

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ROOSKEY**
County : **ROSCOMMON**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 29-06-97

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1997 | Mark Awarded 1996 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 27 | 26 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 24 | 23 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 27 | 26 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 17 | 17 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 27 | 26 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 12 | 12 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 17 | 17 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 24 | 22 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 181 | 175 |

Rooskey, County Roscommon

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Rooskey are welcome to the 1997 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed questionnaire and the summary of the development plan 1997 - 2001. Both facilitated adjudication. It is good to note that the community is working with Roscommon County Council to upgrade the harbour and that a village renewal programme is commencing. Don't be deterred by the lack of co-operation of some people; in time this situation will be resolved. New developments in the village i.e. the Hotel and the National School are handsome additions to its building stock. Good luck in all your undertakings for the duration of your development plan.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both Cunninghams and the Diesel Fishing Tackle premises are beautifully painted and their presentation is excellent; well done! These buildings are important as they can be seen from a number of areas around the village. Walls beside the Glenville House could be repainted. The church is excellent both in the quality of its freshly painted appearance and of course in its landscaping. It is good to note from your development plan your ambitions for the improvement of the built environment.

LANDSCAPING

Flower displays on the 'Crews Inn' property are colourful. Landscaped areas on the Leitrim side are much admired also. Is there a potential for developing the small green site which features the 'Rooskey Community Alert Area' sign as a small garden or informal amenity area? Tree planting along the wide stretch of footpath at the Irish Country Meats property would add a new dimension to the streetscape and soften the impact of the last noted commercial property. Young trees on the Strokestown entrance to the village are establishing themselves well. Landscaping by the roadside of the new school has matured nicely. Some tree planting to the roadside edge of the carpark at Connlan's Well would be appropriate; three of four trees would be sufficient. Other wide stretches of footpath, e.g. up towards the Crews Inn, could accommodate landscaping also. Flower troughs around the village were in full bloom on adjudication day. Your landscaping plan as detailed in your work programme is appropriate.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Being located on the river Shannon, Rooskey and its environs are rich in wildlife. An appropriate project might be to survey the wildlife and present the findings of the survey in varying ways for visitors. The survey could also be used as a baseline for any future wildlife projects that may be undertaken. The verges lining the Strokestown approach road might be managed for a seasonal display of local wildflowers. This will require some careful thought and management. Your plan to develop part of the disused canal is a worthwhile initiative and we look forward to its completion.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is quite good. Your efforts regarding the maintenance regarding the harbour area and involving local children have paid dividends; the area was substantially litter free during adjudication. The challenge now will be to maintain this standard.

TIDINESS

Weed growth was noted along the base of walls on the Leitrim side of the village. Some side areas and outbuildings could look a little more tidy. Maintain the small bridge on the Strokestown road free of weed growth also.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Town houses have some attractive traditional features which should be highlighted; many need to be painted. One or two residential properties on the Strokestown entrance into the village could be repainted and at least one area to the roadside of a boundary wall either grassed or resurfaced.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads to the village are being well maintained and signage is good. An old style telephone kiosk was spotted behind a stone wall across from the Diesel Fishing Tackle premises; hopefully it will be refurbished and located in the village itself. These old style telephone kiosks are much more attractive than the more modern ones. Most items of street furniture are well maintained. One, however, across from the Garda station could be repainted. A wide stretch of footpath down towards the speed limit sign on the Strokestown end of the village needs to be resurfaced. The view of the lake from the Rooskey road is exceptional and emits a peaceful ambience. The speed limit signs on the Strokestown road need to be refurbished. The new road signs and amenity signs that you plan to put in place in the village as detailed in your development plan will be a welcome addition to Rooskey.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The appearance of Rooskey is commendable; a lot of fine work has been achieved to date and your development plan makes exciting reading. We look forward to its implementation over the next few years. We wish you well in all your undertakings. Thank you for your continued participation in the competition.