

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ABBEYFEALE**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	20	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	184	182

Abbeyfeale, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the completed entry form although there is no evidence included that you are working to a specific plan.

I feel that is important to do so if progress is to be made in the competition and indeed such a plan could feed into an Urban Renewal Programme which is something that the town could benefit from.

I am sure Limerick County Council have been approached to set the wheels in motion to initiate proposals for a town development plan.

There are many attractive features in the town but to be honest these are matched by too many negatives; congested traffic, no parking format and other issues like an unacceptable level of dereliction.

It has been a number of years since this adjudicator visited Abbeyfeale and I feel that it has not got the same attention as other towns like Newcastlewest and Kilmallock

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There are some fine examples of well-presented public buildings and grounds and credit must go to those responsible for the upkeep of same.

It is a pity that some of the finest examples of traditional shop fronts to be seen anywhere in the country are falling into disrepair, hopefully this can be redressed.

For instance "Tobins" Cinema and two town houses across the street should be restored with sensitivity instead of being in the same state as they were some years back.

Again one has to appreciate that there may be underlying issues outside the control of any committee.

The Square Area left a lot to be desired, the road surface was very uneven and the condition of the memorial to Fr. Casey was poor to say the least. Some effort should be made to tidy it up and make it more presentable.

On the positive side there was some very well kept commercial premises and private residences

"Pat O Leary Bar and Catering Equipment" was an excellent example of a new building tastefully designed and decorated.

"David Ward & Co Accountants" also was very well presented and in keeping with the architecture of a rural town.

"McEnerys Bar " with old style Guinness sign , "David's and Anne's" with Kerry and Limerick coat of arms and " Jack O Rourkes" caught the eye.

Credit to the local GAA Club Fr Casey's for the manner in which the Grounds are presented.

LANDSCAPING

The Fr Casey monument, as well as being refurbished, could benefit from a well thought out landscape arrangement.

The suggestion that it should be moved may not be feasible so it is up to the Committee to help mobilise other organisations to draw up a plan to upgrade this fine memorial.

The shrubbery adjacent to the Church is well maintained as were a number of individual arrangements around the town.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It was noted that a development is proposed for the town park. If so, why not involve local school children both primary and post primary to help put together a plan.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was a little mixed on the day of adjudication. Some areas were litter free but there was too much evident around the square.

It is important that measures be undertaken to promote anti-litter awareness in the community at all times.

TIDINESS

Again there were a number of unattended open spaces that are a little overgrown and with some effort could be improved.

The weed control was quite good with a few exceptions, most notably at the previously mentioned Fr Casey Memorial.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category was very good with individual premises presented to a high standard with some attractive gardens.

Communal areas were also well maintained and there was easy access to the main core of the town.

New developments such as "Cedarville" will be a major addition to the town when fully completed.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main approach roads from Limerick and Killarney were well presented with verges cut back and some impressive residences giving an overall appealing look as one enters the town.

The approach road from Mountcollins was a bit untidy and the road surface was very uneven.

The Athea approach road was in an acceptable condition as was the road to Listowel.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is hard for a committee of 12 people to mobilise such a large community to help the Tidy Towns effort but there are a number of positive improvements since this adjudicator last visited the town.

Keep the pressure on to ensure that negative issues, such as an unacceptable level of dereliction, are tackled. If there is an improvement, no matter how small, by next year well, that's progress.