

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **LABASHEEDA**  
County : **CLARE**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	34
The Built Environment	40	32	30
Landscaping	40	28	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	21
Litter Control	40	28	26
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>202</b>

## **LABASHEEDA, CO. CLARE**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your very detailed submission, complete with sketch map and report. These were most helpful on adjudication day. The village had a great air of activity about it and a most impressive array of colour. The hand of the community and in particular Fás is very much in evidence. Work done in previous years continues to enhance especially with tree and shrub planting. You are not without your problems and dereliction is a major problem for you. The climate of house building may help you as these sites are now quite valuable and offer great potential for appropriate village infill.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Public buildings are a credit to you and the school excels. The church is very well presented and the adjoining car park is neat and tidy. There are many attractive traditional shop fronts in the village that are worthy of improved presentation. McNamara's, now sold we understand, is a gem. In advance of any proposed alterations this shop should be photographed and surveyed. The beautiful sash windows are unique - perhaps the new ownership will agree to restore to original and create a real showpiece. Future PVC doors should be discouraged on all premises - the health clinic is out of character in presentation. As a tidy towns committee you are entitled to preserve the rural ethos of the village and expect appropriate development. The treatment of the roofless McNamara is very good.

### **LANDSCAPING**

You have scored well in this section and the large numbers of well landscaped spaces is praiseworthy. The approach from Ennis is very good and gives a welcome introduction to this long linear village. The individual effort is also most commendable and many residents have gone to great trouble in presenting their premises to a high standard. The village pump treatment on the Ennis approach is very good.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

In view of your location you have great opportunity to promote and popularise a great variety of wildlife. The sea birds are of great interest to visitors and your proposed information boards should reflect this. You should tackle these for next year.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Well done on a very good performance. The streets, footpaths and amenity areas were almost totally free of litter. The Quay area has improved significantly since the last visit by this adjudicator and was well presented on adjudication day. You should install another bottle bank in the village near the old church.

## TIDINESS

Your problems here relate to the previously mentioned dereliction, unoccupied houses and uncared for open spaces. The old Golden Vale site is now an eyesore - but materials beside it suggest planned development. Road surface on the street would benefit from some dressing, perhaps Clare County Council might improve for next year? The plethora of hanging baskets add great colour to the street and are well maintained.

## RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There is a great mix of old and new houses in Labasheeda . For the most part, they blend in well with each other, but some new house designs take little heed of the rural setting of this area. Of particular interest is the attractive row of single storey terraced houses, some with corrugated roofs. These could be much improved if a painting blitz were carried out. A good example may be seen at Ballynacally at the village green.

## ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The layout of the village makes it relatively easy for your to maintain back and side areas well and those visible from the road were well presented. One wonders why the Mountshannon Housing Estate was built so far from the village core? The planned amenity park for here should be pursued. You still have scope for extra tree planting - similar to the layout at the school. Mountshannon housing needs a bilingual identity sign.

## GENERAL IMPRESSION

It was a treat to visit Labasheeda and witness such improvements in a short few years. There is strong evidence of a caring community and you are fortunate to have such a Fás scheme. You have potential to be a high scorer in the Competition - good luck for 2003.