

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **EASKEY**
County : **SLIGO**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 04-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	32
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	12
Litter Control	40	25	23
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	187	181

Easkey, County Sligo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The Works Strategy for Easkey Tidy Towns 1997 has been drawn up in conjunction with Sligo County Council and Moy Valley Resources. It is good to state that your Committee is working closely with Sligo County Council and other State Agencies. The strategy is a sensible one and if carried out in its entirety it would certainly enhance the appearance of Easkey. The Easkey Community Council is receiving a lot of support from its members and the work carried out to date shows a large measure of local involvement and support.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The R. C. Church is nicely painted and floodlit. The grounds on the left are well maintained and it is noted that further works will be carried out in the grounds this year. The Church of Ireland and grounds also looked most presentable. The National School is also worthy of comment (nice red gates). The Vocational School also looked well. However, the view of this building was marred by the derelict wooden building at the front, and the basketball equipment which had a rather untidy appearance. The Garda Station is a disgrace and takes away from the excellent work which has been carried out by the Committee in terms of stonework and floral display in this vicinity. Many of the commercial properties are well presented with their traditional signs and excellent paintwork. Amongst those to catch the eye are Fishermans Weir, Lobster Pot, poitin House, Split Rock and the splendid Easkey Surfing and Information Centre. The post Office was brightly painted, spoilt by the derelict building in the vicinity. The Community Hall is also worthy of comment. "Hargadens" looks well but shop materials should not be displayed on the footpath. "Rouses" was very colourful and has a big impact on the main street. Derelict buildings are receiving attention, the building opposite Rouses for example with its nice window boxes. However, the open space right up to this building is most untidy, with its beer kegs, debris and graffiti. Dereliction is a problem on the approaches, notably the Sligo Road which has several neglected buildings and untidy sheds. The Enniscrone approach is in a similar condition. The view of dereliction to the right of the bridge as you approach from Sligo is depressing. The old Graveyard in the centre of town is in poor condition. The remarks in last years report still apply, however, it was noted that the gates were painted and locked.

LANDSCAPING

The display of hanging baskets, window boxes, flower tubs

and flower beds the length and breath of the main street, was outstanding and great credit is due to all concerned. The treeplanting and floral display at the Car Park compliments the excellent stone work (well done). The Shrubby bed at the factory on the Sligo approach is commendable as are the flower tubs on the main approaches. Nice treeplanting on the Enniscrone approach.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Easkey River is an ideal wildlife habitat. The River Walk to the sea at Easkey Castle is also an area that would lend itself to this type of development, perhaps a nature trail including the wildlife flora and fauna of the area should be considered.

LITTER CONTROL

The litter control in the main street was excellent on adjudication day. Also there was very little litter to be seen in the Riverside Park area. The litter was most evident on the approach roads. Most of this was visible where long grass had been cut on verges. Some residual litter was also visible on the walk way beside the river.

TIDINESS

The overall appearance of Easkey apart from the dereliction is one of tidiness with a bright and colourful appearance. The Caravan Park is extremely well maintained. The peoples park needs some of its seats repainted and one needs to be repaired. Fences also need painting and some residual litter was also noticed here.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the private houses on the approach roads were well presented. The estate on the right of the Sligo approach also looked well with brightly painted houses and colourful floral displays. The houses in the village all looked well.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Most of the approach roads were extremely well presented. Most verges had been trimmed and looked well. Grass cuttings should be removed after trimming. There is a very poor footpath on the Enniscrone approach, weedy and overgrown. The approach from Fortland had some broken stone walls. Dereliction has already been mentioned on the two main approaches. The wooden signposting is most attractive. Some excellent stonewalls in all approaches. However, one of the walls on the road to the Castle appears to have suffered some damage.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Great commitment from the Committee and the residents of Easkey is obvious. Dereliction is still a problem. Keep up the good work.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (6/8/97)

Your Masterplan is most ambitious - good luck with its realisation! The Works Strategy submitted is indicative of dedication towards the enhancement of the village. Indeed Easkey has enormous potential to succeed in the competition. It is considered that, to make much more significant progress, you should draw up a detailed maintenance programme which would include such items as restoration and clearing of old stone walls - just as important a task as the building of new walls. Having said that, the new walls and planting, especially trees, create a good impression. Just a few papers were to be seen here and there along the street during our second visit. While most of the buildings along the street had been recently painted the overall standard was reduced by extensive untidy areas visible between buildings. Hopefully soon the Garda Station will be restored before it joins the derelict properties of the village.