

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEWMARKET-ON-FERGUS**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	34	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	27
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	205	201

New-Market-On-Fergus, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning completed entry form and enclosures. Your tolerance in coping with what seems to be consistent traffic is to your credit – but for the present leaves you with no choice. No doubt the wear and tear on the village core demands more regular maintenance and attention. You have outlined your problems well in the entry form. However, you have much to cherish and the many fine buildings, well kept houses and commercial developments, coupled with an excellent community spirit all combine to make Newmarket on Fergus a pleasant place to live in.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Your strong points under this section are being maintained i.e. church and school. Commercial buildings in the village are of a high standard and the many well kept premises in the village core i.e. Credit Union, Obair, McCarthy's, Rose Cottage, The Weaver's, are all contributing to the high standard achieved in this section. You also have your problems with some of the older buildings now in decline and in need of attention. Some boundary walls are in need of painting. SuperValu was well presented in this busy corner location. The G.A.A. façade is very well presented and raised the standard of this approach. The Library is poor in presentation and needs to be brightened.

LANDSCAPING

Despite the recent development work on the Ennis approach road, you have managed to protect the many rose beds here. Likewise, on the Limerick approach the landscaping and high colour is both important and praiseworthy. Because of the lengthy delays on this approach, drivers get ample time to view the work that has been done on this approach over the years. The landscaping around the church is excellent and the attractive lime trees are presenting a very positive image for this area. Your weakness is on the approach from Kilnasoolagh Church, which is poor in presentation and not getting the attention it deserves. The apparently abandoned cars on this approach are regrettable. The flower display at Ballycar Junction is excellent. Could you upgrade the one near Kilnasoolagh Church.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The little river at the bridge, though small in size is important to the village. It is also prone to litter disposal and

despite your efforts, many beer cans could be seen on adjudication day. The area along the lower river walk is very colourful. The river walk to the green areas on the opposite side has not been finished. The path here is under some sort of development and needs a good surface finish. This area has potential for much improvement. You also have potential for some wildlife promotion here and you should contact your local I.W.C. Officer for advice.

LITTER CONTROL

You have a big challenge here to get the Community backing you. The litter control at Kilnasoolagh Estate is poor and much improvement is needed here. The large green area here was freshly cut and well presented but the litter was profusive. Litter control on the approach roads and in the village core was good.

TIDINESS

You have maintained your marks here. Your problems here relate to small unattended open spaces and the entrance to some building sites. As mentioned last year you need to control the weed growth in some areas.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

You have some excellent housing estates and some have very attractive entrances i.e. Avondale. The small housing estate beside the church excels. Many new houses are under construction and owners should be encouraged to landscape well after completion. The housing estate off the Ballycar Road is very well presented. In general, you have done well under this section and many individuals are setting the pace for others to follow.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The car park opposite Fr. Murphy Park needs improvement. It should be landscaped if feasible. Some boundary walls on the Limerick side would benefit from fresh painting, despite the high traffic throughput. The street structure is good throughout and the road surface is well maintained. It is good to see so many well built stone walls, in keeping with the traditions of the county. Try and match these with adequate tree and shrub planting, together with grassed areas if energy permits. The ideal is a generous mix of each.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

You are coping well with the constant traffic and the village looked colourful on adjudication day. Your task now is to get a fuller commitment from the community in respect of

litter control.