

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLONMORE**  
County : **CARLOW**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 20-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	35
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	36	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	30	29
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	8	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>222</b>

## **Clonmore, County Carlow**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH**

Clonmore is a beautifully kept picturesque village where great efforts are being put into detail and the result is a gem. The plan outlining the developments that are proposed and a strategy to achieve them makes interesting reading and obviously people have spent much time in debating these issues. Looking at the sign for planning permission for building developments pinned on a beautiful chestnut tree one hopes that this village, or that green, will not be effected by any proposed developments.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

This is a very small village. Each building has its part to play in the overall texture of the building combination. The old church of Ireland church is attractive, particularly with the very well kept and developed St. Mogue's Well. The cemetery across the road is tastefully presented. The Catholic Church is a fine building and looks very well with its surrounds of well painted walls and cemetery and carpark. The health centre could benefit from some attention to decoration. It's a pity that the old castle is not accessible in some way. Hopefully the old petrol pump can be removed from outside the pub. Having cables overhead and placed underground would be a further improvement.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The Garden at the village centre is very pleasant. The combination of good grass and trees are always a winning formula. The mature trees give great character to the area. Similarly the three mature beech trees on the roadside at the Catholic Church are priceless and create a lovely effect. Tree planting opportunities around the periphery of the church grounds exist either outside the walls or immediately inside. Tree planting for future generations should form part of every tidy towns' agenda. The landscaping at St. Mogue's Well is excellent and makes great use of the river. The roadside hedge along this road with thorn and wild roses followed by ash, makes a lovely sight. The moat was inaccessible with overgrown vegetation.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Projects involving school children and information gained from local knowledge could form the basis of an inventory of wild life in the area. This could also focus on local heritage and stories handed down about local facts.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There is obviously a very good system of litter management in this village. Nevertheless, small amounts of litter and some dumping at the inside of the wall leading to the moat were noted.

## **TIDINESS**

Clonmore is an extremely tidy village and great credit is due to all responsible for this.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The small number of residences are well cared for and the gardens contribute to the overall landscape of the village.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Approach roads are all treated effectively. The well managed grass and trees on the verges on the Hacketstown road are very attractive. The severely cutback conifers are not a happy sight and their recovery will take much time and they may not succeed in making an attractive show again. The well proven formula of well cared for grass and tree planting is very evident on the approach roads to the village.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Clonmore is a lovely village to visit. There is a very cared for atmosphere and the compact nature of the village gives it gem like qualities.

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (31/07/02)**

The adjudicator was disappointed to note graffiti to the village nameplate on the Tullow Road. A projecting sign in the village centre appeared quite grubby. The church is charming with magnificent landscaped areas and the graveyard was well maintained. The grilles to the windows at the Church of Ireland appeared rusty and the road surface was quite potholed. Some staining to the Community Centre should be attended to before next year's competition. This adjudicator is in full agreement with the comments made by the first round adjudicator in relation to ongoing development in the village and the appearance of planning application notices on chestnut trees. Do ensure that the village's unique charm and character are not destroyed by future development. There appeared to be a number of trees missing from the area opposite the Church of Ireland since this adjudicator's last visit to the village. Clonmore is a small and charming village steeped in history. Do ensure that any future developments reflect its unique character.