

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **GUSSERANE VILLAGE**  
County : **WEXFORD**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 30-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	--
The Built Environment	40	17	--
Landscaping	40	25	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	--
Litter Control	40	27	--
Tidiness	20	10	--
Residential Areas	30	12	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	--
General Impression	10	4	--
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>--</b>

## **Gusserane Village**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The work programme, separate from the application form, is now a requirement. This document is essential in establishing realistic objectives and allows a much more comprehensive assessment of projects undertaken in the Tidy Towns Competition. Often the works proposed occur over several years and thus long term planning can be better explained and adopted strategies more clearly understood through the report rather than yearly application forms. Congratulations must be shared on their first entry into the Competition and we look forward to the many future years of its involvement in the Competition.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

This is a town with very few structures and most of them of public building use. The town needs a greater sense of definition which can be attained through further works of landscaping. The unfortunate scale difference between the petrol station and the Church very much detracts from the overall setting of the built environment. This should be tackled through the use of trees to soften and separate the two developments. All the buildings are very well kept and present a simple rural character which is very pleasant.

### **LANDSCAPING**

All spaces within the town are very well maintained including the school yards grassed areas, landscaped areas around the Church and petrol station and a very fine graveyard which is very tidy and exceptional in its presentation. The need to tackle future planting areas with larger scale plants and mature trees will ensure a much more defined space and allow for greater connection between the various buildings of the village. The special attention given to the graveyard demonstrates the very high standard which can be achieved.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

There are lots of birds associated with this area and the evergreen Scots pines are a very distinctive feature on the skyline. The hedgerow between the school and the presbytery maintains the rural image and connection to the surrounding landscape. This should be maintained and perhaps these hedgerows be matched in future plantings to extend both the countryside feel and maintain the connection to wildlife habitats.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

This is very well handled and there is no evidence of litter. The village differs from other villages in that there is not a large population within its centre and thus litter control is perhaps more easily managed.

### **TIDINESS**

The village is very tidy and this is both a credit to the maintenance

of the landscape areas and effective litter control. There is a need to control the extent of loose gravel on the paved surfaces as it detracts from the overall tidy image.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are very few residences associated with this village and as such this category is difficult to access. All the residences leading to the village display very fine gardens and great pride in their landscape setting. The presbytery should examine how it might introduce some planting material to soften the walls surrounding the space.

### **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

All entry roads to the town are very well maintained and very few weeds associated with any of the areas around the village. The flower beds in front of the Church introduce a pleasant piece of colour which is much needed in the setting in front of the Church.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Gusserane Village presents a very tidy area which over the future years should develop into a most pleasant village setting. At present it is difficult to assess the proposals which will be developed as no report was submitted on future projects and we look forward to its submission next year.