

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **STRADBALLY-WATERFORD**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	29
The Built Environment	40	32	31
Landscaping	40	33	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	22
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	35
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	234	229

Stradbally, Co. Waterford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The Committee is thanked for their completed application form and for their proposed work plan for the next 3-5 years. Stradbally, which has so successfully, over the past number of years, undertaken so many projects, now, in addition to their ongoing tasks within their own village, plans to extend their horizons and include an area of approximately one mile from the village. The Committee is to be much applauded for their wider interest and their concern for the common good. This is a very worthwhile undertaking and the Committee and Community are to be congratulated on previous achievements and are wished every success with their new undertaking.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The ambience of Stradbally is very charming with its well kept houses and gardens. The very successful colour schemes used on the houses is delightful. The ball alley is quite a dominant feature but has been extremely well handled by the use of ivy and creeper on the high walls and some screening to the open side. Some stone walling within the village is not of the standard design of local walls. The stone capping of vertical stones at 150-200mm centres is quite discordant. The removal of the overhead wires and the installation of very nice street lighting has added tremendously to the visual impression of the village.

LANDSCAPING

On the whole this is very satisfactory but it is suggested that more emphasis be put on ground planting, thereby encouraging gardens for all seasons. Additionally if more trees are to be planted these should be larger types of trees that reflect those in the surrounding countryside. One of the problems in Ireland is that people are not inclined to plant indigenous trees in their towns and gardens, even when there is plenty of room to do so. Variegated poplars should be avoided as they look very alien in the Irish scene.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The concern with bird life is to be commended. The planting of suitable berried shrubs is excellent. Perhaps the addition of those shrubs and flowers which attract butterflies could also be considered. With such a pollution free atmosphere many butterflies should be attracted.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is excellent within the town but in outlying areas some litter was noted. This is a very real problem as in all probability the offenders are visitors.

TIDINESS

The general impression is one of tidiness and this holds for the

approach roads and the surrounding areas despite the difficulties encountered at the neighbouring coves.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The residential areas are all charming, delightful and well kept, with a wonderful sense of colour both in painting and in the landscaping.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All the approach road are very inviting. An existing natural environment has been accentuated by appropriate maintenance.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The general impression of Stradbally is excellent. It is of a village where the community is concerned and cares both for its own but also for the surrounding places.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (15/8/97)

A number of nameplates (one on the Bonmahon entrance just past the clubhouse) need to be painted. The stone wall which lines both sides of the road between the church and the village might be exposed with the intention of further revealing and highlighting it as an attractive feature of this entrance to Stradbally. The presentation of the Stradbally Cove is excellent. Well done on the resurfacing of streets and the repaving of footpaths. The public toilet looks well also. The water garden is a lovely feature and offers welcome shade on a hot day. We wish you well in the completion of your playground project. Both the Rockville and Viewmount residential areas are presented to an excellent standard, everyone concerned is to be commended. All flower and shrub displays around the village look beautiful, but the one most pleasing to the second adjudicator was the one at the library.