

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **COOLANEY**  
County : **SLIGO**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-98

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1998 | Mark Awarded 1997 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 31                | 32                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 26                | 24                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 30                | 28                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 20                | 19                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 25                | 23                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 14                | 12                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 22                | 22                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 28                | 27                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 7                 | 7                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>203</b>        | <b>194</b>        |

## **Coolaney, County Sligo.**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your completed questionnaire, map, and concise planning schedule. It was all very helpful. All that was said in last years report re: your development is to be reiterated. When your plans in conjunction with the local authorities reaches their conclusion, Coolaney and the committee will be justifiably proud. Your proposals for 1998 are progressing with success, and your continued enthusiasm and hard work is evident throughout the village.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The overall impression of the village is attractive, brightly coloured buildings with flower features and nice signs, with many premises well presented. The Garda Station, Sproule's, J.J.O Grady's, the Happy Landing, The Post Office all looked well. Thomas Keane Cabinet Makers have retained the character of its building, but could tidy the shed obvious behind it. While acknowledging the notes made by the committee re: problem housing in the village, some premises need to freshen their appearance and paint work within the village, including those specifically mentioned in the previous report. The premises being renovated beside the butchers looked well despite the building rubble behind it. The adjudicator noted the painting of the derelict house beside the Riverside Inn.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The flower and shrub beds throughout the village were lovely, well maintained with a good balance of planting to ensure colour and content throughout the year. Tubs, gardens, window boxes and flowers features at individual houses added to the overall appearance of the village. The fountain was particularly attractive, and no rubbish was found in the vicinity, well done for taking note of last years comments. The new footpath development here is very attractive. The monument also looks well, with an attractive rail. Ensure that loose flag work is repaired, and grass banks maintained. The stone walls, and tree planting looked well throughout the village, and on approaches. Whilst some footpaths remain unsightly and detract from the overall appearance, these will be dealt with as development work progresses.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The riverside walk is an attractive feature, enhancing the village. I was particularly impressed with the river cleaning operation in hand, and feel sure that this will continue up to the road bridge where there were some bottles and debris in the water. The new raised walkway is well done, but do not be tempted to over

develop or excessively clear away growth in this area, as you may detract from the flora and fauna already there. Seating arrangements were in good order. There was some debris in river beside the picnic area, and this adjudicator would be concerned about full vehicle access to riverside area, which may damage your surfaces, edges and may deter wildlife. The approach through the centre of the village is still being developed along with your signs, and all will look well when completed. Please note that last years comments under this heading also apply.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

There was virtually no litter in the village on the day of adjudication, your prize-giving scheme is paying dividends already. Litterbins were noted throughout the village, it is important to keep these regularly emptied and maintained.

## **TIDINESS**

Despite the ongoing developments, the village presented a tidy appearance. The area outside the football pitch is untidy due to its being used as a depot area during development. Care must be taken to maintain alleyways and backyards that are obvious from the main street. Back garden areas as seen from the river walk were tidy, with some planting taking place, efforts obviously taken place following last years comments RE: setting a uniform standard or screening the areas. Continue to pay attention to boundary walls, and weeds on footpaths and walls.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The majority of houses are well presented and nicely maintained, with many beautiful garden and flower features, particularly mention to the houses in the fountain area, and across from the Garda Station. The house next to the river walk access in the centre of the village, cleverly shows how to introduce flowers in a street setting, and hopefully will refresh the paint on the remaining wall when the development finishes. Once again last year's comments continue to apply re: some houses needing attention and paint work refreshed.

## **ROADS STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

All the major approach roads were well presented, and showed how the facing of hedges and ditches, can accommodate tidy presentation without effecting the wildlife and flora. The derelict house (ref-3) was very well presented, and hopefully your approaches to the parties concerning the railroad will be positive and this site can be tidied up. Some gates and open areas on the approach roads still need attention, and the flower/stone feature at the gate on the Sligo approach was noted. The Rockfield road was particularly well presented with very neat grass verges, the graveyard area was also well maintained. The small approach road in the centre of town needs to be tidied up. The Bilingual Sign was well done on the Sligo approach, but the Happy Landing sign

needs to be touched up. Walking route signs were also well positioned.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Coolaney continues to improve and develop, with enthusiasm. To the committee and the community - keep up the good work.

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (13/08/98)**

Coolaney looked very well again during second adjudication. Well done on work achieved on the development of the river walk and on the landscaping of approach roads. Flower displays were both numerous and colourful. The landscaping of the main street when all work in progress is complete will make a significant contribution to the overall amenity value of the village. Be careful in your choice of trees. To have a wide street lined by handsome buildings is a great asset. Congratulations on the ducting work in progress along the main street. The gable wall of the Riverside Inn is quite weatherstained due to its prominent location within the village it should always look well.