

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BONMAHON**  
County : **WATERFORD**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	22
The Built Environment	40	18	18
Landscaping	40	21	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	20	21
Tidiness	20	11	12
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	21
General Impression	10	4	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>154</b>

## **Bonmahon, Co. Waterford**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your map and completed application form indicating your overall developmental approach. It is appreciated that litter is your main problem because of the large number of tourists which you attract. Car parking is also quite a problem and some suggestions are given. The overhead wires and poles are very unsightly and disruptive. This matter could be discussed with public bodies such as the E.S.B. and Bord Telecom. There should be a programme to remove poles and overhead wires.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Bonmahon is a simple seaside village with potential for much improvement. Much work has been done and is to be commended. The housing is pleasant and well presented with many pleasant gardens. The colour schemes of the professionally colour co-ordinated buildings should be used as a guide for future painting. The Catholic Church is interesting and should be given a little more attention. Some stones containing malacite were observed in the surrounding stone walls of this Church. These are of interest because of the past history of Bunmahon. Perhaps something more could be done with the copper history apart from the heritage walk. The toilets leave much to be desired. They are not wheel-chair friendly and probably suffer from extensive neglect rather than vandalism. Pressure should be put on the Local Authority to replace them.

### **LANDSCAPING**

At the entrance from Tramore there is a very pleasant, well planted area which forms a very pleasing introduction. The gardens throughout are very pleasant. The school is attractive and well sited but could be very much improved by the planting of trees behind the wall. These should be so placed that they do not interfere with ball playing. There are many places around the village where trees could be planted with advantage. The types of trees should be those that resist sea winds, and would include, sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), hawthorn (*crataegus*), willow (*salix caprea*, *cinerea*, *daphnoides*, *purpurea*), whitebeam (*sorbus aria intermedia*). These trees could also be tried in other areas around the village. It is noted that fuchsia is growing wild in the surrounding hedges but this is a plant that has not been used in any of the planted areas. This is a pity as it is easily grown and looks extremely well.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

It was noted that in places the sand dunes are subject to pedestrian traffic and that the marram grass is being stressed. There is a controlled pathway over the dune separating the caravan area from the beach but it is suggested that a few dedicated paths be installed in other trafficked areas so as to counter this problem, in part at least..

## **LITTER CONTROL**

As is to be expected litter control is one of the major problems in this village. In the first small beach and car park area there was just one litter bin and this was stuffed full and overflowing. More litter bins are needed at this beach. Perhaps bins should also be emptied more frequently. There is a lot of litter in the main street through the village.

## **TIDINESS**

Rubbish was noted at the side of the road just past the junction from Tramore and weeds at the base of the wall. The entrances to the beaches are very untidy. Opposite the car park there is a very disfiguring storage area. This should be considered for future removal. With a small effort, Campus Filling Station could improve their image.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Residential areas are very satisfactory and well presented. The houses are most attractive, well painted and have excellent gardens. All are well colour co-ordinated.

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

There is lack of direction sign posting from Stradbally. The large car park is pleasant with its fine planting and picnic areas. It is suggested that the parking should have a proper hammer head turning circle at the end. At present there seems to be much confusion with cars trying to leave and park. Ideally, traffic should be one way within the car park with separate entrance and exit points. This issue should be discussed with the Local Authority. Car parking near Bonmahon Bridge should be divided in some way so as to create more order and safety. If there was an indication of car parking spaces, or even just the beginnings or ends of parking areas, it would then be possible to park more cars satisfactorily.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Bonmahon is a pleasant village with much potential during the summer months. The beaches are nice and are of course the focal point. The Committee is to be congratulated on the efforts they are making towards litter control and tidiness in general. The plantings and grassed areas are very important additions and add greatly to the good impression of Bonmahon.