynes Pharmacy and the owners of the stone cottages opposite Goggin's deserve special mention for the manner in which these buildings are maintained. The Church and grounds were very presentable in the centre of the town. The Community Centre and the adjacent amenity park were in top condition and are a major focal point of the town. The Flying Boat Museum was in very good condition; the immediate frontage was very clean and tidy, but the sign could be revitalised somewhat. The Garda Station was in fair condition, but the National School grounds could be improved upon as the lack of landscaping gives a very severe look to the place. The Bus Station is a very impressive and inviting building which was well maintained. The Yankee Clipper, Shannon House and the Foynes Inn were well maintained licensed premises where the hanging baskets were very much admired. The new swimming pool on the outskirts is a very welcome facility for the local community and it looked really well on adjudication day. There are still a number of untidy yard areas in and around the town and these, as suggested last year, should be obscured from public view.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping in the town was of a very high standard. Further planting arrangements would be very welcome and would complement what is already in place. The nice stone flowerbed in the group of houses on the Limerick exit was very much admired as were a number of gardens in this particular housing estate. The Seaplane Service Station had a lovely combination of shrubs and flowers on view. The landscaping at the Grotto and at the Community centre also deserve special mention. The Bus Station also had an attractive planting arrangement on view.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The area around the rivulet in the centre of the town could be identified as a starting point from which a wildlife project could evolve. Seek out the assistance of some local wildlife expert and ensure that schoolchildren are involved in any proposed

programme. Children will bring a fresh sense of enthusiasm to any project they become involved in.

LITTER CONTROL

There was virtually no litter to be seen on adjudication day. Obviously, the residents of Foynes are keen to keep their town litter free. The area behind the school and up the byroad near the Grotto had a little litter. Make sure that areas such as these are frequently cleaned.

TIDINESS

The standard in this category could have been better. There were too many untidy side entrances and yards plus the fact that weeds were prevalent at a number of points around the town. Weeds were evident around the Garda and Fire Stations, by the Grotto and up the byroad alluded to in the previous section. Side entrances like the one adjacent to MS Motors and Burger Bite were far too messy. The abandoned yard with the To Let sign was very weedy and untidy looking. The truck/trailer parking area in the port was also very untidy and needs to, at least, be cleared of weeds.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Foynes has a number of very attractive private residences, both new and old, the majority of which are presented to a very high standard. The houses opposite the Grotto had magnificent gardens with beautiful selections of roses, annuals and perennials on view. The stone cottages referred to previously are very unique; one or two need to be attended to. The housing estate, which is long established, on the Limerick end of the town was kept in pristine condition. The well maintained green area in front is very complementary to these houses.

ROADS STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads from both Limerick and Glin were in very good condition. The Tarbert approach was especially inviting with mature trees, stone walls and well maintained paths. The Loughill Road was in reasonable condition, although there was a good deal of weeds to be seen on this approach.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The town has some very attractive features and it looked very well on adjudication day. The committee need to concentrate on the issues, such as tidiness, that are causing some problems at present. Keep up the good work and we look forward to an even better performance next year.