

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLONMORE**
County : **CARLOW**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	27	25
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	212	206

Clonmore, County Carlow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Clonmore is welcome to the 1998 Tidy Towns Competition. You have presented the village to an extremely high standard in terms of attractiveness and tranquillity again this year, the maintenance at some of the sites mentioned in previous reports is to be commended. You have an ambitious plan for the coming years, it is appreciated that it is difficult to keep up the maintenance of the works carried out to date as well as to take on new work. Try to involve as many members of the community and local organizations, including the County Council as much as you can.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the buildings in the village look extremely well again this year, but as mentioned in last year's report, the Community Center would benefit from some painting. The stones and sand mentioned in last year's report outside the new church seems to be still there. This should really be removed as it creates a poor impression where good work has been carried out. It would be a good idea to give some consideration to the castle ruins at the Tullow road end of the village. This is potentially an important site which visitors would like to explore. It is recommended that you discuss it with the Tourism Officer for the region or with some experts in architectural heritage.

LANDSCAPING

The planting schemes and maintenance of all the various sites both small and larger around the village is to be very highly commended. The work is extremely good and has been improved this year. Congratulations on this achievement. It is appreciated that long hours go into planting, maintaining and grass cutting etc. Keep up the good work. Some thought again in regard to the Castle ruins on the Tullow road might be something worth considering for the future and advice could be sought.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The proposal to introduce bird stands is most commendable and we hope to see it in future years. As mentioned in last year's report, this is a fairly new category and it is a good idea to involve some of the young people, if possible, in this project and also to seek some expert advice. The area by the Bullawn Stone is potentially a site you should concentrate on. It was disappointing to find some rubbish in the stream during the adjudication. Good luck with this work. You have a beautiful village and there is plenty of potential for this category of the competition to be worked upon.

LITTER CONTROL

Well done on your good standard again this year. The presentation was very good, the new litter bins are successful. The challenge now will be to build upon this performance.

TIDINESS

As mentioned elsewhere in this report, some rubble and sand was noted in the village. A few areas needed some weed control but this was not serious with the exception of some private residences along the Tullow road. This was quite disappointing and gave quite a different impression of the village on the approach to what one finds on entering into the village.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The remarks made in last year's report to a large extent still apply. On the way into the village from Tullow, one got an impression of disappointment because some of the residences were really very poorly maintained. Some of course were well maintained. This approach road stood out compared to the other approach roads, as regards the presentation of residential dwellings. Hopefully the residents may be more co-operative in future in this regard. It is appreciated that this can be difficult to gain sometimes, but if you can achieve the co-operation of these people, it will greatly contribute to the overall standard of presentation of the village. As it stands, it is holding back a little bit on your improvements. Good luck with this work.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads with the exception of the Tullow road were well presented this year. It is recommended that some attention be given to the signage, perhaps signage of a higher standard in terms of a 'Welcome' sign to the village. These should ideally be erected on all approach roads and these signs will define an entrance to the village. Be sure to clear away any grass cuttings after mowing roadside edges or banks on the day of adjudication, some had been left behind. In some spots, some weed clearance was necessary, particularly outside the community center and occasional spots. As stated last year, the granite walls which are a strong feature in the village were extremely well maintained and the fencing which you have erected is very neat in appearance.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

On approaching Clonmore this year from Tullow, the impression was poor given the poor standard of presentation of some of the individual dwellings along the approach road and the disappointing standard of presentation of the Community Center. However it must be stated that the stone granite wall looked well. One was pleasantly surprised on entering into the village to find what a pretty and tranquil place it is. The approach roads, other than the Tullow road were well presented and the village is one of great character and potential. Do maximize this potential in future

as this will bring visitors to your village and Clonmore is well worth a visit. Keep up the good efforts and do try to achieve some of the objectives you have set out in your plan for next year.