

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BANOQUE**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	31
The Built Environment	40	28	26
Landscaping	40	32	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	20	19
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	189	180

Banogue, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you very much for the completed questionnaire and five-year work plan both of which were very comprehensive. Banogue looked resplendent on a fine June day and one cannot but be impressed with the splendid integrated approach the community has to local development. Banogue is an excellent example of how the co-operative approach works having developed strong links with Limerick County Council, Ballyhoura Failte and other State and semi State agencies. The 5 Year Plan is practical and realistic. It is hoped that the proposed development of various walks in conjunction with Ballyhoura Failte will bring many more visitors to the area. At present people only see Banogue's charm fleetingly as they pass on the main Limerick/Cork Road. I would endorse what was stated in last year's report that an information board should be placed in the village indicating local places of interest.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The furniture in the amenity area has been upgraded and that coupled with the addition of a parking space for a disabled driver makes this an excellent stop-over facility and a focal point of the Village. The School, Church and Graveyard were presented to a very high standard. "Dores", The Garage and forecourt area and Hairdressing Salon all deserve credit for the manner in which they have maintained their premises. The same comment is applicable to private residences. There is a splendid example of beautifully kept farmhouse and yard on the road up to the Church. It is good to see that a footpath is planned from the School to Banogue Cross.

LANDSCAPING

The array of shrubs, flowers and trees ,especially the copper beech, in the amenity area were pleasing on the eye. The lovely stone flowerbed opposite Dores had been recently tended to and looked very well. The area around the old creamery building (I presume that's what it is !) near the amenity point has been tidied up. Overall there was a nice blend of shrub, trees and flowers to be seen in and around the village. Keep up the excellent effort.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It is good to see that the committee is about to develop a series of looped walks in conjunction with Ballyhoura Failte ,The Fisheries Board and other local parishes. I wish you well I in your endeavours and I will look forward to partaking in a guided walk in the future. Local landowners and residents are

to be commended for their co-operation in the hedgecutting programme that took place last autumn.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little litter to be seen on adjudication day except for a few wrappers around the Garage. The Litter Control Programme is working effectively as all residents seem to be conscious of the need to keep Banogue as litter free as possible.

TIDINESS

The standard attained under this category was very good ,back areas were tidy, weed growth was minimal and there were only a few examples of unsightly frontages. A number of private dwellings were under construction on the road to the Church which meant messy sites. I would appeal to the developers to camouflage these sites while construction is ongoing. The area containing old cars is not as bad as it was but it still needs to improve. As stated elsewhere the old creamery near the village amenity park has been improved upon and it is not the eyesore that it was a few years back.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Church View Housing Scheme was in very good order with excellently maintained gardens. The residents deserve credit for the collective effort. A nameplate identifying the area was suggested in last year's report. This does not seem to have materialised. A simple stone sign would suffice. Other residential properties in and around the village were very well maintained

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approaches on the main Limerick /Cork road were top class with verges appropriately cut back and green margins maintained in lawnlike fashion. The amenity area ,which also serves as a small car park ,enhances the entrance to the village from the Charleville side. The verges on the two side roads one to the Church and the other to Meanus/Athlacca need to be trimmed a little more. I was delighted to see that in your 5-year plan you have expressed the need for a traffic calming system at the cross. This main road as well as having a large volume of traffic is subjected to very fast driving and this is quite dangerous for villagers especially older people.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Banogue is a lovely village that improves each year. There is a concerted effort on the part of the community in general to tackle issues of concern and to ensure that the village is always seen at its best through all seasons. Well done to

everyone concerned.