

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MURROE**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	34
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	33	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	22	24
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	25	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	212	214

Murroe, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the completed application with attached map and note indicating that village plan will follow at a later stage.

It is important to make sure that the plan to be submitted outlines, not necessarily in minute detail, a programme of work that is both practical and achievable.

Such a plan makes the job of the adjudicator that bit easier and also in the long term benefits the village as it lays down benchmarks to aim for.

Getting the support of Limerick County Council and Shannon Development for your proposed plan is also a positive step.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The standard in this sector was good and it was noticeable that the new buildings under construction were in keeping with the original architecture of the village.

Murroe is like many small rural villages in that it has a mixture of public buildings, business premises, private residences and farmhouse residences that make up the streetscape.

For the most part shop fronts were in context although there are still one or two who persist with plastic signs.

Some buildings were in need of maintenance and in reality there is only so much that any Tidy Towns Committee can do by means of encouragement it is really down to individual dwelling holders to do the needful

The Church and National School were in excellent condition; the school wall murals are a very nice addition.

The personnel who are responsible for both these buildings upkeep deserve a special word of praise.

The GAA Club, somewhat unique in that its clubhouse is in a central part of the village, deserves credit for its contribution to the Tidy Towns effort.

The Credit Union building is augmented by a nice floral arrangement and there are some very well presented business premises and private dwellings.

The monument and the kerb surround needs to be revitalised, as it looked a little forlorn.

LANDSCAPING

The essence of any good landscaping arrangement is to make sure that it enhances the immediate area and that it is easily managed.

The sitting and choice of shrubs and flowers around the village is commendable but unfortunately some of the arrangements were a little cluttered, these need to be

thinned out.

There were some very good examples of private floral displays to be seen and the owners who painstakingly tend same are showing the way for others.

There are a number of communal areas in the village and its environs some well maintained some not so good.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The wooded amenity park and walk is a natural haven for different forms of wildlife.

The Committee should if at all possible should put forward the idea of a special wildlife project involving the National School.

I have no doubt that the children would embrace this idea and bring it to fruition with enthusiasm.

Also enlist the support the help of the Local Authority wildlife officer or equivalent.

LITTER CONTROL

Despite the best efforts of Committees all over the country to engage in litter education programmes with other organisations and schools the message is taking a long time to sink in.

Unfortunately the standard of litter control in Murroe on adjudication day was not good; there were pockets of litter evident on a number of approach roads, in the centre of the village and especially at the entrance to Gilmartin Park.

There is only so much any voluntary organisation such as a Tidy Town Committee and do, it is really down individuals to show personal pride in their town/village by coming to grips with this problem.

TIDINESS

In general the standard was quite good but as was the case in litter control there were a few glaring examples of gross untidiness.

The condition of the public phone box near the entrance to Gilmartin Park was disgraceful and it is certainly not something that one associates with such an attractive and historic village like Murroe. Thankfully the majority of residents have an immense pride of place.

Some road signs need to be cleaned or in a few cases replaced by new ones, time to involve Limerick County Council who are responsible for same.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

One has to be sensitive when highlighting residential areas either for commendation or indeed criticism the objective for any adjudicator is to be as fair as possible.

The overall standard under the various headings was quite

good with the exception of one particular area which has disimproved in general terms over the last number of years. I would hope that the Committee can address issues that may be contributing to general fall of in standards occurring within this area.

It would only take a little encouragement and a bit of local endeavour to get it back on track again

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads were for the most part well presented with consideration having been made for the proper preservation of wildlife.

The Clare Glens Road entrance was as usual very imposing complemented by the Glenstal Entrance with its mature trees.

The School Road was good with grass margins trimmed in accordance with guidelines for nurturing of wildlife species.

The Cappamore Road was a little untidy with grass cuttings on the roadside

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A visit to Murroe, both because of its attractiveness and history, is always a pleasure.

It takes considerable effort to ensure that Villages such as Murroe are seen at their best all year round.

The Committee is to be commended and anything of a critical nature written under previous headings is meant only to serve as a motivational spur.