

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLONBULLOGUE**  
County : **OFFALY**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-2002

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2002 | Mark Awarded 2001 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 41                | 41                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 33                | 32                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 37                | 37                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 21                | 20                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 37                | 36                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 16                | 16                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 26                | 26                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 34                | 34                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 8                 | 8                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>253</b>        | <b>250</b>        |

## **Clonbullogue, County Offaly**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

You are to be congratulated on another high standard of presentation throughout the village. The work involved in maintaining verges, greens, flower beds, window boxes, hanging baskets, etc. is an on-going testament to individual and community participation. Your plan outlining your work programme 2002-2006 is simply and effectively presented. You also appear to have implemented much of your 2002 programme. The clear village map was also appreciated. Well done to all concerned.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The vast majority of buildings throughout the village are well kept, however the frontages of a couple of business premises could be improved. The public buildings, churches, schools, halls, Garda Station, Health Centre are well cared for, as are their surrounds, e.g. boundary walls and grounds. Ritche's is well presented and the landscaping helps soften the concrete parking area. Displayed goods on footpaths give the two shops a rather cluttered appearance. The forge is a lovely building and effectively presented. While the flowerbeds help camouflage the rather untidy appearance of the garage forecourt, resurfacing would be a big improvement.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The two large and well maintained greens, the colourful flowerbeds, hanging baskets, window boxes and trees etc. are all features that give Clonbullogue much of its character. The effort that is required in maintaining these features is enormous. Woodlawn has too many flowerbeds/shrubberies and would look better if several of the smaller ones were removed. Additional tree planting was noted in a number of locations, e.g. on bend on Portarlington road.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The riverside walk between the two bridges on the Portarlington and Daingean roads is an attractive amenity for the village. The amenity area adjoining St. Patrick's bridge is a lovely feature and you are to be commended on the standard of its presentation. New display maps look well beside the Garda Station. The river is an important wild life habitat and this aspect can still be further highlighted.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There appears to have been some improvement in litter control since last year. On the day of inspection the village was basically litter free. Keep up the good work.

### **TIDINESS**

The high standard of maintenance of approach roads, village centre, buildings, etc. generates a tidy and well cared for appearance.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most of the houses throughout Clonbullogue are well cared for. Many have well planted gardens. Hedges and boundary areas are generally in good order. However a significant number have weedy entrances or weeds in gravelled margins in front of boundary walls.

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

Hedges and grass verges on all the approach roads are well kept. Mature trees and more recent plantings are an attractive feature on all roads, especially on the Portarlinton road. The colour scheme helps make a feature of St. Patrick's Bridge. The freshly painted white concrete poles help lift what would otherwise be a rather unsightly boundary fence on the wide bend on the Portarlinton Road. The new planting will, in time, screen this fence. The lengthy stretch of new pavement improves the appearance of the village centre, but other stretches of pavement still need attention. The parking bays along the main street with the trees and flower beds, are noteworthy but the red cobbling would not be every-ones first choice. Several roadside signs throughout the village require attention.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The village has reached a high standard and further improvements continue to be made. Your plan sets out a comprehensive work programme for the years ahead, however a strategic statement of how you see the village developing and how you will maintain its essential rural character, etc. is also important.

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/02)**

The village of Clonbullogue generally looked well cared for on Second Adjudication Day. The charming church was greatly admired and the school and boundary wall had been freshly painted. Commercial buildings such as the Gala Supermarket were well cared for. The cottages located along the main streets looked extremely well loved. Do take on board the first adjudicator's comment in relation to resisting the temptation to "gild the lily". Try to ensure that landscaped areas are presented simply with the minimum amount of fuss. Do discourage fly-posting. One was in evidence which appeared to have been there for some time. Congratulations on your hard work and consistency in entering the competition every year since 1972! The hard work is obviously paying dividends.