

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ROSTELLAN-FARSID**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	35
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	22
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	205	198

Rostellan Farsid, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The village has consistently maintained a good standard in the Tidy Towns Competition over a number of years. This year the village looks very well and residents obviously take a pride in their surroundings. The village is located in a very scenic setting and this is a very valuable asset and one, which the local community is conscious of. The Development Association, together, with the support of the local community should continue with the work, which has brought the village to its present very good standard.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The village stretches over a considerably long area and throughout this stretch, the buildings generally are of a very good standard. The standard of business premises including licensed premises, the Newsagent's shop and the nearby Antique Shop were all very well presented. The buildings in the village are in many instances enhanced not only by refurbishing but also by use of colourful window boxes, hanging baskets etc., giving overall a very pleasant effect.

LANDSCAPING

A very good standard of landscaping prevails throughout the village but particularly on main approach roads. Also the planting and good maintenance of large flower beds within the village area make a very good impact. The large green areas throughout the village were neatly trimmed and well attended to. The mature forest plantation in the vicinity provides a fine backdrop for the landscaping work, which has been carried out in the village over more recent years.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENTITIES

This is an important aspect of the Competition and the community in Rostellan Farsid is very fortunate in having excellent wildlife habitats e.g. lake, woodland etc. in such close proximity to the village. The efforts, which have been made in recent times in relation to the protection of the threatened species, the Common Tern are to be welcomed and the various bodies already acknowledged in the plaque at the lakeside are to be complimented on their efforts. The explanatory Display Boards relating to wildlife in the vicinity are both informative and educational. At the time of adjudication, a pair of swans and seven cygnets were at the water's edge – a most pleasant sight. It is difficult to

understand why the protection measures for the area's wildlife, which have obviously been requested now over a number of years, have not yet been provided. The Development Association and the local community should persist with their efforts in this regard. The provision and good maintenance of the Rostellan Lake Birdwatch Hut is an excellent idea and should encourage wildlife enthusiasts to visit the area.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control throughout the village seemed satisfactory. The provision of litter bins at various points throughout the village was noted. The Association and community should continue to maintain this position. Creating an awareness of litter in a community is an important start in combating the problem.

TIDINESS

The level of tidiness noted in the village in previous years, is well maintained. An encouraging aspect is that areas of attraction such as the People's Path and the amenity area near the lakeside are very tidy. The entrance to Pairc Ui Riain was somewhat improved this year but this area could be better maintained and the green and white barrier at the entrance would need to be repainted. Also the pole for the fingerpost sign for this amenity (Aghada GAA) in the village is in need of repainting.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Throughout the village, householders continue to present their houses and gardens in a satisfactory manner. Where gardens are attached, they are colourful and well maintained. Similarly, window boxes and hanging baskets are used to very good effect; a good example of this is on the street beyond "The Rostellan" – here the row of houses are beautifully presented with a lot of natural colour provided by window boxes etc. Houses and gardens on approach roads were also very nicely presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The poles for the speed limit signs on the Whitegate approach road would need to be repainted. The erection of plaques relating to the old Potato Mill and the People's Path is a great initiative. Also the plaque located in another area of the village relating to Rostellan Castle provides interesting information. Graffiti was noted on a wall surrounding a house near the telephone kiosk at the Cork side of the village.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village is steadily improving in the Competition and if the efforts, which have been made heretofore, are maintained in the future, further progress can be made. A good foundation has now been laid.