

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **FENOR**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	29
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	23	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	18
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	197	184

Fenor, County Waterford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

A really impressive Development Plan for 2000-2004, which contains project timescales – not always included in other plans which we have seen. You may find that you do not always meet every end-of- year deadline, but as each project has been clearly targeted it can be moved into the following year and not lost sight of. It is a convention in the Tidy Towns Competition that judging takes place in the area between the 30 MPH signs (or between the town name signs) without assuming responsibility outside these signs; in your case, where initiatives cover a comparatively large tract of country, additional recognition is of course given. Your maps, the bog conservation document and the list of walks in the neighbourhood, display a highly motivated sense of enterprise. Community involvement is very much apparent.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church, the Parochial House and the School, in their neat grounds, were admired. The arch at Mother McHugh's, which appeared to have been recently improved, is an attractive feature. The pub itself is very nicely kept. (Major wall building is considered under 'Roads, etc.' below.)

LANDSCAPING

The wall plantings have become an attractive feature; they will take a great deal of annual maintenance. Shrubs and new beds were favourably noted. Your tree-planting programme, however, is of special interest, both for its extent and for the judicious choice of species. This far-sighted and long-term development will begin to show its worth in a surprisingly short time.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is the category in which Fenor really comes into its own. The conservation of the bogland so immediately adjacent to the village and main road, the provision of discreet access, the creation of the pond as an encouragement to wild life, the planting of appropriate trees, and the identification of walks in the neighbourhood, encompassing interesting natural and archaeological features as well as the animal and bird life to be encountered, all combine to disclose an exceptionally high level of understanding, entrepreneurial skill and sheer hard work. Fenor will be entered for the Heritage Award this year. It may be that the judges will decided on a location where the project is further advanced into its lifespan.

LITTER CONTROL

Your programme has proved effective again. Congratulations. It seems patronising to add 'keep up the good work', but as you well know these achievements do not come easily.

TIDINESS

The absence of commercial development, factories and housing estates make the task easier under this heading. Kerbside and other weed growth was at a minimum. When work in progress on wall building and related projects has been completed, the village will be tidier still.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

As noted above, there is no housing in the accepted sense. The few houses in the village are for the most part well kept, though freshening up with paint is needed here and there.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Surfaces are reasonably good. The car park was smooth, weed and litter free, on adjudication day. The principal development is of course the walls, where work was abundantly in progress. The varying types – drystone and cemented – provide an interesting visual as well as technical contrast. The extent of this work, from roadsides to GAA park, is very impressive indeed. The completion of these walls is greatly looked forward to, in due course. Signage of all kinds is attractive – informative and well designed, using good materials.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

While the village is very small indeed, the effort put into the developments mentioned above and those which are planned, far exceeds what might normally be expected. This is reflected in the unusually high increase in marks given.