

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DUNLEER**  
County : **LOUTH**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 13-07-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	34
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>194</b>

## **Dunleer, County Louth**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The very comprehensive 5 year plan submitted by the Committee was read with interest. Ann O'Leary has set out clearly the suggestions to enhance the village and provided a time frame for each one. The committee are commended on their work in the preparation of this. You must now decide which projects you wish to achieve on a yearly basis and assess your progress as the work takes place. Including this information with next year's application would be helpful.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

In general the main buildings are well presented but some would benefit from painting. The Grove, Carlitos and Shearmans looked well, as did the butchers and Wogans, although its sign is badly worn and needs to be replaced. As noted before there are a lot of plastic signs on buildings in the village which detract somewhat from the overall appearance. Could these be replaced with more attractive traditional types of signage? The Ceili House and school are nicely presented and it would be worthwhile to preserve the old Railway Station building beside the library if at all possible. White River Mills is an interesting building. Could additional signage be provided to highlight this attraction ?

### **LANDSCAPING**

The Glen Dimplex factory grounds are very attractively presented. The school grounds and the car park of the Ceili House are well cared for, with the old ploughs adding a nice touch. The hanging baskets dotted around the village are an attractive part of the overall scene. Planting the wire mesh fencing around Wogans with trees or climbing plants would improve its appearance. Views of individual gardens around the village is pleasant, such as those of the Bramble Lodge Bed & Breakfast.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

A riverside walk would be a valuable amenity for the village and it is hoped this project will be developed over time. The laneway to White River Mills offers further opportunities for observing wild life, as does the overgrown mill behind the visitor centre. Perhaps you could invite local schools and environmental groups to get involved in identifying a project to work on together. A wildlife trail using the mature trees and hedgerow might present an interesting way to start.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The litter control in the main streets of Dunleer is good. However, quite a lot of litter was scattered around the car park in front of the library which shows the need for vigilance in all areas of the village.

## **TIDINESS**

The centre of the village appears quite tidy apart from the plastic signage which detracts a little. Some attention to weeding is needed on the bridge walls and around the bottom of the Railway Bridge on the Dundalk Road, also along the verges of the path to White River Mills.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Beechwood Drive, Church View and Mountain View estates are all presented to a good standard. The attractive planted feature and turf cart in Beechwood Drive are nice additions. The green in front of Church view would benefit from more planting of groups of shrubs or trees. The individual gardens in and around the village play a very important part in the overall presentation of Dunleer and every effort should be made to raise the standard of all gardens.

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

The approach roads in general are well maintained. The "Welcome to Dunleer" sign on the Dundalk Road needs to be re-painted or replaced. The grass verges here may need some extra attention during the growing season. The Drogheda approach road is well maintained with tidy verges. The landscaping at Glen Dimplex enhances this approach very much. Many attractive gardens along the various roads are a pleasant feature.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The general impression of Dunleer is of a well cared for village with a good relationship between all the organisations involved. There are lots of interesting opportunities for the village to enhance its living environment as detailed in the plan. We look forward to seeing these ideas develop over the years ahead.