

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BLANCHARDSTOWN**  
County : **DUBLIN**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	24
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>174</b>

## **Adjudicator's Comments**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your entry form and area map which was very helpful during the inspection. Your group demonstrates a good approach to developing the area and this is illustrated in your work to date. Encouraging those businesses and organisations not yet involved in the tidy towns effort to become a part of your work would benefit the village greatly.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

We look forward to future developments in the areas wildlife and natural amenities. Suggestions for projects include encouraging wildlife, developing walks and nature trails and conservation projects.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The trees on the main street are well maintained and some flowers could perhaps be planted at the base of each one. Open spaces are adequately managed although they can suffer from incidental litter. The open space beside the Shell Station needs to be cleaned up and the entrance gate is very overgrown and untidy in appearance. The open grass area opposite the new buildings under construction on the main street should be cleared of weeds at the boundary walls.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Many of the shops and businesses have made an effort to improve the presentation of their premises and this enhances the overall appearance of the village. O'Mahoneys, the Dental Surgery and Montessori Play School located on the Clonsilla Road are all very attractive. The Business Park is clean and tidy but the tree lined verges beside the path could be improved with more grass, flowers and shrubs. The Shell Station forecourt is well presented. The Nature Store signage on the main street needs to be replaced and the car park requires a lot of cleaning up. The FAS and Youth Service Centre are well presented but there was some litter on the entrance steps due to people waiting at the bus stop. St. Francis Oratory is well maintained. The Superquinn shopping area including the Greyhound Inn and Kasks Restaurant must be complimented on their appearances. The traditional street lamps and flower bed around the old water pump are particularly pleasing. We look forward to the completion of the path outside the AIB. Other attractive buildings include Ryans Garage, M&K Doyle Shop, Blanchardstown House, Rachels Flowers and St. Brigids Church. St. Brigids School and grounds were clean and tidy. The Garda Station needs to improve the maintenance of the garden area at the front as well as removing weeds and grass at the gates to the car storage area.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

As pointed out in the entry form the take-away food outlets can cause litter problems. Perhaps encouraging these premises to clean up their immediate areas on a daily basis will help to reduce this problem. Incidental litter is present in some areas and we would suggest a continuation of your regular clean-up days as well as encouraging more local community groups to become involved in the effort.

### **TIDINESS**

As pointed out in your entry form recycling facilities are available at the two local shopping centres. Sign-posting these facilities would benefit their location. Continued control of weed growth at kerbs and at the base of buildings and walls will help to improve the overall tidiness of the area.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The cottages on the main street must be complimented on their gardens and we look forward to the completion of the building and construction that is currently underway. Villa Blanchard is clean and tidy -

however, the small grass area at the entrance should be cleaned up. The residential areas of Reamor Park, Rush Brook, Hazel Lawn and Wood Park must be complimented on their appearance as well as their litter free open spaces. St Bridgets Park needs to pay attention to weeds and grass on the kerbs. The residences on the Castleknock Road are very attractive.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The boundary wall at the Chinese take-away car park is in need of repair. The lane-way opposite the Chinese take-away could be improved by trimming the hedgerows, removing weeds and litter. Weeds and litter were also present on the Tolka View Lane on the day of inspection. The lamp post on the main street with the FAS office sign needs repainting. There was some litter present in the Bank of Ireland car park and weed growth was apparent in McKennas car park. The removal of grass on the kerbside of Mill Road is necessary and there was litter and rubbish present behind Castleknock Cabs. The Xtra-vision car park was clean and tidy and the area outside Abrakebabra was very attractive due to the flowers and shrubs planted at the base of the street lamp. The hedgerows on River Road were trimmed. However, the hedges on the Navan Road require attention and there was also litter present here. The Church and Community Centre car park was litter free but the presence of a burnt-out car was not very attractive. There was some incidental litter on Church Avenue and the entrance area of the Bathroom & Design Centre is in need of improvement.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

The involvement of more local businesses and residents associations in the tidy towns effort will further enhance the attractiveness and presentation of the village.