

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CAHER**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	25	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	193	190

Caher, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The village enjoys a magnificent location on the banks of Lough Graney, however Caher appears to be largely underdeveloped in that there is considerable potential to enhance both its visual and recreational amenity value. It is appreciated that all of this work has to be done by a small number of individuals and financed by a small group, however don't lose heart because of this. Maybe you could get the local authority to help assist you in preparing a village enhancement programme and do put together a village development plan/work programme. Guidelines on how to do this are included in the new Tidy Towns Handbook.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The old Post Office could be painted to freshen its appearance. A new Post Office premises looks fine. Most properties are well presented.

LANDSCAPING

Flower beds in the village centre have been nicely planted. The 'before' photographs provided were useful for adjudication. Potted flowers at the Old Forge look well also. The lakeside amenity area is a little underdeveloped in that the grassed area has been eroded, presumably by carparking. Trees and shrub planting are preferable in landscaping. It is important to choose native species.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The village enjoys a beautiful location on the banks of Lough Graney and can boast a small woodland area also. There is enormous potential for wildlife interpretation of both wetland and woodland habitats. A suitable project might be undertaken. The new Tidy Towns Handbook contains invaluable information in this respect.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was good during adjudication. No litter bins were noted. Are there plans to acquire some? These are necessary as part of a year long litter management programme in addition to seasonal clean ups.

TIDINESS

Tree branches featured on the green verge behind the nameplate on the Feakle entrance to the village, looked untidy, also the roadside edge here needed a good sweeping.

Many stretches of roadside verges are overgrown. Weed growth which had been sprayed was discoloured and looks unsightly.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Residential properties are for the most part well presented. Be mindful of the importance of roadside areas to boundary walls in addition to side and rear areas which can be seen from the public road.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Work in progress was noted along the roadside edge. Do try to have the five telegraph poles in the village centre removed and the cables buried. Roadside verges within the confines set by the nameplates were dishevelled and untidy.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of Caher is that of a village situated in a very beautiful setting, but one which is underdeveloped and where a lot of potential for visual and recreational amenity enhancement exists.