

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **SCARRIFF**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	29
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	23	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	182	176

Scariff, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for detailed entry form, excellent map, copy of development plan submitted to FAS and also some copies of Scariff News - this documentation was very helpful to the adjudicator. We note that you work closely with Clare County Council, FAS and a number of local Clubs and Societies. This is truly a partnership approach and is to be commended. Also, your monthly draw is a good way to raise the essentials funds to finance proposed projects.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The new footpaths and wall building were noted on the day of adjudication. The Credit Union building is a welcome addition to the town, as is the new health centre which the adjudicator admired for its design and good use of colour. The East Clare telecottage was also nicely painted but the hanging baskets on this building were poor. The Roman Catholic Church is neat and well maintained - in its elevated position it would be very impressive if painted. The School on the Flagmount approach road is neat and well kept with nice planting. The Teagasc building is also well presented. The replacement of plastic signs with something more appropriate should be encouraged, especially the replacement of the Laundrette/Dry Cleaning sign on the Feakle approach road. Whilst most business premises are well maintained there are a number of poor examples such as the Clare Lakelands Hotel, the old Cinema and Scariff Motor Works which are all for sale. Hopefully, the new owners will give these a face lift when they are purchased. On the Tuamgraney road, Finsa appeared to be doing work to their entrance and the School, the Coillte building and Bleachs Supermarket were well maintained.

LANDSCAPING

Your work at Moynoc Limekiln, Moynoe Church yard, Clonusker Kyle and the cleaning of the Mass Rock at Cappabane have been noted. We also note that you are having negotiations with Clare Marts to upgrade their premises and this indeed would be a welcome development, as would the upgrading of the GAA forecourt as mentioned. The picnic area was visited and the tree planting here admired. Also the tables and seating were in good repair and litter bins provided. The grass was cut but was left long under the table and seating units which would be off-putting for a visitor. The pine trees on the opposite bank of the river are progressing and when mature will somewhat screen the Finsa plant. We look forward to hearing of more progress with the proposed new Park along this road. On the Flagmount approach road the green space and planting was pleasant and the new stone wall and planting on the right further in is very good. The use of shrubs here is to be commended for year round effect. The town centre with the Market

house is well laid out and nicely planted. On the Mountshannon road the planting of shrubs near the far out town sign is again attractive. The Bank of Ireland are to be commended for their lovely rose beds. The Harbour area was a joy to visit with the grass perfectly cut. The trees shading this peaceful area were and all neat and well maintained.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your picnic area on the Feakle road and Shannon Harbour are part of the overall wildlife and natural amenity category and are to be commended. Perhaps some berried bushes/trees could be planted around Scarriff to assist the birdlife in the winter and the shrub buddleia is known to attract butterflies. As you mention, your new tree planting and hedges should also assist local wildlife.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little evidence of litter on the day of adjudication and it would appear that the involvement of the community and the weekly clean up by the school children is successful. Well done to all involved.

TIDINESS

The pathways were mostly weed free around the town except for some growth along the stone wall near the town on the Mountshannon approach road. Also, some householders needed to spray outside their houses. As mentioned in your notes, the area opposite the Mart is disrupted at present due to the work on the Waste Transfer Station.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

On the Flagmount approach road the residential houses were well presented. Similarly on the Portumna road, with a few exceptions. The housing estate on the left of this road is also mostly well maintained but there are a few exceptions here also. Private residences on the Mountshannon road are well maintained and the private houses and housing estate on the Harbour road are well kept including the green spaces at the entrances. On the Killaloe approach the same applies. It was noted that a new house is being built at the riverside opposite the Finsa premises.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the Feakle approach the speed signs need repainting. The green area on this road was uncut, presumably to encourage wildlife - perhaps some wild flowers could be sown here to further this aim. On the Flagmount approach the banks and hedges were well tended and signage adequate. On the Limerick approach there are good stone walls and the hedges were nicely cut. The back lanes and link roads have improved and no doubt this trend will continue. Some greater linkage of the town to the Harbour area by signage or display maps is suggested.

GENERAL IMPRESSION.

Obviously there is a great involvement of all the community with the Committee's work and this is the ideal situation. We look forward to seeing the projects in your plan take shape over the next few years together with the continued maintenance of the good work already carried out.