

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **OWNAHINCHA**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	--
The Built Environment	40	20	--
Landscaping	40	20	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	--
Litter Control	40	25	--
Tidiness	20	10	--
Residential Areas	30	15	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	--
General Impression	10	5	--
TOTAL MARK	300	150	--

Ownahincha, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Ownahincha Improvement Committee are indeed welcome to the competition in this their first year of entry. You will need to formulate a three to five year work programme for the village outlining areas which you feel are in need of improvement. This document need only be one or two pages long outlining the areas where you intend to carry out projects and setting a time frame against their implementation. This document will be extremely useful to both yourselves and the adjudicators in order to see your progress as years go by. You should also draw up a map of the village which should be enclosed with your entry form each year.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There are few buildings within the village. The Ownahincha Hotel had displayed some planters on its façade. The shop was freshly painted although its gable was quite flaky – a broken wall adjacent to it created a bad impression. The apartments in pink with their view to the sea were fine – perhaps you could consider introducing a softening effect to their car park area to the front by means of some planting and trees. Areas of stone walling add to this aspect of the competition. Try to create a focal point in order to give a sense of village centre.

LANDSCAPING

The beach is the obvious attractive and well maintained feature of the village. The village is also set in some marvelous scenery with the sea to one side and views to Castlefreake ruins and the woods beyond. In terms of this aspect of the competition possible projects would be – the restoration of the pump on the main road near its junction with the cliff walk. You should create areas of incidental landscaped spaces along the length of the road passing through the village. Landscaping should also be considered in front of the caravan park in order to screen it more successfully from public view. Picnic areas could also be created along the seafront at strategic positions. There is also scope for landscaping at the entrances to the village which should be marked clearly with a village nameplate.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is an aspect of the competition in which Ownahincha is fortunate with its magnificent marine setting. Consult with local experts in relation to the wildlife habitats in your locality. You could perhaps consider erecting wildlife information boards at strategic locations in the village

LITTER CONTROL

Quite a lot of litter was evident on both the Rathbarry and

Rosscarbery Roads – more to the latter. A few more papers were strewn along the length of the long main road. However considering the nature and size of the village with its multitude of visitors, the standard in this aspect of the competition was quite good.

TIDINESS

Do try to screen unsightly yard areas from public view as they can create a bad impression and look quite messy. Weed control is also something to be considered in this category. These were evident on the road to the cliff walk and to the stone boundary wall of the seashore.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category of the competition was quite inconsistent. There were quite a number of grubby boundary walls which should be freshly painted up before next year's competition. An attractive garden with a low stone boundary wall close to the junction of the Rosscarbery Road and Cliff Road was admired. A charming house on the Rosscarbery Road with its garden extended to the roadside was also admired. The attractive and unusual "A" framed house looked well as did the adjacent charming cottages. A number of houses were under construction – you should attempt to ensure that these are in keeping with the seaside character of the village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Rathbarry Road was quite overgrown and a number of papers were evident in this location. On the Rosscarbery Road the banks had been roughly cut back. This road affords the traveller a magnificent view down to the seashore and across to Castlefreake and its woods beyond. The road to the cliff walk was in bad condition on its own surface and also on its pavement. You should erect some village nameplate signs to indicate and announce the travellers arrival in the village.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ownahincha is a busy seaside location. It will need to address each category of the competition in a steady and progressive way in the years to come. Good luck with your future endeavours.