

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **SHANNON**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	42
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	21
Litter Control	40	27	27
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	220	216

Shannon, County Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning completed entry form, together with map and details of work in hand and work planned. You are to be complimented for your close association with the various agencies like Clare County Council, Shannon Town Commissioners and SFADCo. You are unique in your position of overseeing a huge area where there are more employed than there are resident. You have the advantages of a new town, where dereliction is virtually non-existent and the challenges of a town that continues to expand.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Public buildings like churches, schools, Garda Station, and Health Centre all looked well again this year. However, the sign outside the Health Centre needs replacing. The Garda Station has improved since last year with fresh painting making it more attractive. The E.S.B. is particularly well landscaped and projects an attractive image at this important site. Halla an Bhaile would benefit from landscaping. The chainlink fencing beside the Fire Station should be removed. There are many excellently presented buildings throughout the Industrial Estate and a plethora of new buildings under construction. It is hoped that the new developments will be finished with attractive landscaping. The Hotels are very well presented and attractively embellished with colourful landscaping.

LANDSCAPING

You have maintained the excellent standard set many years ago. In general, grass cutting is good and well under control. The vast amount of tree planting – going back many years continues to present a high degree of landscaping. The town park is superb and a wonderful local amenity. The tennis court is now in need of new fencing in this strategic location. Perhaps the time has come to demolish the adjoining building which is now a black spot.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The many attractive walks through woodland and on the estuary offer great scope for wildlife. Some illustrated display boards would further inform people of the various wildlife species of the area. Consider this in association with a schools project.

LITTER CONTROL

While it is accepted you have tremendous wear and tear on the town structure you still need to manage your litter control. There was much evidence of well grassed areas with litter strewn about. The litter bin (which needs to be replaced) outside Ace Caps was overflowing on a Tuesday adjudication.

TIDINESS

In general, Shannon town is very much beyond the normal standard. As mentioned earlier, you have no dereliction and no black spots of serious concern. The approach roads are very good and the approach from Newmarket on Fergus to the main round about has improved a little. The road up to the Airport is clean and tidy and the great amount of tree planting of previous years is praiseworthy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Shannon town is an ideal centre for active resident associations to play a positive part in Tidy Towns. Your work with the residents is commendable and of course necessary. Again, this year the houses at Tullyvarraga Hill were excellent. The individual effort at No. 32 Corrib Drive excels. You have a problem with signage that needs cleaning or in some cases replacement. Because of the tree growth some signs are now obliterated and cannot be seen. The Authority responsible for signage should carry out a survey (in June-July when there is full bloomage) and list signs needing attention.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The road structure in Shannon is excellent and well maintained. The traffic growth has taken the fun out of driving through the town and some local traffic is excessive in speed. Side and back entrances are not a problem throughout and blend in well with the town's environs.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The town looked well on adjudication day. Like all progressive towns, there is a great deal of new developments underway and out of necessity these developments cause disruption in the short term. Well done on a good performance.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (09/08/00)

Shannon town looked well again on the day of our second visit. Litter control is good, but there is still some room for improvement. Areas which need attention in particular include the area immediately outside of Supermacs in the

shopping centre and the grass verge near the Texaco station. Perhaps Supermacs would take responsibility for the area immediately outside of their store as it is noted that they have a sponsored litter bin on this site. Your acres of grass verges were presented to the highest of standards and were a pleasure to witness. These were complemented nicely by a variety of semi-mature and mature trees. The new planted containers were noted, well done. The wire netting near the Fire Station should be planted with a climbing plant for year round interest. A large tract of land boasting a variety of wild flowers and grasses near Glen na Smol was appealing. It is suggested that your nature walks and wildlife areas are identified and signposted, both for adjudication purposes and of course, for the public. These were difficult to find during adjudication. Your town park should have formal seated amenity areas in view from the public road as an invitation to enjoy this facility, children's play areas should also be a feature. Shannon town is still developing as is evidenced by the substantial amount of construction work on-going during adjudication. We look forward to many repeat visits when we can enjoy the fruits of this work.