

Tidy Towns 1997

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **EDGEWORTHSTOWN**
County : **LONGFORD**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	21	20
The Built Environment	40	20	19
Landscaping	40	17	16
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	7	7
Litter Control	40	16	16
Tidiness	20	7	7
Residential Areas	30	16	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	15	15
General Impression	10	4	4
TOTAL MARK	300	123	119

Edgeworthstown, County Longford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your filled in questionnaire, the leaflet and Map of the town and the contract for the landscape company. They were most useful. Well done with your literary festival highlighting the importance of the past residents of the town. The adjudicators look forward to your 3-5 year plan next year.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The school on the Ballymahon road is well painted, but there are some weeds around the base of the walls. The GAA/sports ground was well presented. The amenity area and childrens play area on the Ballymahon road is a great asset to the town. Railings outside Kanes garage require repainting and the side yard requires clearing. C&D foods looked well. The Pub with dolphins is certainly unusual. The Bingo Hall though well painted looks a bit drab - any hope of some hanging baskets. A factory area on the corner of the Drumlish road seems derelict. Completed work being carried out on the Fire Station and on walls around St. Johns Church is looked forward to by the adjudicators. Those premises, The Park House, the Ulster Bank, Floods Foodstore, Quinns Supplies Stores, Manor Boutique are well presented. Those that could consider more traditional signage/shopfronts included Corner Place, Head to Toe Fashions and Gormans. Railings needed to be painted around Our Ladys Nursing Home. The Railway Station was superbly presented though unfortunately the grass on the approach road required cutting back. The bridge was well painted in a very nice colour and planting throughout the station and inside in the waiting room was a credit to the station master/mistress. The graveyard on the Granard road was well presented

LANDSCAPING

This could have been improved throughout the town. The shrubs on the Granard road have matured nicely and looked well. A number of the commercial premises featured nice hanging baskets, however, it is better to have no hanging baskets than plastic flowers. More premises should consider hanging baskets or window boxes.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

A wildlife habitat should be encouraged around the stream in the amenity area. Suitable flowers and plants such as flag irises/reeds, watermint etc. could be encouraged to grow. Water itself is home to such a variety of both flora and fauna. A project could be carried out by the school located closeby.

LITTER CONTROL

A scattering of litter was seen in the amenity area, and also around the estate at St John's Church. The main street was reasonable as were the approach roads.

TIDINESS

Weeds were noticed in the guttering on the Ballymahon approach road and this gave an untidy appearance. Is there any way the sand/grit area on the Dublin road could be screened off by hedging or climbing plants on the wire fencing.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The walls of the small estate on the Drumlish road were newly painted and looked well. There are some nice trees in the estates though there were some weeds evident in the guttering. The estate beside St. Johns Church was not good at all. An abundance of litter, walls that needed painting, grass uncut. roads very potholed, a number of cherry trees need replacing- it seems as though many of the residences are dejected about their environment. Is there any way a project could be initiated here, perhaps in the amenity areas to encourage and include the residents of the estate? The children could possibly initiate it through the schools. The housing on the Grandard road was well presented and was neat and tidy.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Some vandals had obviously sprayed/damaged many of the approach signs which was a pity. Are there new signs to go up on some of the roads as there were poles left vacant in front of the existing signs? The smaller signs welcoming people to the town, though a good idea, were too small and wrongly coloured (red and black) to make an impact. It was difficult to make them out as one is driving into the town. The new bi-lingual signs are welcome. Grass needs cutting back on the Longford approach road. Annual planting did not make a great impact on the Dublin road, probably due to the poor weather for much of the Summer so far. The use of a single colour or complementary colours would have greater impact. Would a traffic calming experiment or perhaps lights help the town in any way? - though they could cause tailback. There is a huge amount of traffic passing through the town including many large lorries.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Edgeworthstown needs to prioritise developments over the next few years. It is a busy town and it so would be nice to have the place looking well for those who pass through or who decide to stop. The amenity park is a great asset and some of the landscaping is good. The Railway station is to be congratulated again.

