

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNLEER**
County : **LOUTH**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	31
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	26	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	18	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	194	184

Dunleer, County Louth

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The presentation of the development plan is a very worthwhile project and will set the scene for a structured improvement. Each year priorities should be selected and a reassessment of the plan can take place as the work proceeds. Adjustment of targets can be made as needed and this will keep a practical approach in place.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings throughout the village were well presented. As noted last year Wogans would benefit from painting and some plastic signs in the village are taking a little from the overall appearance. The school is particularly well maintained and it is always important that public buildings be in a good state as everyone benefits.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping at Glen Dimplex factory is worth a special mention. Factory sites can be difficult and it is good that the such efforts have been made here. The containers throughout the village are attractive and add to the character of the village. The school garden is certainly commendable and having such a well tended garden ensures that children will develop a great appreciation of nature, gardens and the landscape. The treatment at the Health Centre was attractive. The island rock planter at the Clogherhead junction would benefit from more substantial planting. Individual gardens play an important part in the overall landscape of a village and should be encouraged.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Rivers always provide great opportunities for observing wild life. The planned river walk should be seriously undertaken as this would be a great asset. The mill behind the visitor centre could offer interesting opportunities if it could be made accessible. With such a wealth of hedgerows and trees surrounding the village, wildlife walks should be actively considered. The co-operation of environmental groups and involvement of schools would be helpful here.

LITTER CONTROL

A very good litter control programme seems to be in operation in Dunleer. Some litter was noticed in the car park opposite the Mill Race Pub. This will always present a challenge no matter how much effort is made and vigilance is the only answer.

TIDINESS

Dunleer can truly be said to be a tidy village. A neat appearance visible on passing through and on closer observation this hold true also.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Both Church View and Mountain View estates were well cared for and presented nicely. The brick surrounded planting area behind the church is a nice feature. More tree planting is desirable in open green spaces and this would add greatly to the overall picture. The gardens of the residences on the main roads add greatly to the overall appearance of Dunleer.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Drogheda approach road is extremely attractive. Very good grass verges and tree planting make this a feature. As already mentioned the roadside landscaping at the Glen Dimplex factory enhances that stretch of road and adds to the attractiveness of the approach road. The efforts on all approach roads is certainly paying off and from whatever side Dunleer is approached the work is evident.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Thorn hedges and trees characterise the surrounding landscape of Dunleer. It would be interesting to see how often those same plants are used in developments within villages. Dunleer gives the impression of a village where there is good co-operation among groups in achieving the standards set.