

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLONMELLON**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	35
The Built Environment	40	27	28
Landscaping	40	32	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	28	31
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	17	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	29
General Impression	10	6	7
TOTAL MARK	300	203	208

Clonmellon, County Westmeath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Clonmellon is welcome to the first Tidy Towns Competition of the third millennium. A lot of work has been achieved for the village since this adjudicator last visited and there was many welcome developments, particularly in the area of landscaping. However there is still a lot of work remaining to be accomplished. You give no details in your application of what stage you are at in the implementation of your development plan. It is important to send in a summary of your development plan and to indicate your present position in relation to your objectives. The village has a wide street and a market square (which seems to be closed to the public), however it lacks a pedestrian focus. Outlying areas are landscaped beautifully.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The main street is a handsome wide street with a combination of both single and two storey buildings. There is probably more scope for developing a pedestrian focus and for additional seating. The old market square looks interesting, however it is a pity it is not open to the public. There are many well presented buildings, however a number of commercial properties need greater enclosure to their curtilage yards. Some shops need to change their signage also as the plastic neon fascia signs are outdated as well as being unattractive. The 'Clonmellon Arms' is an important building in the townscape as it is a key focal point and should always be presented to the highest of standards. At the time of adjudication, it was in need of refurbishment of its roadside façade.

LANDSCAPING

It was good to note the hawthorn hedge planted along the timber post fencing opposite the 'Renault' centre on the Killskyre road. This could be extended to the roadside of the palisade fencing of the machinery and vehicle yards. Trees along the main street are maturing well. The graveyard looks well, however its roadside walls may need to be touched up soon, or cleaned. Landscaped areas and the tree lined approach road of the Kells road and entrance to Clonmellon are magnificent in their presentation, well done to those concerned, both in their design, development and maintenance. The picnic area and other landscaped areas at Killrush Lodge looked really well also, however litter control wasn't that strong at the picnic area. A beautiful hawthorn tree was still in flower at the time of adjudication.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You give no details under this heading in your application. There are any number of possible projects ranging from wild flower displays to bird boxes to habitat surveys and zoning. Consult your Tidy Towns Handbook for more ideas.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was weak in a few areas along the main street, but most notably around the 'Burger Hut'. Other weak areas in terms of litter control were near the entrance to the new housing development and the picnic site at Kilrush Lodge.

TIDINESS

Slate Row, although charming has lost some of its appeal due to the condition of some units. Their future is probably very much in doubt now, in the face of the adjacent development. Weed growth along kerbs on the main street is unacceptable and that at the base of the wall of the Health Centre looked really bad.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Construction work on the Killskyre road beside "Slate Row" suggests residential units, hopefully these will complement the existing architectural character and ambience of Clonmellon. A green open space in the smaller residential development on the Killanon road was overgrown during the adjudication, the old litter bin here was knocked over and was almost invisible under the long grass. Town houses looked well for the most part.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The southern entrance from Delvin to the town looked well, however the nameplate was slightly defaced. Both the nameplate and the speed limit signs on the Killskyre road were so dirty as to be almost illegible.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of Clonmellon is very favourable at first sight, e.g. on approach roads and at entrances to the main street, however the village centre is a little disappointing.