

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LISDOONVARNA**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-98

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1998 | Mark Awarded 1997 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 32 | 32 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 25 | 24 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 26 | 24 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 16 | 16 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 26 | 24 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 13 | 13 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 17 | 17 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 23 | 22 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 184 | 178 |

Lisdoonvarna, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning completed entry form outlining your work programme and problem areas. Your ability to raise such funding for your activities is praiseworthy. The area is too large for development and maintenance by a small committee. You need the backing of the community if you are to progress. Much of the good works of previous years is now in need of refurbishing. You still need to phase the development of your action plan, picking out achievable projects that you can tackle each year.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The many large buildings in the town are quite demanding in required maintenance. Hotels in particular were, without exception well presented. Imperial Hotel was well presented. You still have a problem with some of the older buildings and the pockets of dereliction on St. Brendan's Road are particularly obvious. The SPA appears to be closed, which is regrettable. The Smoked Fish Visitors Centre was well presented with an attractive car park. Carrigans Hotel has an attractive display of flowers and shrubs that enhances this entrance. The derelict house near the car park entrance is an eyesore. The Bank of Ireland entrance could be improved.

LANDSCAPING

The extra tree planting at the square is commendable and provides an attractive seating amenity for the town. The treatment of the grass and shrubbery at Benn's Cross is excellent and this is a good introduction to the town. The signage here is excessive - a total of 21 signs in all, renders most of them ineffective. The entrance to the Shannon Development estate is still very poor and should be surface dressed at a minimum. The car park is well presented but the lower end near the GAA Club could do with improved landscaping. In the long-term the car, park should be landscaped with appropriate car and bus markings. A good deal of weed growth is still prevalent on the approach roads.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The influence of the Burren is obvious on the approach roads and the many attractive flower, shrub and tree displays offer good scope in this category. Your natural amenities relate to the attractive stone of the area and the strong display of wild flowers.

LITTER CONTROL

The town was relatively litter free on adjudication day and a big improvement on last year. Bins seem adequate in numbers and

well positioned.

TIDINESS

The untidiness relates to unkempt open spaces, dereliction, old murals and rusty corrugated roofs that are so visible and obvious on the approach roads. They will need constant encouraging from the Committee in an effort to have them improved. Many of the suggestions of previous years have not been acted upon. Even a circular to owners of premises or a general circular appeal may improve things.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The housing estate near Kincora has an attractive shrubbery. Some individuals have worked hard to present their premises well, but the estate needs improved co-ordination. Try and get residents interested in collective efforts to include boundary walls. There are a few attractive single- storey terraced houses opposite Jordans Supermarket that should be maintained in the traditional style.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Many side entrances, quite visible to the visitor are in need of improved presentation. Commercial operators in particular can play an important role in raising your marks in this section by improving the rear and side entrances of their premises. Farm gates show no improvement since last year. The main street from the SPA to the Square is your strong point and the many attractive shop fronts on this street should be extended to other areas.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The town looked well on adjudication day and the great amount of colour by way of window boxes, tubs, hanging baskets etc. suggest a caring community. Keep battling for improvement to the old unoccupied buildings and try and improve the maintenance work done in previous years.