

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNBOYNE**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	29
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	16
Litter Control	40	23	25
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	21
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	178	180

Dunboyne, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPEMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your questionnaire and map. A short plan is still required covering the different aspects of the competition. These can be set out in point form but make sure that they are realistic and achievable. Liaison with the local authority is essential especially for such aspects as plans for the local park. The building/repairs which are ongoing will make for a better village when complete and the judges look forward to this.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Shops on the Summerhill Road are well presented. Dunboyne National School had some lovely window boxes. The library was drab - could planting be considered? The Credit Union and Carpark looked well. The school on the Dublin road had quite a number of weeds at the entrance and at the barriers which should be removed. The Health Centre, Brady Grocers, the Pharmacy, Maguires Pub and the Garda Station also looked well. The Industrial Estate should be renamed Poppy Estate! It was a mass of red poppies on the day of judging. This demonstrates how well wildflowers can look. There were a couple of derelict buildings throughout the town which need to be addressed.

LANDSCAPING

Some of the amenity areas required to be looked after better. Dead tree debris needed to be removed. The Rockery areas are nice and will require little or no maintenance - well done. The centre green is a nice amenity area to have and was well maintained. Movie Magic and the Delicatessen had some nice hanging baskets but a few more would enhance the village further.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The adjudicators had never seen such litter as was seen in the amenity park on the day of adjudication. The town is lucky to have such an amenity which has such potential. A survey is required to ascertain the fauna and flora located here. This could be part of one of the projects you mention in the questionnaire for the school groups.

LITTER CONTROL

Some pieces of litter were seen in the estates but the main area of litter was at Dunboyne Park Amenity area. The amount of litter was appalling not just around the entrance but also further down the paths. Surely the local community of a Sunday afternoon and the County Council during the week could get rid of most of this. It must have accumulated over a period of time. Sadleir Hall could have some litter bins as could some of the other estates. Litter was also spotted beside the florist and the church. Quite a number of the litterbins were full which does not help the situation. However obtaining sponsorship of the litter bins, eg the Bank of

Ireland, is a step in the right direction and is commended.

TIDINESS

The litter, weeds in gutters and at the base of walls gave a very untidy appearance to the village. Most of the estates were reasonably presented. Once the work has been completed in the main street, it will be easier to keep clean.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

New development was evident all around Dunboyne. It is difficult to judge many of these areas until they are complete. Many are being landscaped well. The use of native trees/plants is preferable to non-natives. A lot of planting could be seen at St. Peter's Park - which looked well. The road required resurfacing in places. Some of the front walls needed painting. Sadleir Hall was very tidy as it is new - it was nice to keep the natural hedging. Courthill Drive was well planted though it needed quite a bit of maintenance. Mill Farm was reasonable though there were a few weeds in the gutter and at the base of trees. Rivercourt and Woodview Heights could possibly consider a wildflower meadow which could feature in the amenity area. The entrance to Chestnut Grove was tidy and Beechdale looked well. Temple Manor on the Navan road was fine

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Trim road needs cutting back and grass needs to be removed from the paving. Dublin road was tidy with little litter. However, the wooden fencing was broken and should be repaired. A few weeds in gutters need to be removed. The Dublin approach road could be cut back a bit better though leave the poppies in the hedgerow if possible. The Navan road had a lot of weeds around the backroads. The Navan approach road needed the fence mended on the bridge. The sign requires cleaning. The grass areas need to be cut back on the approach to Maynooth.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Dunboyne generally made an erratic impression with quite an amount of untidiness, litter and weedy areas. However, most of the landscaping is well presented and some of the housing areas are very good. The decrease in your marks this year reflects the untidiness and litter evident on the day. An all out campaign to eradicate litter from the village would be welcomed.