

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **COLLINSTOWN**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	28
Litter Control	40	32
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	193

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The standard of presentation of Collinstown is a good indication of on-going commitment from the local Community and the quality of the village is a compliment to all concerned. Satisfactory progress is being made under most headings. You appear to have a good relationship with the Local Authority and FAS. It is also important that you work as closely as possible with non-resident owners. The preparation of a development plan would be a good way to address outstanding problem areas.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is one of the new sections in the competition and it is important that communities take wildlife requirements into consideration in future developments. Hedgerows, mature trees and well planted gardens are all important wildlife habitats and these are in abundance throughout the village. The nearby lake is also very important. You should seek the involvement of local environmentalists in drawing up plans for the enhancement of natural habitats.

LANDSCAPING

The cross-roads area is most attractive. The closely cut grass, the painted kerbing and the planting set off the surrounding buildings to great effect. The flower beds on the Castlepollard Road, the landscaping on both sides of the Delvin road and on the approaches to the cross-roads are other noteworthy examples of landscaping as are the many colourful hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs. The well maintained grass verges and the tree planting are other examples of good quality presentation.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings around the square are simply presented and freshly painted. The absence of unsuitable signage is an important factor in the presentation of the crossroads area and gives the area added dignity. The Church and its surrounds are well looked after. The Community Hall is acceptable. The Esso sign and pole need freshening up. Planting would help screen the unsightly security fencing adjoining the industrial type building and the gravelled car park requires weeding.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is good and the village is generally litter free. There is, however, no room for complacency as on the day of inspection odd scatterings were visible here and there.

TIDINESS

Collinstown has a neat and tidy atmosphere. Several factors contribute to this, the absence of litter, well presented buildings, well maintained approaches etc.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the houses throughout the village are well maintained - many have attractive gardens. The majority maintain to a high standard gravelled and grassed boundary areas although weeds were present in a few gravelled margins. Several derelict houses were effectively camouflaged. A number of tin roofs require painting. Planting trees or shrubs would benefit the frontage of bungalows on the Mullingar road.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All the approach roads are well maintained. Grass verges are regularly cut. Hedges are also well maintained. Trees have been planted, e.g. Mullingar road and more could be planted in suitable margins. Several road signs require painting especially the speed limit signs.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Collinstown is an attractive well presented village with a high level of individual and community participation. Continue to work at problem areas - pay more attention to points of detail.