

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ATHLEAGUE**
County : **ROSCOMMON**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 30-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	--
The Built Environment	40	21	--
Landscaping	40	24	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	--
Litter Control	40	20	--
Tidiness	20	10	--
Residential Areas	30	17	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	--
General Impression	10	5	--
TOTAL MARK	300	165	--

Athleague, County Roscommon

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Athleague is a thriving busy village with some handsome buildings including buildings of historic interest. Perhaps its characteristic feature is the number of stone walls lining all approach roads into the town. A lot of work has been achieved to date in the refurbishment of stone walls but this programme should be continued until all stretches of stone wall from at least a hundred yards before speed limit signs continuing into the village are exposed, revealed and refurbished as necessary. Thank you for the completed questionnaire and the development plan, it makes ambitious reading. We wish you well in its implementation. Thank you for your continued participation in the competition, we look forward to noting your progress in the coming years.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The majority of buildings look well and the presentation of The Bridge House and Town and Country Interiors is splendid. The property adjacent to Keane's Spar Supermarket together with its curtilage area appears underdeveloped and so looks somewhat untidy in appearance. The completion of the Angling Centre at the old Church of Ireland property will be a fine visitor attraction, we wish you well in your plans.

LANDSCAPING

Trees planted on footpaths along the main street are maturing well. Flower displays at Gilligan's are outstanding in their presentation. The landscaped corner opposite Keane's Supermarket was much admired. Roadside landscaping forming carparking spaces at the Bridge House is excellent as are the many stone faced flowerbeds throughout the village. The landscaped green area on the Creggs road located beyond the sports grounds and cattle mart does not appear to be thriving, perhaps this may need to be replanted.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The graveyard and its boundary looks well. It is recommended that the committee organise a wildlife survey of the area to identify flora and fauna and use this as a baseline study for any future wildlife projects. Seasonal displays of local wildflowers could be featured on parts of the verges of approach roads in preference to completely trimming margins.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was quite good during adjudication, however there is still room for improvement. The provision of additional litter bins is a welcome development.

TIDINESS

An untidy green area of river bank located near the Bridge House might also be developed for amenity.

Keep up your efforts regarding inappropriate weed growth along kerbs and hard shoulders etc. The old petrol pumps at the 'Athleague Foodstores' property look very bad and should be refurbished or removed altogether.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Quite a good presentation under this heading. As always keep a check on boundary walls and their roadside areas in addition to weed growth along kerbs etc.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Most stretches of footpaths are well surfaced. A few remaining stretches are in need of resurfacing. The Tiernan Memorial Hall looks well. Its planting and flower displays in the carpark are attractive although more permanent landscaping (i.e. shrubs) would be more appropriate as they have year round interest. Perhaps a roadside boundary treatment here would be a nice feature; the area could be resurfaced also. More of the stone wall along the Galway approach road might be revealed and refurbished as necessary. This wall could be highlighted as an attractive feature of the village. The same point applies to a minor road out beyond the Bridge House. The quality of the road surface and footpath surface is generally very good throughout the town. The wirescape along the main street ought to be ducted at some stage in the future; no doubt the committee has thought of this already and has planned for it. Street furniture in general looks well. One or two items, such as the speed limit signs at the school need to be repainted. Lampstandards are attractive. The new stone wall across from the school is excellent. There are only one or two new lampstandards; the main street still features the old type.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall appearance of Athleague is attractive. There is still room for improvement as indicated in your plan. Good luck for the future.