

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **AHASCRAUGH**
County : **GALWAY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	27
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	26	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	11
Litter Control	40	19	22
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	17	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	163	161

Ahascragh, County Galway

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator had not been to Ahascragh for many years and his only memory was of dereliction. It was uplifting to see that despite this drawback, the village has improved so much with clearly stated aims and goals for the future. Good to note the fundraising project and the co-operation with the various agencies. The community council's aims for the benefit of all the citizens of Ahascragh is to be commended and admired.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There were some nice shop fronts, e.g. Cahill's, but also some with awful plastic signs. The Old Corn Mill still dominates the village to its detriment. It is appreciated that the mill is part of an existing business and perhaps the committee could influence the owner to take steps to improve the appearance. The Grotto is the centre-piece of the village and has been photographed as an entry in the landscape award section. The adjacent information centre is very attractive and informative. The Post Office has a lovely "village look" about it, but the public phone box is shabby. The Church of Ireland and its grounds could be a showpiece.

LANDSCAPING

The above mentioned Grotto, the area with the picnic tables and many other locations around the village were all well maintained. Tree planting was noted throughout the village and its environs.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The church avenue provides great scope under the heading. Your plans were noted, but have not yet come into fruition.

LITTER CONTROL

Despite all your efforts, new bins, children's involvement, etc., there was an appreciable amount of litter, even in front of the Grotto adjacent to the litter bins.

TIDINESS

The number of derelict sites, e.g. Twibbils, Brennan's Garage, the previously mentioned old corn mill, all detract from the overall tidiness. It was also noted that there was weeds and rubbish near the cut stone building with the nice stone arch on Church Avenue and also in front of the G.A.A. club-house. It is appreciated that work was in progress at the soccer grounds, but there was untidiness also and an overflowing

“wheelie bin”. The cemetery needs to be tidied.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are some very well kept houses and gardens, but some are not so. In the Midview estate the exteriors of some houses need improving.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Roads are being improved, work appears on-going, the completed areas look well, new footpaths noted. The verges were very rough on the village side of the church avenue. Nice signs “announcing” Ahascragh. Nice sign on church avenue, but street signage is not good. New lighting noted.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Despite the problems that exist, Ahascragh has made great strides and I have no doubt that with the commitment already shown, the future will be bright.