

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **ARIGNA**  
County : **ROSCOMMON**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 13-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	16	15
The Built Environment	40	10	10
Landscaping	40	12	10
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	10
Litter Control	40	12	10
Tidiness	20	6	6
Residential Areas	30	10	10
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	15	14
General Impression	10	2	2
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>87</b>

## **Arigna, County Roscommon**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Arigna is a dispersed village and is located on a scenic route which can hold its own with the best in the country. The Arigna mountains form a beautiful backdrop and the village is blessed with a busy river and some fine scenic views. Arigna itself, however, leaves a lot to be desired in its presentation which is a great pity. The first priority in your work programme should be to tidy underdeveloped areas and to landscape problem areas such as the fuel yards. Thank you for the inclusion of your five year development plan for Arigna. This proved very helpful for adjudication. Your goal to enhance and demonstrate Arigna's heritage, especially its mining tradition, is admirable and the proposed use of hutches as planters and the proposed featuring of the miner's monument at the church are exciting initiatives. It is good to note that your landscaping plans will reflect the colours and shrubs of the Arigna mountains thus relating Arigna to its natural environment.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Stores located opposite the Wisebuy Foodstore badly need to be repaired and painted. The Health Centre property looks well; however, the large wall adjacent needs to be repainted and its plaster work repaired. The Enterprise Centre could be cleaned and/or painted and the carpark area planted with trees. The fuel yards opposite could also be planted with trees at their roadside boundary to soften their impact. Some of the buildings of the fuel yard complex should be cleaned and/or painted. Hopefully all property owners will look to their own property and how they can improve it in terms of painting, repairs and landscaping.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The planted triangular area near the Foodstore and pub looks quite well. A small green area forming a road island in front of the church offers a further opportunity for landscaping in addition to those noted above.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The area of ground located on the river bank between the river and the pub is grossly underdeveloped. There appear to be plans for this area as building materials were noted here together with plant equipment. Do keep us informed next year. Perhaps the best approach under this heading would be to undertake a survey of the wildlife of the village and its immediate hinterland and base any future projects on the findings of this survey. The river and its banks could be featured for amenity at some stage in the future.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was reasonable on adjudication day; this appears to be an improvement on the situation last year. The challenge now will be to continue to improve until you reach a sufficiently high standard.

## **TIDINESS**

Weed growth was quite prevalent on footpaths marking the entrance to the small residential development located beyond the Health Centre. It was also noted at the boundary wall here. The numerous underdeveloped sites around the village give the entire area an untidy appearance.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most residential properties are attractively presented. The new housing development located across from the church looks well; no doubt the remaining house under construction will be finished to a high standard in respect of its garden and roadside edge.

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

Much of the road through the village needs to be resurfaced as a matter of urgency. One wonders if the village has been earmarked for village renewal by the County Council. Do let us know in next year application. The view from the road up by the graveyard is breathtakingly beautiful while the road itself has to be ranked as one of the worst in the country in the quality of its surfacing and its roadside verges. Both the picnic tables and the public bench near the landscaped area beside the foodstore need to be repainted. Nameplates are also in need of attention.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The overall impression of Arigna is one of untidiness and neglect. While the village has many natural strengths, there is little about it that would encourage a visitor or the travelling public to stop and spend some time here. No doubt given the commitment of the committee and your plans for the future this situation will be reversed in a few short years. Thank you for your participation in the competition and we look forward with genuine interest to see your progress over the next few years.