

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LISCARROLL**
County : **CORK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 30-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	17
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	23	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	195	191

Liscarroll, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Liscarroll is a pleasantly located village in a quiet rural area. Active participation in the Tidy Towns Competition by the local community could enhance the village very considerably. However to achieve real progress, it will be necessary for the community in conjunction with the Community Council to draw up a development plan for the village. At the time of entry for this year's Competition, it was indicated that a development plan would be submitted but this has not been received. The community is therefore urged to work on this for the coming year. It would be advisable to prepare a plan covering a three to five year period; improvements could then be carried out on a priority and orderly basis.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Like most villages, this village has a variation of buildings, some of which look very well. The castle is an imposing building and is no doubt a dominant landmark in the village and surrounding countryside. The Catholic Church is also an impressive building and it and the adjoining grounds are well maintained. The door of the Garda Station and the surrounding wall were in need of repainting. Also the gate leading to the Garda Station was badly rusted and also in need of repainting. The National School building and adjoining area were neatly presented. The business premises through the village, including the Post Office look well; many of the buildings in the village were brightly painted, giving a pleasant overall effect. The Liscarroll Community Centre premises, formerly the old Liscarroll National School, was well maintained.

LANDSCAPING

Flower planting was noted in different areas around the village. Such planting on approach roads and other areas throughout the village was colourful; for example at the place name sign for the village on the Mallow road. The shrubbery/flower planting near the Community Centre enhances this area. The flower planting along the street from the Post Office was particularly attractive and well attended to. It was also noted that colourful window boxes, hanging baskets and flower tubs were used to quite good effect in many areas of the village. It is suggested that your plan for the future might include planting of a more permanent nature i.e. tree planting etc. The Village Green area is a focal point in the village and the variation of plants and flowers, which have been planted here, provides considerable colour.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The stream in the vicinity of the village green could provide a suitable habitat for some species of wildlife. Being located in a rural area, there is no doubt there is a considerable natural habitat in the entire vicinity around the village. This includes mature trees in some areas, which provide habitat for other wildlife species. It may be advantageous for the Community Council in this instance too, to seek the advice of the regional representative of the wildlife authorities when drawing up a plan for future activities. Though located outside the village area, the refuge sanctuary provided for donkeys near Lisscarroll, in the opinion of this adjudicator merits reference here. It is an interesting and unique venture whereby a large number of these animals are cared for in a most humane manner. The sanctuary is in fact a valuable asset to the area since it is now not only nationally but also internationally renowned.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter poses a problem for many competing centres throughout the country. It is a persistent problem and very definite measures need to be taken to combat the problem. The litter situation in this village is disappointing and needs to be dealt with. One of the first essentials in dealing with this problem is to create an awareness amongst the entire community. This, having been done, the next step is to provide a supply of litter bins at various vantage points throughout the village. The village at present is virtually without litter bins – there was a broken bin attached loosely to a pole near the approach to the castle. There was also an old broken litter bin attached to a pole at the junction in the vicinity of the Post Office. In other areas of the village, there were improvised and make shift litter bins, disused oil drums some dilapidated such as that at the Garda Station. These should be disposed of and replaced as they do not conform to an acceptable standard. It was noted that the car park near the school was quite tidy. Also that area in the centre of the village main street area was free of litter. However there was litter in many other areas such as the village green, approach roads, the car park adjoining the Community Centre etc.

TIDINESS

In this category also, there is considerable scope for improvement. That area between the entrance to Pairc na nGael Lios Uí Cearruill and the Community Centre building was quite untidy. The area around the Paddy O' Brien Memorial Abbey – Pinniur Cuimhneachain Phadraig Uí Briain, Lisscarroll Handball Club was untidy; down to the premises at the front and rear were in need of repainting and there was also grass and weed growth on the gutter of

the building. The memorial across from the church was well maintained and the area adjoining quite tidy. The area in the vicinity of the disused creamery was untidy with weed and grass growth in the immediate vicinity. The area in the vicinity of Lisscarroll Milk Tanks was tidy. Streets in the vicinity of shops, Post Office and other premises in the centre of the village were quite tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Householders in and around the village contribute well to this aspect of the Competition. Houses and gardens in many approach roads were tastefully presented. The gardens, in many instances, were colourful and well attended to. Residents in the village, where gardens were not attached, used hanging baskets, window boxes etc. very effectively.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The stone walls which have been built in many areas of the village look well. One such wall is on the Mallow approach but there was a considerable amount of grass and weed growth along the base of the wall and this would need to be watched for the future. Also the stone walls in the vicinity of the village green looked very well. The Charleville approach road was reasonably tidy but some litter was noted along the grass verge. The Kanturk approach was also reasonable. However, a disappointing feature throughout the whole village was the very poor state of virtually all traffic signs, poles etc. In many cases, these were badly rusted and very much in need of replacing or repainting; problems such as this should be brought to the attention of the Local Authority. The old water pump near the Post Office has been retained and was brightly painted. Maps, giving details of attractions in the vicinity of Lisscarroll and which have been mounted permanently at a number of points throughout the village are a good idea. The ramp access, which has been constructed at the Community Centre is to be commended.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The Community Council deserves the support of the whole community in the efforts, which they are making for success in the Competition. It is to be hoped that such support will be forthcoming. Also other organisations in the village should also be supporting these efforts. It is hoped that observations made in this report will be of assistance in making progress for the future.