

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **COOTEHILL**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-98

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1998 | Mark Awarded 1997 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 37 | 36 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 26 | 25 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 31 | 30 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 14 | 12 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 30 | 30 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 12 | 12 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 25 | 25 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 23 | 22 |
| General Impression | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 205 | 199 |

Cootehill, County Cavan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

After a lapse of some years this adjudicator was pleased to return to Cootehill and noted great progress in the Tidy Towns Competition. Further progress has been achieved this year thanks to the very positive leadership of the Tidy Towns Committee with the full support of the community, business sector and state agencies. With such a commitment to Tidy Towns Cootehill can in the very near future challenge seriously for the County Award. An increase in marks is richly deserved. Thank you for the completed questionnaire and map.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Churches and Schools were again very well presented this year. The Catholic Church on the Bailieboro Road is an imposing feature and a delightful introduction to the town with attractive planting and well maintained lawns. Commercial properties continue to improve and this must be very satisfying to The Tidy Towns Committee. Those of particular interest included Pharmacy, Ulster Bank, Super Valu, E. & M. Stores, Kenny Connollys and White House Hotel. Church of Ireland, AIB and other stone buildings in the area of Station Road and Market Street are of great architectural interest and are well presented. Drumlin House also looked well. The problem of derelict and unoccupied buildings still exists. Chapel Lane needs a lot of attention in this regard. The adjudicator noted that I.F.I. is funding the renovations of White Star. Drumlin House was also looking well. The many displays of hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs were an attractive and dominating feature of the Main Street. Well done but be careful not to over do it.

LANDSCAPING

You have again excelled under this heading. As mentioned in last years report some magnificent landscaping was noted on the outskirts of town. New line is a gem with the Famine Swill Pot an historical feature. The Turf Cart at Cavan Street and the Donkey and Cart on Church Road are imaginative and tastefully presented. Do improve the area of tennis courts and continue to maintain green open spaces to a very high standard. The Grotto on Shercock Rd was nicely presented. Your progress under this heading is much admired by the adjudicator and you have been rewarded with an increase in marks.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You obviously have taken on board the suggestions contained in last year's report. The Dromore River project is

exciting and nicely presented - well done. Bellamount Estate offers many opportunities for development under this heading and this should be promoted. Car Parks were presented well, however, the tennis court area needs further attention. Work closely with ENFO and Conservation Volunteers of Ireland when planning further initiatives under this heading.

LITTER CONTROL

With the exception of incidental litter in the area of main street litter control was very good on adjudication day. Do improve the overall presentation of litter bins and make sure they are emptied when necessary and not left to overflow and create untidiness.

TIDINESS

Cootehill generally has a neat and well cared for appearance. However, on closer inspection derelict and uncared for premises, poorly presented forecourt areas and incidental litter on some areas are of no help. Dumping in a stream to the right of Catholic Church was noted and should be tackled as a matter of urgency. Attention to detail will achieve further progress under this heading.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The residential areas in the town are kept to a very high standard of all round presentation. New Line deserves special mention - the level of landscaping is an attraction in itself - well done to the residents. Griffith Park on the Cavan Road requires further enhancement before it can be considered for a landscape award. Some well presented terraced houses with nice decorative floral displays were also admired in many parts of town. Improve the access road and footpaths at Bellview Drive.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

An improvement under this heading was noted by the adjudicator. However, of concern was the need to improve the presentation of directional and local signposting. Some back areas also need attention particularly on Church Street and Chapel Lane and the area at the entrance to GAA park was most disappointing. The building of new houses on most approach roads is to be welcomed providing that landscaping is carried out to the full and completed to a high level of all round presentation.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Cootehill is progressing very well. Your excellent working relationships with the community and statutory bodies is

most commendable and bringing results. Continued progress at this year's level will eventually bring you into consideration for major honours. Build on your success to-date and give greater attention to detail.