

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **SHANAGOLDEN**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 21-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	24
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	32	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	28
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	200	190

Shanagolden, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for submitting the completed entry form and we wish the new Committee every success. Do thank the former Committee for their contribution to date. Your village, famous in song and story, and offering a splendid view of Ireland's best example of a Norman settlement at Shanid is unique and deserving of good presentation. If you have not already done so, you need a 3-5 year plan that will chart the way forward for the next few years. You have many attractive features and potential to become a higher scorer in the competition. You are endowed with many natural features and a hinterland attractive in every way.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Public buildings are well presented again this year. The Church, though not within the core village dominates the environs from several angles. The Parish Hall is newly painted and an example for others to pursue. The Golden Vale Stores surrounds are a mess and keeping your marks down in this section. There are some stone buildings in the village centre that add great character to the traditional features of the area. PVC doors should be avoided - especially in the village centre. The Estuary Filling Station is well presented. Doherty's garage need improved presentation.

LANDSCAPING

The village main street is a great example of how beneficial tree planting and some green areas can be. The treatment of this street is excellent and praise is due to those who had the vision when this development commenced. Well done also on the many flower displays and in particular the many individual efforts that are enhancing the village. Proceed with tree planting in the area around the Parish Hall and they will further enhance in the years ahead.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The area being cleared near the shallow river has potential for wildlife promotion. Are there plans here for an amenity area? Also the Bridge itself which has great character of stone wall building is unique and deserves highlighting. Perhaps a school project here might result in the erection of an illustrated display board featuring the wildlife species of the area. Also, on the bridge, though unrelated to wildlife, you might consider mounting a telescope that would give a close up view of Shanid Castle.

LITTER CONTROL

In general the litter control was good, with one apparent black spot - well done.

TIDINESS

Untidiness is caused by some dereliction, poorly presented commercial buildings and unattended open spaces.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

You have scored well here, the houses at Shanid Gardens and the Park View were well presented. The large grass areas near Park View are quite demanding on labour and your efforts here are commendable. Within the village centre there are many well presented residential premises that are keeping the village looking bright and colourful. Try and encourage more residents to engage in more flower planting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

You have numerous small open spaces that lend themselves to improved presentation. Try and pick some neutral areas and develop small flower displays or other such appropriate feature. Would the village consider some sculpture based on the Norman influence of the area? In your endeavours, you need to keep the rural ethos of the village to the forefront. Don't be tempted to piggy back on other out-of-character developments - that would not blend in well with the traditional features of the village.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It was a treat to spend some time in Shanagolden on such a fine day. You have much to be pleased with in this report, but some of the criticisms have been reported for some years now. Well done and good luck with the new Committee. Don't forget the phased plan for best results.