

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DOONBEG VILLAGE**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	38
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	33	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	20
Litter Control	40	30	30
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	221	213

Doonbeg, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for a most excellent comprehensive report outlining your activities and intentions. This is an admirable way of going about your work programme and the targets you have set will further improve your marks when complete. You have done well in generating interest among all age groups and the involvement of a Junior Tidy Towns Group is praiseworthy. Your challenge now is to sustain the effort and try and crack some of the long-standing black spot areas that keep recurring in each report.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

It is acknowledged that the commercial premises throughout, especially in the Mains Street are presented to a high standard. In particular, Tubridy's, Madigans, An Tinteán G.H. and Comerfords looked well. Many have attractive window boxes adding a pleasant colour to the village. The church and school as usual looked well and the Garda Station is now excellent. Your problem in this section related to poorly kept farm buildings and some unoccupied houses. Because of the farm activity within the village confines you need to pay more attention to farm buildings.

LANDSCAPING

You have worked hard on this section and the extra landscaping of recent years will enhance with the passing of time. Extra landscaping also requires extra maintenance and the lakeside amenity development is now quite a challenge to maintain. The great plethora of mature boxes, tubs, hanging baskets and small open spaces are most commendable and give great colour to the village. Indeed, this is your strong point and your ability to keep to a high standard reflects great credit on the community. You have many seating areas in attractive settings for local and visitor alike – well done.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You have scored well here also and wildlife was very much in evidence at the lake and at the seafront near the cemetery. This can be a strong point for you because you are well endowed with the necessary terrain and habitat to promote wildlife on a larger scale.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter does not seem to be a major problem and the main

street in particular was litter free on a Wednesday adjudication. Litterbins also seem adequate in numbers and are well positioned.

TIDINESS

You have numerous problems here. You have a great deal of untidy yards, small open spaces, what appears to be abandoned cars near lakeside housing estate and many farmyards below an acceptable standard. The minor approach roads are untidy and offer a view of poorly kept back yards and laneways. You will need to tackle this problem over a period.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The lakeview housing estate has slipped a little in standard. The last time this adjudicator visited this estate it was receiving a great painting clean up by the residents. Could this spirit be resurrected? Some boundary walls need painting and this could be done by the community.

ROADS, STREET AND BACK AREAS

The main street is excellent, with sensible car parking spaces marked out. The road surface is of a high quality and presents an image of cleanliness. You have problems with side and back entrances. As already mentioned approach roads are generally well kept and the Fáilte signs are excellent. You have a great deal of grass cutting to attend to and this is acknowledged in the report.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It was a delight to visit Doonbeg on a fresh July day. You have done well to raise your marks. Your strength is in the core of the village and you have strong points too with river and lakeside landscaping. Keep up the good work and try and tackle the black spot areas over a period. Good luck.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (08/08/00)

Congratulations on a really fine presentation this year and on a handsome increase in marks. The village looked wonderful on second adjudication also and your many fine amenity features were appreciated. Overall litter control was good but some litter was noted on the footpath near the O'Donellan Foodstore. The riverside park looks wonderful. Encourage residents to take responsibility for weed growth along kerbs in their own developments together with vigilance regarding the presentation of their boundary walls and areas immediately outside of these. Well done to the Junior Tidy Towns and their work on the flower beds. The new nameplates are quite impressive. Wildflowers were noted at sporadic intervals along approach roads and more

formal flower displays such as the hanging baskets on the bridge in the village were much admired. Business premises are very well presented and these include Comerfords, Madigans and of course, Tubbridys. We wish you well with the implementation of your ambitious plan and congratulate you on work achieved to date.