

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **COORACLARE**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	188	184

Cooraclare, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your returned entry form suggests you are working closely with Clare County Council and other relevant agencies. It is assumed that the three year plan submitted last year is still being worked on. Your ability to fund so many projects is commendable. Congratulations on winning the Clare in Bloom Competition for 1997.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church carpark is excellent and the shrubbery on the periphery enhances the overall appearance. The petrol station forecourt is well presented. The creamery, though painted some time ago is in need of repainting on this strategic location. The Community Centre is neat and clean but the premises opposite is in need of attention. The Post Office is neat and well presented. O'Doherty's is excellent in presentation and has been freshly painted.

LANDSCAPING

You have scored well again in this section and the extra flower displays outlined in your submission is praiseworthy. The many rich colourful displays from individuals and from the community enhance the appearance of the village and have increased your marks in this section. Your challenge now is to maintain the recent developments to a high standard and pick out small open spaces that can be improved with further development. You have some very attractive wild flowers that enhance the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your efforts to provide wildlife are acknowledged. You have more opportunities than most and the river area lends itself to further improvement. Longterm, you should consider the erection of an illustrated display map at the river area.

LITTER CONTROL

The village was almost litter free on a Sunday adjudication, reflecting great credit on the community. Litter bins are good in design and seem adequate in numbers - well done.

TIDINESS

You have a number of poorly presented unoccupied houses that are keeping your marks down in this area. There are too many rusty gates in and around the village - these should be painted by

the community or by a Fás Scheme if you have one.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Like so many villages and towns, Cooraclare is experiencing additional house building. The infill (blue house with Killaloe Slate) development on main street is excellent. In general houses are presented to a high standard, but the terrace at the Kilrush approach has potential for much improvement.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The side entrance at O'Doherty's is very poor and needs attention. This category is now an important part of the competition for which valuable marks are available. The road up to the G.A.A. pitch is very badly presented. Weed growth was evident in the village and should be sprayed in May ideally. The welcome signs are well designed and well placed. Any new signs should be bilingual.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village looked well on a Munster Final day. You have worked hard to achieve this standard and your efforts of previous years are now bearing fruit. To progress further, you will need to act on the suggestions of this and previous reports. This will call for greater attention to detail. Good luck for 1999.