

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MOUNT TALBOT**
County : **ROSCOMMON**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	26
The Built Environment	40	20	20
Landscaping	40	22	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	18	18
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	15	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	20
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	154	150

Mount Talbot, County Roscommon

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Mount Talbot is welcome to the 1997 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for the completed questionnaire; it was helpful for adjudication. It was a pleasure to notice the very good presentation of the village given the fact that it is so small with no businesses. The village appears to be being wholly maintained by the local community with the help of the County Council; well done indeed. Don't be disheartened with what appears to be a decrease in marks last year. As you know the criteria were changed and so the marking system was different. Do send in an outline of your simple work programme covering the next three to five years. This is important as having a work programme ensures a 'co-ordinated' rather than an 'ad hoc' approach to the overall development of the village.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The stone wall enclosure at the water pump on the main road looks particularly well. A white wall with blue capping and an adjoining property need to be painted as a priority. The old plastic signs should be taken down as they no longer serve a purpose. The ball alley had been resurfaced in time for adjudication and looks particularly well. No doubt the new owner of the property mentioned above for attention will present it to a high standard, keep it freshly painted, etc.

LANDSCAPING

Trees might be planted inside the concrete block wall on the left hand side of the road after the nameplate on the entrance from the Four Roads approach road. This will give greater enclosure to the field and buildings inside. The block wall itself could be planted with shrubs to its roadside edge. Young trees along the grass verge on the main road are maturing nicely and the stone wall behind is an appropriate backdrop. The area around the hand ball alley is beautifully landscaped with well presented street furniture, picnic tables, seating and litter bins. Both young trees and shrubs are maturing well. This has to be one of the nicest handball alleys anywhere in the country.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Wild hedgerow inside grass margins on the Athleague approach are an attractive feature. Perhaps the verges might be allowed to feature a seasonal display of local wildflowers also.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was reasonably good which is a grand achievement for such a busy thoroughfare. We note from your questionnaire that committee members pick up litter and pay to have a Wheel - A - Bin service during the summer. It is a good idea to elicit the help of children in weed control and planting as well as with litter.

TIDINESS

Maintain the bridge walls free of weed growth at their base. The

absence of derelict cars, machinery and other junk has been noted; well done. Some weed growth has been noted along kerbs, this is not a serious problem but should be checked before it gets out of hand.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The majority of private dwellings looked well during adjudication. A number of boundary walls on the Four Roads entrance into the village are in need of cleaning and/or painting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Stone walls along roads are neatly presented. Eventually stone walls marking the Galway entrance into the village should be exposed and restored. All items of street furniture are well presented. Some roadside areas need to be resurfaced but this is not a major problem.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of the village is particularly favourable. Your difficulties are appreciated, particularly being located on such a busy thoroughfare together with the small size of the population. Given your lack of resources the committee is doing a marvellous job. Well done!