

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TOOREEN**
County : **MAYO**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 27-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	27
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	24	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	17	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	174	172

Tooreen, Co. Mayo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The Community Employment Project Plan submitted is very comprehensive. You would appear to have established a very good working relationship with FAS, the benefits of which are to be seen in the village. The successful completion of phase 1 of your plan has indeed improved the overall image of the village and generated community support. The refurbished Hall is a hive of activity offering a range of services for young and old. Tooreen is synonymous with the Dance Hall and its rejuvenation is highly significant.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The aforementioned Dance Hall needs re-painting to sustain its prominence in the village. The Primary School is architecturally pleasing with well-kept lawns but the mural needs to be touched up. The Old School still remains an eye sore and its eagerly awaited demolition will totally revamp this idyllic village. Whilst the church and the dance hall are landmark buildings, they are somewhat tainted by poorly maintained grounds. Weeds and debris abound. Hopefully, the repair job to the roof of the church will not exacerbate the problem.

LANDSCAPING

The purpose built shrubbery at the centre of the village is visually pleasing. The Committee may consider developing more of its kind as it clearly distinguishes one area from another. The grounds of the community pitch are overgrown. The area to the east side of the basketball court needs attention. The grass verges on the N83 appeared untidy. There is abnormally high levels of moss around Frayne's Bar. The stone wall effect around the monument and that between the church and the pitch compensated for the lack of soft landscaping at other locations. The hanging baskets mentioned on the entry form were unseen on day of adjudication.

WILDLIFE

The Committee might consider undertaking a wildlife survey in conjunction with the local Primary School. The abundance of pasture and ponds should provide much interest. An extensive tree-planting scheme might be added to your Plan to good effect.

LITTER CONTROL

There was little evidence of litter on our visit.

TIDINESS

The problem of weed control still exists in the church car park, basketball court and hall

grounds. Bags of concrete lime were strewn around the gable ends and rear of the Hall. Grass verges along the side-roads were overgrown and lacked definition. The stone wall entrances constructed to date improved the overall effect. Efforts are being made in this area.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the residents have very well maintained houses and gardens. It's important that the Community Housing Scheme proposed for the site of the Old School will respect the village tradition in scale and profile.

ROAD, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Surfaces remain in a poor state and there is a tendency towards potholes and roughness. Grass verges on all approach roads require remediation; cut grass should be removed from the site. The lack of paving creates a sprawling effect and strategic areas lack distinction.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Tooreen is a village of immense tranquillity, charm and nostalgia. Achievements to date are commendable. The stone-wall building creates a harmonious effect linking both ends of the village. The Committee needs to exert greater pressure on the Local Council to improve surfaces and enhance its street-scape. Tooreen has immense potential and time will bring its own rewards.