

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **FEAKLE**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-2000

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2000 | Mark Awarded 1999 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 33 | 32 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 29 | 28 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 27 | 25 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 17 | 16 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 27 | 27 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 11 | 12 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 22 | 21 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 27 | 27 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | 5 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 199 | 193 |

Feakle, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for completed entry form, sketch map and notes which were helpful on the day of adjudication. We note that you work with Clare County Council, FAS, ESB, Eircom and Feakle National School in your efforts to improve and develop Feakle and this is to be commended.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most buildings in Feakle were looking well including the National School, the Church and the Community Hall. The latter was being painted. The GAA Clubhouse was also well presented but some landscaping of the grounds would be beneficial here. The Rent an Irish Cottage scheme was looking excellent and the Post Office was also well presented. We note that you have plans for two stone cut buildings and this will further enhance the streetscape of the village. The new brown Eircom telephone box is in keeping with the village, as is the new signage at Lena's Pub. The work at

Smyth's Village Hotel appears to have come to a standstill and it is hoped that by next year this construction work will have been completed as this premises is a landmark building in the village. CR Smyth's shop and petrol pumps were well presented and the new wooden fencing opposite noted. However, the adjacent store, with broken windows, is very unsightly. Good stone walls were noted throughout the village, but care should be taken that these do not become overrun with ivy and brambles.

LANDSCAPING

The extended development in the Square is very impressive and gives the village a wonderful focal point. Other planting throughout the village and on the approach roads was admired. At some areas, fewer smaller tubs with not many flowers should be replaced by a couple of more beautifully planted tubs like those in the Square development. The wooden tubs seen in a few locations, and especially at the green near Pepper's pub were in bad condition. The nicely landscaped little park area at the end of the housing development past the GAA grounds was admired. So many housing estates leave this grassed area become overgrown and don't avail of the amenity at their disposal. Hanging baskets and planters provided by individuals throughout the village were admired – containers should not be made of plastic if at all possible.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

We note your fine work in developing walks in this category. Also the grassed and planted areas contribute.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter bins were noted throughout the village and there was little evidence of litter on the day. Your litter control strategies as outlined are obviously paying off. Could the litter bin at the school entrance be painted?

TIDINESS

The village presented a neat and tidy aspect except for a few areas such as the area adjacent to CR Smyth's Store; at a farmer's yard on the left hand side on the way to the RIC cottages; on the way to the walking routes and at another yard on the right on the main street. Paths and kerbs were weed free throughout.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses in Feakle and surrounds are contributing very positively to the Tidy Towns effort. It should be remembered that surround walls and gates are as important as the premises itself.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads were well cut back and signage was quite good throughout. It was noted that the visible back area of the premises opposite the new park in the Square was nicely developed.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Much has been achieved in Feakle and the village has potential to progress further in the Competition if attention is given to detail in the future.