

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **FRENCHPARK**
County : **ROSCOMMON**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10
Landscaping	40	18
The Built Environment	40	21
Litter Control	40	18
Tidiness	20	11
Residential Areas	30	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	141

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for completing the questionnaire and for the very detailed sketch of your village. I am very glad that you decided to enter the competition again this year. You should not be disheartened by last years comments, remember you did increase your marks. This was my first visit to Frenchpark and you are to be congratulated for the work you have achieved. When preparing your plan it should be realistic and workable. Involve all of the community. The Development Committee and the Tidy Towns Committee should all be working together. Perhaps you should try and encourage more people to join your committee.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

I am sure you could identify some nature conservation in the village. A good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats of your catchment area and see what species of animals, birds and fish these attract. You have some good open spaces which perhaps could be put to better use.

LANDSCAPING

The new raised flower beds which you have planted throughout are most attractive. Perhaps you should initiate a tree planting programme in the village. You could incorporate this into your plan.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Whilst the Douglas Hyde Interpretative Centre is not in Frenchpark village itself, it must get a mention and it is a good tourist attraction for the town and I am sure it must generate more tourist numbers for Frenchpark. The school and church are maintained to a good standard. Most of the business premises are very nicely presented with good use of flower tubs and window boxes. Try to encourage the others to follow the good example. From last years report it said that the Garda Barracks was "disgraceful" well I am happy to report that this year sees a huge improvement - well done to all concerned. The art Gallery is a most attractive building. Flemmings garage could be tidied up a little. Perhaps the old petrol pumps could be removed. The garage on the Castlerea Road is a big eyesore and it seems they are using the derelict site/house opposite to park their tractors. The Post Office could do with a facelift also the Nash Memorial hall should be painted and the grounds could do with some attention

LITTER CONTROL

There was some evidence of litter on the Main Street on adjudication day. The side streets were neat and tidy. This is a very important category and should be watched at all times. Keep giving reminders in your newsheet, strive to make Frenchpark a Tidy Free Zone.

TIDINESS Some of the litter bins throughout the village could do with a fresh coat of paint. It is a good idea to have the local business people sponsor them. The Old water pump on the Castlerea road looks lovely, it is amazing what can be done with a little imagination.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most residential properties both within the village and on the approach roads are very nicely presented with some lovely manicured gardens. A very good individual effort being made here. Perhaps the community would improve the two gardens at the old folks home that require attention.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

I sympathise with the problem you have with deflect sites and vacant sites throughout. The market house

in particular. I am glad to note from your comments that you think the owners have plans for it, anything would be an improvement. Most of the signs (both the speed limit and town names) should be replaced or at least painted by the County Council. They can give a bad impression as one enters the area. Also I would suggest that you erect if possible a "Welcome to Frenchpark" sign on all of the major approach roads. The picnic area opposite the Chariot Lounge is nicely maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Congratulations, you have made good progress to date. The lovely flower beds and stone walls are to be commended. Your efforts to overcome the problem with derelict premises are noted and you can only keep putting pressure on the owners. May I wish you continued good luck for the future.