

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Corofin**

Ref: **369**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **190**

Category: **B**

Date: **21/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	32
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	27	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	18
Litter Control	40	27	25
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	190	182

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for completed entry form, map and Corofin Strategic Plan which were all helpful. The Committee has undertaken quite an amount of work since reforming. Both your plan and the entry form mention sewerage works taking place throughout the summer but this work had not commenced before the adjudicator's visit. When this disruption has passed no doubt it will be easier to concentrate on achieving your objectives.

The Built Environment:

Most business premises were well presented with a few notable exceptions. However, there were some derelict buildings throughout the town and a long term solution must be found to alleviate this problem. The Clare Heritage Centre looked well but the 1945 Hall Padraig Naomra was quite shabby and unused looking. The adjudicator turned off at the first sign on the Ballyvaughan road for the lakeside RIC cottages. However, signage was poor from there on and these cottages were never seen.

Landscaping:

The area by the Grotto is attractive and the trees opposite are maturing nicely. The seat near the telephone kiosk is a good idea as are the window boxes and hanging baskets. The new tree planting

was noted - trees planted now are a legacy for future generations.
Some of the flower beds needed weeding, especially the one at the Ennis junction.

The landscaping at the Lough Inchiquin amenity area is very pleasant but again the flower/shrub bed was rather overgrown.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Lough Inchiquin is an ideal setting to observe wildlife. On the day of adjudication, a swan with five or six cygnets appeared and became very protective of her brood. We noted that some berry bushes were planted here which will be good as bird food.

The wild flowers growing naturally on the bridge were attractive and perhaps other wild plants such as ferns, foxgloves and honeysuckle could also be introduced on the approach roads.

Litter Control:

There was very little litter to be seen and bins were strategically placed - well done.
The spring clean in May resulting in the removal of fourteen black bags and four trailer loads of organic waste was obviously worthwhile.

Tidiness:

Unfortunately, the heart of the town does not have a very tidy appearance with too much signage and overhead wires. Also, directional signage had attracted graffiti in a number of instances. However, kerb sides throughout were weed free.

Residential Areas:

Quite an amount of residential building is taking place in Corofin. These new residents should also be encouraged to join with you in your efforts. Existing residents are contributing and some very nice gardens were noted.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Whilst good work had been done on the approach roads, some more grass verge cutting needed to take place within the speed limits. Your foresight in providing two off street parking areas is to be commended.

General Impression:

Corofin is a charming town which deserves to reach its potential. Maintenance of what has been put in place and attention to detail will help you to achieve your aims. Keep up the good work.