

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ENNISTYMON**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	33
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	11	10
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	183	178

Ennistymon, Co.Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The completed entry form, map, plan/work programme and photographs in relation to your nomination for best shopfront/s were welcomed by the adjudicator as these gave an account of the work undertaken to date and your plans and aspirations for the future. Your endeavours to motivate all the people of Ennistymon in your efforts and the involvement of the Transition year students in environmental work throughout the town is commendable.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The town of Ennistymon has great character, with its traditional shop fronts and plaster work throughout. The wide street leading up to the old Church and the Market area give the town a pleasant aspect. Many shopfronts are well kept but the abundance of plastic signs throughout the town take from the general atmosphere. Some buildings that were well presented were the Church, the West Clare Saddlery and the Falls Hotel and grounds. Also, the Statoil and Esso Service Stations on the Ennis and Lahinch roads respectively. It was noted that the gates adjacent to the Fire Station needed to be painted and that the Library and surrounds, mentioned in last years report, were still in a poor condition. There are some derelict buildings on the main and side streets and a long term strategy needs to be put in place to eliminate same. The fresh fruit and vegetable stall in the Square is obviously now a permanent fixture. However, the structure is unsightly, with what looks like a dirty camper roof now used as a roof for the stall. If it is to remain, the stall could provide a focus in the square if a new structure with striped awning were to replace what is there at present.

LANDSCAPING

The picnic areas on the Lahinch Road and at Deerpark were admired. In the former the virtually vandal proof seating and tables are extremely practical. Some signage to indicate the presence of the Deerpark picnic area might be helpful. The weather was very poor coming up to adjudication and consideration of this was taken into account under the landscaping heading. The Cascades are an unique feature of the town and should be a "must see" for people coming to Clare. The entrance through the archway and the area near the falls was neat and tidy but rather bleak and bare. We would suggest that a professional landscape artist be employed to come up with plans to make this area more attractive and welcoming and that the possible provision of designated coach and car parking nearby be considered.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The planting undertaken throughout the town and your consideration for wildlife habitats as set out in your plan was noted.

LITTER CONTROL

Unfortunately there was a sprinkling of litter throughout the core area of the town. However, we note the work you have undertaken in this regard, especially in trying to involving the young people in the town in your efforts, and this is commendable.

TIDINESS

No kerbside weeds were noted – however, because of the rather tatty vegetable stall, some evidence of litter, and also inappropriate plastic signage in a number of places there was no great sense of overall tidiness in Ennistymon.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most private houses and apartments in Ennistymon are contributing positively to the Tidy Towns effort. The new residents at Woodview Park on the Lahinch road should be encouraged to assist in your endeavours.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The welcome signs on the way into the town were admired – these mention the Cascades and would be another reason to ensure that this area is enhanced. Some rough paving (especially on the pathway near the entrance to the Cascades) would need attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ennistymon has the potential to do well in the competition if all the residents and the Agencies involved in the well being of the town co-operated to a greater extent.

We wish you well in the future.