

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLONEYGOWAN**  
County : **OFFALY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 15-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	21
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	26	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	36	36
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	5	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>188</b>

## **Cloneygowan, County Offaly**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your completed application and the outline of both projects in hand and future projects. We wish you well with the development of the two St. John Wells and agree that these will be a fine tourist attraction.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Post Office looks well together with the Health Centre, the latter looks as though it had been recently painted. The school building and grounds look wonderful but the boundary wall could be seriously upgraded. Has the future for Gormans shop been decided upon yet? The old hall opposite the school looks in need of a coat of paint, no doubt this will be accomplished in the near future. Both Donals and Murphys are being well maintained, however, the plastic neon sign on the latter might be replaced. The whitewashed farm outbuildings beside the Post Office complement the rural setting of Cloneygowan.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The central green is beautifully landscaped with a variety of trees, some mature, some semi-mature, some young and beautiful shrubs and rosebeds. The seating arrangement is appealing. There is not a whole lot more to be done to the village green, so we are interested in your plans to improve it further, do send us details.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

A good place to start under this heading would be to identify the various habitats in the immediate environs of the village and to do a species count of wildlife. The purpose of this category in the competition is to heighten awareness of the wildlife of the area and to take any necessary steps to protect it. Another suitable project might be to either develop a wildflower garden or a wildflower meadow or to feature wildflowers on the verges of approach roads. Hedgerow along the Portarlington road looks as though it is being reasonably well managed although there does seem to be an over abundance of goose grass which should be eliminated as it is so invasive as to inhibit the growth of other plant life.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was very good in the village during adjudication, well done. Do keep us informed of your litter management activities, so that these can be taken into account.

## **TIDINESS**

There were no major problems under this heading. Ensure that all sprayed weeds are removed as they can look unsightly lining kerbs and the base of walls etc. Good luck with your efforts regarding derelict properties.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The majority of properties in the village are single storey residential dwellings. Most are well presented, some of course need some attention to their boundary walls.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Have you made representations to the local authority and the ESB and Eircom regarding the ducting of service cables? Do let us know how you get on with this. Most items of street furniture are reasonably well presented. The imaginative use of tractor tyres on the Geashill approach was admired. All roads to the village were neatly presented at their roadside verges.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The overall impression of Cloneygowan is extremely favourable both in the presentation of approach roads and in the village centre. Good luck with your plans for the future.