

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLONAKILTY**
County : **CORK**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	46	45
The Built Environment	40	36	35
Landscaping	40	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	25
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	25	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	34	34
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	260	258

Clonakilty, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your extremely detailed submission. Your map was clear and extremely useful on the day. The report in relation to riverside areas, pedestrian routes and open spaces certainly made for very interesting reading. The high level of support and enthusiasm that you have established in the town is all too apparent to the visitor.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the buildings both public and commercial looked as well cared for (as ever) on adjudication day. Of particular note for their charm and presentation were the following: McCarthy's Veterinary Clinic on the Western Road, The West Cork Museum and its well kept grounds, Centra, Macehitter's with its window boxes and hanging baskets, The Brass Razoo on Kent Street and the National School in orange and green on O'Rahilly Street. Minor points of contention were the railings to the Catholic Church which were quite stained with green algae, the staining beneath flagpoles and gutter brackets on the Town Hall and a broken window to the upper levels of Tully's Bookmakers. There is a good use of the Irish language in terms of premises such as Ostán uí Donnabháin, An Súgan and De Barra's. The new development to the Credit Union using vertical hung slate (the traditional West Cork construction method) and its circular feature and incorporated foot bridge should certainly add to the appearance of Kent Street.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping throughout was well maintained. Emmet Square was as charming as ever with its central water feature and stone wall surround with the simply presented green. The hanging baskets and window boxes throughout the town in particular to the Brewery Bar, the Library and County Council, and Macehitter's add greatly to the appearance of the town. The Croppy Road area in the vicinity of Clonakilty Bay was extremely well maintained, as was the grotto on the Cork Road. The attractive displays at the welcome signs on approach roads were also admired. The Chateaulin Orchard was not presented to the same high standard and this is covered elsewhere in this report.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The central riverside area is a marvellous asset to the town – the adjudicator was concerned to note some unidentified white effluent coming from a pipe into the river on Kent Street. The signage displays recording the marine life in Clonakilty Bay on Kent Street were greatly admired.

LITTER CONTROL

The main streets were generally free of litter on adjudication day. However approach roads were not as well maintained. Several papers, bags and cartons were evident on the Rosscarbery Road. More litter was apparent by the phone box adjacent to the shopping center on the Cork side of the town and more litter evident on the Cork Road itself.

TIDINESS

An unfortunate yard area at Wood Brook on the Rosscarbery side of the town displayed a planning notice so, hopefully, this will be developed in the not too distant future. Another yard area opposite the Court Offices displayed a "for sale" sign and again it is to be hoped that this will be developed as a construction site in the not too distant future or more successfully screened from public view. Advertising hoardings should be discouraged as they give a very cluttered appearance to the town and approach roads. The archway adjacent to the gallery on Wolfe Tone Street looked quite unfortunate. Chateaulin Orchard had unfortunate outbreaks of broken glass and rubbish and gates were quite scratched. Weeds were also in evidence.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

New developments such as Woodlands and Inis Síoda appear quite vernacular in nature and in keeping with the character of the village. More houses were in progress on the Western Road. The raised gardens on this road with their stone wall bases add greatly to the presentation of this approach to the town. The attractive town houses on McCurtain Street were well presented – with mature trees to one side of the road. Assumption Place and its open area to the front looked extremely well, as did the terraced houses on Casement Street which were quite charming.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main approach roads to the town were presented to a reasonable standard on adjudication day. The grass verges were reasonably presented on the Rosscarbery Road, but the town nameplate on this side appeared quite grubby, as did that on the Cork Road which was quite badly stained with green algae growth. This latter road was presented to a higher standard with its attractive grassy banks, trees and floral displays. Directional signs on the Croppy Road appeared quite faded and the street nameplate to Kent Street was quite flaky.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Clonakilty is an attractive and busy town with a wealth of visitors. It appeared to be presented to its usual high standard on adjudication day!

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/01)

On our second visit the Bandon approach in particular looked

very well apart from the vacant site at the roundabout. Please do try to rid the town of advertising hoardings. Once again the bright colours glistening in the sunlight created a jovial and prosperous air. The amenity areas were all being well used. Very little litter was evident, a commendable achievement in view of the number of people about. The back parts of the town have steadily improved in recent times. You are clearly well aware of the remaining black spots - expansive yards, etc. We wish you well with your future endeavours!