

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **FOXFORD**  
County : **MAYO**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	27
The Built Environment	40	19	19
Landscaping	40	18	17
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	25
Litter Control	40	11	12
Tidiness	20	8	8
Residential Areas	30	14	14
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	15	15
General Impression	10	5	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>141</b>

## **Foxford, County Mayo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The overall Development Plan seems to be working for you, if somewhat behind schedule in certain areas. You have done well to get a co-operative programme with Mayo County Council and FÁS. Litter remains a problem and more local co-operation will have to be won. Your education policy and involvement of the schools are good approaches.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Many of your important buildings are well presented. The church, schools, ESB building, library and Siopa Ceirdeanna Kay are all very attractive. You do have a problem with some derelict buildings, the ball alley and Killeens Engineering and the rear of the Woollen Mills are very poorly maintained. The Woollen Mills are made even more untidy by the fact that litter is collected in open trailers which presents a very poor impression. Plastic signs, poorly maintained walls and weeds on kerbs are issues that need your committees attention. Your approach with the colour advise from the local authority is very good, but you will have to redouble your efforts to have locals make full use of the talents and advice available to you.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Your programme of landscaping approach roads and car parks is progressing well. Your choice of trees and shrubs is appropriate. You need to continue this programme the full length of the Swinford approach where maintenance was required in the area of R & R Nurseries. The route to the football pitch from the woollen mills was in a very poor condition. The litter and the overgrown riverbank give a very poor impression of what could be a lovely amenity. This route improved as we neared the GAA pitch which was very well maintained save for litter in evidence at the extreme end of the car park. The woollen mills car park was well landscaped but be aware of the overflowing litter skip which should be screened and emptied regularly.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

We found little evidence, by way of signs or information panels, of the corncrake project. The development of the Foxford Way walking route is to be highly commended and gives your town an important resource. The riverbank urgently needs your attention if just to provide proper and adequate maintenance of this important amenity.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Despite your education programme there was no shortage of litter on most of the streets and in car parks. The open

trailer and skip near the woollen mills give a very poor impression of a Tidy Towns Competitor.

## **TIDINESS**

The tidy appearance of the town is adversely affected by the abundance of litter, the presence of building materials and rubble, e.g. near the ball alley, and the contrast between those well landscaped areas on the approach roads close to areas in need of attention. The woollen mills car park still has the unattractive fence and maintenance material which takes away from the overall tidy appearance of the area.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Homes on the Pontoon approach looked well as did the homes in the estate to the right on the Swinford approach road on the route towards the Garda Station. These homes, many of which were freshly painted and with lovely displays of tubs and flower baskets were most attractive. In Mill Park one unkempt garden detracted from those next door which were very well maintained. The council estate beyond the Garda station also needs attention. Old tractor wheels, unkempt grass areas and the leftovers of a bonfire in the concrete patio areas in the centre of the estate gave a poor overall impression.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

In general the approach roads are improving. The new stone wall and choice of trees in the Swinford route are very good. A continued programme for the remainder of the route, weed control at the base of walls and the removal of rubble, etc. in back areas should be attended to.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

You are making steady progress to improve the appearance of the town. You need to redouble your efforts in certain areas and secure more support from local people. Back areas and litter control are continuing to be serious problems areas.