

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ATHLACCA**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	27
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	22	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	19	19
Tidiness	20	10	8
Residential Areas	30	25	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	177	171

Athlacca, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning completed entry form, sketch map and drawings of proposed developments. You are fortunate in having such co-operation from so many agencies. You should build on this. You also need to remember that tidy towns is all about community effort and that everybody must play their part. Much of the work in evidence is being done by agencies i.e. County Council, so you need to take control yourselves in carrying out the plans identified in your submission.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The public buildings are very well presented again this year. The School and Church are an important part of community life and your ability to present them to a high standard is praiseworthy. There is rubble and many empty bottles attached to the Pub in the village centre - these project and image of untidiness. The environs of the Post Office need attention. You have many fine traditional features in the village and this tradition should be reflected in new developments also.

LANDSCAPING

There is evidence of community effort with many flower beds developed. You have scope for a lot of improvement, especially at the river bridge area. Indeed, the river and environs offer great potential. There is no apparent progress on the proposed picnic area.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You could with relative ease raise your marks in this section. You have many natural features in and around the village that could contribute to the promotion and popularisation of wildlife. You need to make more of the River area. As suggested last year, you should consider the development of a wildflower area.

LITTER CONTROL

There were parcels of litter in and around the village centre. Owners of premises are expected to provide their own litter bins. However, in general, the village was free from litter. It is acknowledged that relevant to the population you have a large area to control, with many approach roads.

TIDINESS

Though the approach roads were recently trimmed, a good deal of weed growth was evident in and around the village. Many rusty farm gates need painting. In some areas these are now highlighted by painting them in a strong colour.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The old Creamery apart from the chimney has been demolished and site clearance was underway during adjudication day. The development of houses at this side will offer great scope for improvement. Make sure they are finished to a high standard and that they blend in well with the rural ethos of the village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The road surface in many parts of the village is poor, especially in the curtilage area of many buildings. The Géill Slí sign, unique to Co. Limerick, needs cleaning and the signage in general would benefit from fresh painting. Some signs are overgrown and obscured by grass growth. You still have election posters up on 7/7/99. The housing estate in the village centre is well presented and the flower display on the green is commendable.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Athlacca has potential to become a high scorer in the competition. You are endowed with an attractive river, some fine mature trees, rolling parklands and the absence of excessive traffic through the village enhances the tranquillity of this rural village. You need to bring the community with you and stick to an agreed plan. In short you need a vision for Athlacca over the next five years. Good luck in your endeavours