

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DOONBEG VILLAGE**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	36
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	31	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	19
Litter Control	40	30	27
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	209	199

Doonbeg, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your submission with details of work programme and illustrated maps was excellent and outlined succinctly the work on hand. You have made great progress in recent years and the apparent consistency in your development and maintenance is commendable. It was a delight to visit Doonbeg on a pleasant July afternoon.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The scene is well set from the Kilkee approach by the attractively developed GAA complex. This is one of the best kept in the region and the dignified memorial inscription for Shanahan & McNamara is excellent. However, the house at the cross opposite the church is now pulling you down in this section as it is on such a strategic site. The church, as usual, is well presented and the flower displays outside are praiseworthy. The building opposite the cemetery can give you a boost if it is well finished and presented. D.M. Hayes is below standard. The cemetery gates are attractive, but the Slow (timber) sign here should be removed. Tubridy is really excellent together with Madigans and the Tourist Office. The unoccupied house with corrugated roof is pulling you down and should be painted. There is a rusty corrugated roof behind the post office that is quite visible from two approach roads and should be tackled for next year. The school is good again this year. The building beside the Telecom Station is a let down, the Garda Station is shabby.

LANDSCAPING

You have worked hard in this category and the hard work of previous years is now bearing fruit. The river park is splendid, together with the village garden. Indeed, the whole colour display throughout the village is really praiseworthy.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your efforts in this area are recognised, but you should try and have some wildlife display boards erected in the long term, that would be informative to locals and visitors alike. You have endless potential at the river area.

LITTER CONTROL

The village was virtually litter free on adjudication day, including the river bank area. This reflects great credit on the committee and community, so well done.

TIDINESS

You are now entering a high league and attention to detail in terms of small open spaces will be necessary. Most of your untidiness is now coming from poorly presented roofs, and unoccupied houses needing attention. The area with blue gate near the river park needs attention. The house beside the Post Office with attractive railings and low stone wall has improved this area immensely from the untidy appearance of previous years.

RESIDENTIAL AREA

The terraced housing on Main Street is very well presented. The housing estate near the bridge would improve if the boundary walls were painted. In general housing standards are very good throughout the village.

ROADS STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach from the Kilrush road gives at a glance the problems of poorly kept side and rear entrances. The speed limit signs on the Miltown Malbay approach need to be cleaned. The treatment of the stone wall on this approach is excellent. The walking trail along the river is acknowledged - could this be signposted with small finger signs.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your best effort to date and your rate of progress has been gradual and sustained, which is the hallmark of successful tidy towns. Your strong point is in the landscaping and you should now concentrate on getting the poorly presented buildings improved. You have potential to make greater progress in the competition within a short space of time - but do retain the rural coastal ethos of the village. Moltar sibh as ucht na hoibre atá déanta go dtí seo.