

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DRUMCONRATH**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	26
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	24	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	29	28
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	185	181

Drumconrath, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the completed questionnaire and map. The map was particularly useful to the adjudicators. A 3/5 year plan for the village is still awaited covering the various elements such as amenity areas, litter, wildlife etc. It need not be too detailed but give an indication as to future work and projects that can be achieved by the village community.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Some premises, such as Muldoons, had traditional shopfronts. Others did not and could possibly consider a change in the future. Drumconrath Community Centre looked well and the GAA ground was well maintained. Both the church and the school were well maintained. Could the area beside the school be managed as a wildflower meadow? The village features some nice stone buildings which are attractive. General Motors required a clean-up. Could some of the old cars be removed? It is a highly visible building in the main street. The derelict house beside the PO requires attention. O'Reilly's was well presented. The graveyard on the Ardee road was also well presented though grass was left around some of the trees.

LANDSCAPING

Flower and tree planting was noted in many parts of Drumconrath. Trees need to be maintained. Lower branches and side shoots should be removed and dead trees replaced (Ardee road). Problems occur with flower planting when either the types of flowers used are not suitable or they are not planted soon enough. This results in poor growth and a poor display of colour (Kingscourt Road). One species in one colour makes a greater impact. Some nice hanging baskets were is evidence and a house on the Slane road had a magnificent display.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

These should be identified and be part of your plan. Old stone walls can be havens for certain plant types and this was evident on a wall on the Carrickmacross road. A wildflower meadow or area would also be attractive in one of the grassy areas. These should be managed rather than let grow wild

LITTER CONTROL

This was good with only a small scattering of litter evident on the Slane approach road on the day of adjudication. Litter bins were well maintained. Some more could be considered for the residential areas and approach roads away from the main street.

TIDINESS

This varied. Long grass on approach roads, cars (part of General Motors) on the main street and some grass in the gutters on the Slane road contributed to a less than tidy look in the village.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

De Valera Park was reasonably presented and there was some nice planting. The houses on the Kingscourt road were well kept as were those on the Carrickmacross road. A number of trees and planters further out seemed to be maintained by private residences - well done. The houses on the Slane road featured some nice gardens. Overall residences were well kept - keep up the good work.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Nobber road required cutting back and the sign required repainting/cleaning. Some of the grass needed cutting back further in as did the hedge. Overall, this approach is not consistently maintained. The Slane road approach was well looked after. The Kingscourt directional signing requires replacing. The Ardee road requires cutting back as does the Kingscourt road opposite the sign. Grass and verge cutting on the approach roads need only be half a metre in from the road edge and should be selective if possible to encourage various wildflowers in certain areas. The Carrickmacross road was well kept, and tidy and the hedges were cut back. A few more trees could be considered for this approach.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Drumconrath gave a good impression to the adjudicators - attention should be paid to approach roads and compilation of a Tidy Towns Action Plan. Well done on your work in maintenance in the past year.