

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CASTLEREA**  
County : **ROSCOMMON**  
Category : **D**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	34
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	30	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	27	29
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>207</b>

## **Castlerea, County Roscommon**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Welcome to the 2000 Tidy Towns Competition and thank you once again for your completed entry form and map. It is obvious that you are working very well with your local authorities i.e. Co. Council, FAS, Town Trust and others. Now you have established a focal point in the town centre you should work out in each direction from there. A plan of what you propose to achieve over the next three years should be drawn up in co-operation with the above mentioned groups. This would also be helpful for next year's adjudicator. This does not need to be an expensive or elaborate plan.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The New Square Market Area development is very attractive. Market House looks good but the wall at the right side of the building has some weeds growing on it and the sheeting is a bit unsightly compared to the other side. The garage looks nice and tidy. A couple of the pumps would benefit from having their covers replaced. The Railway Station needs to be painted and the black tank on the roof of Hall's Kitchen/Bar should be screened off. The door and windows of the green building at the same junction also needs attention. The old Toyota Garage and forecourt is unsightly.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There is evidence of weeds along the kerbside, along boundary walls and also around some of the beautiful flower beds and road signs. The builder's yard near the bridge should be shielded from public view. There are a lot of nice flower beds, window boxes and hanging baskets on view. The school and garda station look well. The front wall and hanging basket bracket of the building joined on to the town side of the station needs a little touching up. Unfortunately there are still a number of unsightly buildings to be seen at the entrance from the Williamstown direction. Some lawns and grass verges need to be cut. Stone walls across from the green area (uncut) need to be repaired. The flower beds, boxes and hanging baskets look attractive at the Western Health Board. I noted a number of flower beds along this road as yet unplanted.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The new children's play area, car park, new green area and tree planting look very well. There was plenty of wild bird

activity while I was in the Demesne and Park area. I didn't see any evidence of bird tables etc. It appeared that one of the seats is missing across the river. The planting in this area is good. Just watch out for the weeds in the flower beds and the litter. The footpath leading through the wooded area could be smoother and the moss growing on it could make it slippery in wet weather. This whole area is a great asset to the town.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

There appeared to be plenty of litter bins around the town but there was still litter in the following areas - around Clancy's Pumps, green area on both sides leading down to the swimming pool, bridge area, through the Demesne and around the Bank of Ireland car park. The Main Street was relatively litter free.

## **TIDINESS**

There is still room for improvement in this area. Something appears to be tearing out the fresh moss peat from the base of the trees in the Square. This is a very busy area and I was very impressed by the manner in which the motorists used the newly marked out bays correctly keeping the bay for the disabled free. The entrance gate, railings and sign leading to the Demesne need to be painted as also do the swimming pool sign and white chains along the roadway. The grass and shrubs around the pool area need to be cut. The industrial units in this area need to be tidied up. I noted the planning application at Finola Foods Ltd. When this work is completed this corner should be much improved. The bottle and clothes banks were overflowing. The unsightly tank at the side of Statoil and the flag pole and statue outside the Church need to be painted. The derelict buildings are still a problem.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most of the residential areas are well maintained. This is evident in the hedge and lawn trimming, nice flower beds and hanging baskets. There is still evidence of neglect in the usual areas - edges of footpaths and boundary walls for example and the grass verge at the wall at the back of the Health Centre.

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

The owners of the derelict buildings and vacant sites should be pressurised to clean them up even if they are not planning to develop them yet. The area around the bottle banks and mart car park need attention. Some premises have grass growing out of their eave gutters. The gas and oil tanks behind the Church could be screened off.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

A very busy town with friendly people. A lot of work carried out noticeably around the market area. This is a beautiful focal point so look after it! As mentioned last year in your adjudicator's report, a three year plan would be most beneficial for both the committee and the rest of the community. Try to discourage plastic signs where possible. You have a beautiful town so try to maintain it to the highest possible standard. Watch the litter in the areas mentioned and keep pressure on the owners of derelict buildings and undeveloped sites to clean them up.