

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MALIN**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17
Landscaping	40	33
The Built Environment	40	27
Litter Control	40	38
Tidiness	20	15
Residential Areas	30	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33
General Impression	10	9
TOTAL MARK	300	239

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The approach adopted by Malin over the past twenty five years has obviously been the correct one. Their high ranking in the National Tidy Towns Competition including two National Awards is ample evidence of this. The overall appearance of the village is of a high standard and the work programme which has been carried out over the past year shows that the committee are as keen as ever to maintain their ranking in the competition. Some problems still exist, however, and will have to be overcome if the National Award is to be achieved again by Malin. Thanks are due to the Committee for returning the questionnaire and the excellent map which was most useful.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The bay and river banks are ideal areas for the habitats of birds, small animals and wildlife in general. Although no project under this section was undertaken this year in future some thought should be given to getting local environmental experts involved and getting advice from them as to what projects could be undertaken by the Committee and the Community in general.

LANDSCAPING

The tree planting at the village green is magnificent and the tree planting and shrubbery at the amenity near the hall is also excellent. The amenity area at the river at Brookfield is also extremely well presented. However the yards right and left as you approach this area are still problematic. It is noted that improvements have been carried out over the last year at both these yards; however, they still have an untidy appearance, particularly on the left of the bridge at the river bank with litter and machinery scattered about.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The presentation of the building surrounding the green is lovely. The whole picture here is most impressive. The grey school building on the Glengad approach is most untidy. Grass and weeds are growing extensively on the concrete surface, the old tower building is also neglected and dumping is also visible. Inishowen Motors is still maintaining its good appearance. The new school looks well. The Health Centre still needs freshening up. The gates and railings of the Church are still rusty. St Patricks Hall is well presented, however, the car parks need resurfacing and dumping was also very visible in the area.

LITTER CONTROL

There is no litter problem in Malin. The village was free of litter on adjudication day. There are plenty of strategically placed red litter bins throughout and they are put to full use by the residents. An excellent performance under this heading.

TIDINESS

Malin presents an overall picture of neatness and tidiness. The recycling bins are located in one corner of the amenity car park and the Culdaff Road. They remain relatively unobtrusive; however, some kind of screening could be considered for the future.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Brookfield as last year was extremely well presented. Brightly painted houses and some lovely gardens. The shrubbery path around the rear of the houses is nice, but unfortunately the back gardens are not as colourful as the front. The GAA Park was well presented; however, construction work is still going on here.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approaches to Malin are exemplary. As mentioned last year the natural stone kerbing is a clever device to achieve a neat roadside leading into the village. The verges were neatly trimmed; however, they will require constant monitoring. The white washed capped stone walls are excellent. There is a neat green area on the Glengad approach beside a thatched cottage. The area at the rear of this cottage is not so presentable. The problem with nettles and grass growing through a wire fence on the Carndonagh approach has been solved and it looked extremely well on adjudication day. A neglected area on the right near the bridge showed up an abandoned car body and derelict stone building. As stated last year the white wash covers a lot; however, the shed on the Malin approach on the left of the bridge badly needs a roof. Nice flower beds, green area are visible on all the approaches. Really lovely. There is a car park on the right of the Culdaff approach which has a skip, burger van and a green bus visible and some washing. The back street behind the hotel has some rusty corrugated sheds and a burnt out bin visible.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Malin is really well presented and is a credit to the committee and the community. Your litter control on a daily basis, general maintenance of work already carried out and your constant efforts to improve Malin, all are praiseworthy. A major award cannot be too far away! Well done.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (11/08/96)

The village of Malin looked magnificent on a sunny August afternoon. It is a charming village in a marvellous setting. The impressive view to the water and the mountains behind coming in the Glengad approach road, looked particularly well. It was a hive of activity on a festival day and despite the hoardes of people, it still looked remarkably neat and tidy - no litter was apparent whatsoever! An untidy yard area glimpsed on the Carndonagh approach should be screened from public view. The boundary wall to the school and the Garda Station should be freshened before next year. The Health Centre and walls leading up to it had been freshly whitewashed. The charming white washed bridges with their limestone copings, the simple village green and the open space with seating area by the riverside at the bridge at Brookfield all looked marvellous and created an impression of a charming and simple presented village - Congratulations.