

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DRIMOLEAGUE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 17-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	27
The Built Environment	40	30	28
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	12	13
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	20
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	187	184

Drimoleague, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your work programme and very clear map both of which were useful on adjudication day. Many of your plans have taken place, however, there are a number which have yet to be achieved. In particular, the adjudicator would like to take this opportunity to wish you good luck with your efforts with the old railway station.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the buildings along the main street were in good condition. However one or two others were shabby in comparison. Do discourage projecting plastic signs, these should be replaced with ones of a more traditional timber variety. In terms of a high standard of presentation, of particular note were Murphy's Pub, Crowley's Pharmacy, Harry Dean's with its hanging baskets and window boxes, the Drimoleague Inn, the Post Office and Centre, all of which were extremely fresh. The boundary wall of the Garda Station appeared quite grubby and at the East End Garage, the signage was also in a similar condition and the pole quite rusty. John McCarthy's Butchers was extremely fresh.

LANDSCAPING

Great pride is shown in the presentation of these areas. The stone beds with roses on the Dunmanway Road forming picnic areas were admired, as indeed was the extremely well maintained and brightly painted grotto. You should remove the concrete post and wire fence in this location as the area would look much more attractive without it. On a similar note the nicely planted area on the Bantry Road behind the concrete post and rail fence (which was broken in places) looked well but the fence itself detracts from the attractive presentation of same. The edging to the grass verges in this location should be defined as grass was extending haphazardly into the road surface. Hanging baskets throughout the town added a very cheerful note as indeed did the colourful displays including floral presentations for the Corpus Christi Procession. The attractive stream area running along the edge of the street was clean and clear on adjudication day.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Perhaps you could set a project for the school children of the town in relation to the riverside areas. You could erect a display panels in the landscaped area of the tennis courts at the railway station identifying species of wildlife in the locality. The adjudicator was interested to note your plans in relation to stepping the river bed, do be sure to consult with experts in relation to this, to assess the effects, if any, on local wildlife.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the main streets and approach roads was generally very good on the day. However, quite a lot of litter was evident in the vicinity of the tennis courts and broken bottles were noted by the recycling bin in the adjacent car park area.

TIDINESS

The adjudicator appreciates your problems in relation to the development of the railway station which looks quite unfortunate at the moment – good luck with future efforts with regard to this. Weed control was a problem to the concrete boundary wall on the Bantry Road. The pre-cast concrete fence on this road should be replaced with indigenous hedging or stone walling. Weed control was also a problem at the boundary wall to the graveyard. Some badly maintained out buildings at the junction at the Castledonovan and Bantry Roads create a bad impression – as does storage behind the broken wall opposite – hopefully this will be developed in the not too distant future. The rusty tin roof to a shed / out building on the Skibbereen Road creates a bad impression on that approach.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category of the competition was generally quite good on the day. The relatively new houses on the Skibbereen Road were admired and it was noted another development was taking place at the laneway in a central location off Main Street. Easter lilies were jauntily poking their heads up behind a fresh boundary wall of a house and gave a very cheerful impression. The semi-detached houses on the Skibbereen Road were very bright and cheery and an attractive garden with lupins on this road also created a good impression.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Dunmanway Road was extremely overgrown further out from the town – areas closer to the center were in better condition. Signage was quite grubby. The Skibbereen Road was also quite overgrown particularly at the welcome sign. However the hedgerows had been cut back and wild foxgloves created a good impression.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Drimoleague is an attractive and unusual village which is steadily progressing in the competition. Good luck with your future endeavours, particularly with regard to the old railway station.