

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LETTERFRACK**
County : **GALWAY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 21-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	23
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	200	193

Letterfrack, County Galway

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your planning, and your co-operative attitude, is much admired. A considerable amount of work seemed to be awaiting completion on adjudication day this year - obviously long-term projects are under way, and some have not yet started. The proposed Quaker Museum is a very interesting idea, and the Furniture College will of course be major. It seems to be a time of transition. Although this adjudicator has been familiar with Letterfrack for many years, your map has been most helpful in identifying sites and improvements.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church is nicely kept, as usual. Some of the splendid Connemara West buildings require refurbishing; some of cottages in this complex need repainting; Ellis Hall is very well presented, but generally in this important area there is an air of work waiting to be undertaken. Business premises in the village are well kept. The school is charming, but the gates still need repainting. The fine old hotel is in a depressing condition - being outside the village area this has not affected marking, but it gives a poor initial impression on the Renvyle road.

LANDSCAPING

Letterfrack, situated among burgeoning nature, is nonetheless full of pleasant man-inspired surprises. The planting at the Cross Roads is eyecatchingly effective - as indeed is planting beside the church, and incidental planting throughout the village. Your tree-planting programme is especially impressive. The 'fraoch' plan is appropriate and its nurturing is looked forward to.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As expected, Letterfrack does well in this category. The weekly radio programme is a most innovative idea and deserves the success you describe. Congratulations.

LITTER CONTROL

There was disposable litter in places on adjudication day, most noticeable on the Renvyle road. Your efforts are appreciated, and are successful, comparatively speaking.

TIDINESS

Kerbside weed was in evidence on the Renvyle road, and it was surprising to see weeds growing in paved spaces at Connemara West. Hedges were trim almost everywhere. Builder's debris

should not be left lying once a job has been completed. The metal-gathering effort has been remarkable by all accounts - such a pity that it is necessary.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Letterfrack is almost entirely residential. A lovely thatched house was seen, and there are cottage-style gardens which fit in admirably with the natural environment. One beautifully painted house has a surprisingly untidy forecourt, but that may be something temporary.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main road is in fairly good condition, but bye-roads badly need attention - your notes show how you are taking action. The car parks at the church and beside the Bard's Den are well surfaced; the space before and beside Veldon's is not so good and lacks definition.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The focal point of a rich area of natural beauty where flora and fauna are looked after with care and understanding. The building programme will certainly create a pause in that category, but the results will be eagerly awaited.