

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BAWNBOY**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	21	20
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	31	32
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	23	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	176	173

Bawnboy, County Cavan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your comprehensive responses to the questionnaire and clear map which were very useful on adjudication day. The adjudicator was disappointed to note that your village enhancement programme has been deferred by Cavan County Council as this will help you considerably in your efforts to improve the village. Your strong relationship with the County Council and FAS is highly commendable and will hopefully pay off in terms of results in future years.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings throughout the town looked to be well cared for on adjudication day. The post office was very fresh as was McCluskeys and the Keeper's Arms looked very smart indeed. The grounds to St. Mogue's College were well maintained with an attractive mix of permanent planting with the odd splash of colour giving a cheerful appearance. The school building and grounds were reasonably well presented. The railings needed paint and boundary wall should either be painted or plastered. Perhaps you would consider concealing the oil tank by means of a timber framed trellis up which virginia creeper could grow. There are still one or two inappropriate plastic signs on the shop fronts throughout the town. These should be removed and replaced with timber ones which would be more traditional.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping throughout the village looked well on the day. The landscaped area on the Enniskillen Road with its purple rhododendrons looked most attractive. However, the grass had been roughly cut and not cleared away. The newly planted bank at the children crossing sign on the Ballinamore Road should look delightful when it comes into its full glory.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is a category in which Bawnboy has great potential for development. The riverside area is ideal as a wildlife habitat. As noted by last year's adjudicator it would make an ideal amenity area incorporating a riverside walk with notices identifying the species of wildlife along its banks. It is important to get in touch with national bodies such as ENFO and Conservation Volunteers of Ireland in order to get some information on this subject. Also you could get local experts involved and the local school children to carry out a project on wildlife habitats in their locality.

LITTER CONTROL

On first impression the village appeared to be litter free. However, on closer inspection some was visible dumped over the bridge in the river and around the litter bin by the telephone box on the main street. A few papers were also noted at the new landscaped bank

on the Ballinamore Road. In a village of Bawnboy's size even small amounts of litter are very obvious and so extra vigilance is required.

TIDINESS

As you have correctly identified, dilapidation / dereliction is a major problem throughout the village. Other centres in the competition in a similar position to you have made efforts to disguise / camouflage derelict buildings by simply painting them up. Other issues noted under this category were the timber fence at the steep grassy bank on the Enniskillen Road which needs to be freshly painted. The telephone box in the centre of the village sports some stained perspex and the directional signs at the junction of the centre of the village were quite grubby and should be washed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Bawnboy excels in this category. People show an obvious pride in their properties. Of particular note were the pretty cottages on the Ballinamore Road opposite the school with their colourful display of roses, and Homeville also on that road with its attractive displays on the stone retaining wall in front. The garden with the purple rhododendrons in the centre of the village was also admired.

ROAD, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Some more attention is needed to detail under this category. The Ballyconnell Road was quite overgrown particularly on the Enniskillen directional line. The pole of the town nameplate was quite rusty and the sign needed freshening up. The wild daisies at the top of the stone wall were admired and the new trees are coming along nicely. However, a badly stained concrete block boundary wall created a bad impression and kerbing throughout the approach roads and within the village itself is in bad order. On the Enniskillen Road the pavements again are in bad order. The verges were quite overgrown and roughly cut back areas were not cleared away. The name plate sign badly needed freshening up on its extremely flaky post. This road has a magnificent view of the mountains beyond as does the Ballinamore approach with its splendid view of the wooded hillside acting as a backdrop to the town.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village of Bawnboy is a charming one with its own unique heritage in terms of the workhouse and old church set among some magnificent scenery. The profusion of derelict and abandoned buildings detract greatly from its appearance and hopefully in time you will find a means of resolving this problem permanently. In the meantime, as mentioned under other categories in the report, you could simply paint them up to disguise their lack of use.