

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BELTURBET**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	32
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	28	29
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	17	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	8
TOTAL MARK	300	199	198

Belturbet, County Cavan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your clear and professional map and comprehensive document outlining the town's unique history which was both informative and interesting. Belturbet Tidy Towns Committee is one which shows a distinct awareness of and pride in the cultural, historical and architectural heritage of the town. There is obviously a clear grasp of what you want to achieve for your town and a well structured enthusiastic approach to achieving this end.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings along the main streets of the town generally looked well cared for. There are not too many inappropriate plastic signs although a few were still in evidence. Of particular note was Boyd's Chemist which was a bright and cheerful red colour on steeply sloping Bridge Street down to the river. Cassidy's beyond the bridge is an attractive traditional shop front in grey with a bright yellow trim. The churches in the town generally looked well, although the Catholic church needed to freshen up the boundary wall and the timber rail fence in the car park area behind. The post office is another attractive building. The Garda Station looked in bad need of freshening up, particularly its boundary wall and the side wall which was in bad order. The Credit Union was very fresh with pansies in its window boxes. The hall at the junction of Holborn Hill and Erne Hill could be freshened up before next year. All the schools in the town were well cared for, although the concrete plinth at the railings of the vocational school needed a fresh coat of paint. The stone bollards with their fish motif and the stone female figures to either side of the Library entrance doors have an unusual and distinct charm.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaped areas around the town generally looked well maintained. The attractive stone beds with marigolds on the Cavan Road looked particularly well as did the beautifully banked landscaped areas to the front of the church on the Enniskillen Road with grassy banks, yew trees and permanent planting surrounded by stone bases.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Belturbet is well catered for in this category with the marvellous asset of the River Erne and Turbet Island right in the heart of the town. The riverside area is one which dominates the town and is of wonderful amenity value. It was showing some signs of neglect in that it was somewhat overgrown. The signage bore signs of algae growth and the benches, despite their new timber backs and seats, needed painting. A broken bench on the island, which could be seen from the river bank, created a bad impression.

LITTER CONTROL

On first impressions the town looked relatively litter free. However, a closer inspection walking down Holborn Hill revealed quite a lot of litter in the footpath gutter along the street, in particular outside the Seven Horse Shoes Bar. The rear area of the town also revealed some litter at the entrance gates to the re-development of the old railway station and at the houses further along. One or two papers were also in evidence on the Enniskillen Road.

TIDINESS

Overall, the town of Belturbet has a neat and tidy appearance. However, there are one or two problem areas which still need attention. There was a very weedy forecourt area in a prominent position at the tin roofed building at the junction of Holborn Hill and Erne Hill. A broken timber fence to the front of the church on the Enniskillen Road created a bad impression on approaching the town. Graffiti was in evidence on the warning road sign at the old jetty and the risers of the step to Bridge Street should be re-white-washed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category was generally quite good. Some of the boundary walls to houses along the Cavan Road needed attention although a man was noted re-painting his boundary wall on adjudication day! The houses along this stretch of road were generally attractive and mostly freshly painted. The landscaping at the housing estate on this road was also admired. Of particular note within the town was the freshly painted house in cream colour beside the Health Centre which looked very bright.

ROAD, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The meandering side streets and back areas of the town generally looked to be reasonably well maintained on adjudication day. The attractive stone boundary wall with its overhanging daisies on the Cavan Road should be repaired as it is broken in places. The verges along the Enniskillen Road were very overgrown. One or two papers were in evidence along this road and the name plate sign needed to be freshened up.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The plantation / market town of Belturbet on rising ground adjacent to the River Erne is a most attractive and uniquely charming one. It looked well cared for on adjudication day. However, you cannot afford to be complacent. Standards are just about holding up on last year and greater attention needs to be given to certain areas already mentioned in this report.