

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DUNLAVIN**  
County : **WICKLOW**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18
Landscaping	40	28
The Built Environment	40	24
Litter Control	40	22
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>188</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the new format of the Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your detailed questionnaire and very clear map. The adjudicators look forward to the presentation of your detailed five year work programme, which should focus on areas that have been highlighted in previous reports together with this years report and as well as being innovative. The work on the court house in the Market Square is to be commended. Try to include under-grounding of cables by the court house as one of the objectives. Based on this year's adjudication other points that could be considered include wildlife, attention to litter control which was beginning to be a problem this year and further improvements to buildings and overcoming derelict areas. Good luck for 1997. Overall, there is a very good developmental approach throughout Dunlavin.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Generally, quite good in this area with very good promotion of tree planting. Tree planting is coming on and is noted in a number of areas for example, on the Milltown Road and on Station Road. Why not continue this tree planting programme along Stephens Street; in years to come this could create a very attractive atmosphere along this street. The open spaces are very well presented. It is nice to see that you are identifying new projects - for example, developing the pump area down by the Tober/Station Road junction. And also why not identify wildlife habitats in your catchment area and see what type of birds, animals and fish etc. these attract. You could invite local environmental experts and groups to advise you and provide you with specialist information you require. There is scope to provide innovative suggestions in your five year work programme as well.

### LANDSCAPING

Landscaping throughout Dunlavin was very good this year. The park on the Main Street was very well presented. Well done. There are a number of areas that the adjudicators would like to point out. The Dunlavin AFC and GAA Grounds are very badly presented - paint the gate and try to landscape the area, also replace the damaged seating in the village green. Re-seeding of grass was noted. Try also to landscape the area near Cow Green where the flower tubs are - this needs a fresh approach. The location of the litter bin next to the pump is somewhat inappropriate on Stephens Street as it takes from the appearance of the pump itself. The wall by the Telecom Exchange is a nice feature. Also a nice pump and lamp post were noted outside the Dunlavin Inn. The cobble-locking work underway at the Celtic Cross at the Village Green was noted - try to ensure that this is completed as soon as possible. Very good landscaped areas on Kilcullen Street and Tober/Station Road junction were noted again this year. Well done. It is also good to see the new pump on Kilcullen Street. Overall, there is a high level of landscaping throughout the town.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of your important buildings are very well presented this year. A number of improvements were also noted. The work taking place at the courthouse is to be commended - this should be very attractive once completed. The adjudicators look forward to seeing this improvement next year. The school grounds were very well presented this year and in particular the national school/primary school had an excellent presentation. The enterprise units were also very well maintained with seating and tree planting noted. The Church of Ireland is absolutely magnificent while the Catholic Church would benefit from painting. The new pharmacy was noted. Well done. Also, other premises noted included the AIB and Burkes which is also new, together with the solicitors and Garda Station. The Imaal Hall might benefit from flower tubs positioned outside. It is nice to note that there is work progressing on one of the derelict buildings but there is one particularly bad one to the left of it which takes from the overall appearance, your efforts in this regard are to be commended. There is no need for the bunting at Teac na Gras. Finally, the majority of premises were looking very well. Congratulations. Try to ensure that all premises

are freshly painted. The Post Office had a good effort with flowers but the buildings itself was in need of a painting.

#### LITTER CONTROL

The adjudicators were slightly disappointed under this heading this year. In past years Dunlavin has looked very well and unfortunately one or two premises took from the overall appearance. It is important to note that both Litter Control and Tidiness now constitute approximately 20% of the entire mark so you will have to pay more attention to this area if you want to do well. Litter was evident at the entrance to the County Council yard. Litter was also noted by the Cow Green. It was particularly disappointing to see litter along the Main Street and in particular outside OTooles and outside the premises next to it. The litter control within the residential estate of Church Hill is also in need of attention.

#### TIDINESS

Overall, tidiness is quite good but it is lessened by the level of litter throughout the town. At the village green some weeds were evident along by the kerbing. Also there is a burned area of grass noted on the green. Dunlavin has the potential to be an extremely attractive town through its formal layout complimented by good landscaping. This creates a tidy appearance and if you can control the minor litter problem this year, then there is no reason why you cannot improve under this heading.

#### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Overall, under this section there was a mixed appearance. Church Hill was very disappointing - it had a very untidy appearance with quite bad litter. The windows in the telephone kiosk were also broken as were two trees. Try to encourage a more co-ordinated effort here with the Residents Association. It is an area that has to be tackled in order to benefit marks under the Tidy Towns Competition. Having said that, Church Terrace was a lot better presented with good individual efforts noted. For example, the garden of the blue and white house was very attractive. Well done. Good individual efforts were also noted throughout the town; some that deserve credit would include Bresica, which is an excellent presentation again this year, the house down from the Credit Union and the house opposite Coborns.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Generally, there was a very good performance under this section. Approaching Dunlavin from Crosskeys, the nice Beech Trees were noted together with a nice stone wall. The wall on the right hand side near the terraced houses needs to be painted and replastered. Further in there was nice shrubbery and good use of colour was noted at the Dunlavin sign. Very good approaches were noted on the Tober and Station Roads leading up to a very attractive landscaped area at this junction. You might look at improving the Pound and Sparrow Roads, but on day of adjudication they were looking fine with grass verges cut back.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Overall, very good efforts are noted throughout the town of Dunlavin, both in new initiatives, e.g. new shopfronts, and also in the maintenance of a number of open spaces. Tree planting is maturing well and is to be commended. Litter control was disappointing this year and is something you must tackle. Also, try to overcome the problem with the derelict buildings. The adjudicators warmly look forward to their visit to Dunlavin next year and seeing these problems being overcome.