

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LOUGHMORE**
County : **TIPPERARY NORTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	21	22
The Built Environment	40	28	26
Landscaping	40	25	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	22	21
Tidiness	20	12	9
Residential Areas	30	20	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18	18
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	167	156

Loughmore, Tipperary North

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Loughmore is a charming rural village with a number of good features upon which the Committee has commenced to work in order to maximise their potential. However, as requested last year, you must now put together a simple 3/5 year plan so that the adjudicator may have a broader concept of the work undertaken to date and also your plans for the future. This should set out your objectives and targets, put a time frame on these and identify how you aim to achieve these goals. The provision of this plan, which need only be one page, is now mandatory.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church and School were well presented but the outer wall of the latter could do with repainting. The Loughmore Inn and Car Park were very well maintained and also the Post Office. McGraths was looking well but the car park next door was rather untidy. On the Templemore road the old Creamery is an eyesore. It was noted that there is a FAS sign on the Parish Centre. Is this building due for refurbishment? Also, are there plans to refurbish the grain store and adjacent house by the bridge? The sign for the Loughmore Purcell Castle, built in the 1400's was noted. Are there plans to conserve this building? We look forward to your plan for answers to these questions.

LANDSCAPING

We discovered a picnic area by the bridge with trestle tables. This had a well-tended green space and good planting. However, there was no sign to say this facility was there – perhaps it is private? However, it seemed as if it were for visitors. The planted area is fenced in beside the river – could the riverbank area be tidied up along here to complement the good work already undertaken? The mature chestnut and lime trees in the village were admired. Features like seating at the telephone box and nice planting by the old pump were noted. Where tubs are used these should overflow with colour.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

With the adjacent countryside and the riverbank area you have a broad canvas to work on under this category. When making out your plan you should include a specific project under this heading – see the Tidy Towns Handbook for ideas.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little evidence of litter in the village on the day of adjudication.

TIDINESS

The village was mostly neat and tidy throughout except for an untidy site for sale opposite the Church. Hopefully, when purchased this area will improve. Kerbs were mostly weedfree throughout but some broken pathways needed attention and there was ivy on some telephone poles.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses are contributing fully to your efforts.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

There were rough margins/verges in a number of places throughout the village. Also the signs for Thurles and Templemore were situated on a bent pole. However, the speed signs were well maintained. On the Castleiney approach the Loughmore sign was hidden in the undergrowth and the signs saying "dangerous bridge ahead" and "slow through village" were also partly obscured. In general the hedges and banks on the approach roads were rather overgrown. It is good to leave these as natural as possible but not to have brambles and nettles throughout, encroaching somewhat on the roadways.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Loughmore is a village with much potential and we look forward to seeing further progress in the years ahead.