

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **INNISKEEN**
County : **MONAGHAN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	199	198

Inniskeen, Co. Monaghan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your completed questionnaire and map, they were very helpful. Your partnership with local bodies, is showing great effect in the overall presentation of your lovely village. As part of the competition entry, you are requested to include a proposed long-term work programme for the village. A clear and concise 3/5-year plan, outlining achievable targets for the committee, will help focus your work in the future.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both commercial and public premises in the village, in general, were well presented and maintained. The Churches, Resource Centre, Round Tower, School and Poets Post Coffee Shop, were well presented. Mc Gee's Pub, and the buildings around it also looked well, but the old railway building needs to be tidied. The Community Centre also looks well, but the area at the rear of the public toilets needs to be tidied. The Credit Union looked very well with an attractive forecourt and shrub bed. Both entrances to the Grattan Park need to be tidied and paint refreshed. A very well maintained Garage/ shed area also caught this adjudicator's eye on the Barrack Road. The old garage beside Duffy's Shop still looks untidy and detracts from the general streetscape. Mc Nellos, had a very attractive presentation, with lovely floral features and paintwork.

LANDSCAPING

Both the landscape features and trees on the approach roads were attractively presented. The grotto area is also caught the eye. The flowerbed opposite the Church has a good mix of plants with colour and content throughout the year. It is important to maintain this type of shrub beds and keep them tidy. The flowerbeds opposite the Resource Centre also had some attractive and colourful flowers. The Riverside Park area is a great asset and amenity to have in the village area, and was well presented. The simple use of nasturtiums on the walls at the Park Walk and Church Yard is very attractive. The flowers on the Railway Bridge will also be an attractive feature when they grow and develop further. The new stone walls also look well. The other floral features, window boxes and hanging baskets, at individual properties also looked very well, and enhance the overall view of the village. The Children's Play Area also looked attractive and well maintained.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There are many opportunities for enhancing and conserving wildlife habitats and the environment within the village. The river is the first and obvious choice. It is also clean and accessible.

Inniskeen is already very fortunate to have the Riverside Park. Open spaces, meadow and grass areas, waterside and hedgerows offer additional opportunities to encourage and protect wildlife in this area. Work in conjunction with the relevant local bodies, schools, or a local wildlife expert to develop this important area.

LITTER CONTROL

There was some litter in evidence on the day of adjudication, on the approach roads, at the rear of the Resource Centre, and at graveyard steps on to the road. There was also some debris in the river beside the bridge at the Round Tower. The committee should consider getting some additional litterbins at the Resource Centre Car Park and Tower area. Litter control was more effective in other areas of the village, and the committee's vigilance in this important area is showing success, but must be consistently maintained throughout the village.

TIDINESS

The overall impression was one of general tidiness, The attractive walls, landscaping and well-maintained premises contributed to this impression. However some small factors need to be addressed. The seat and bin at the P. Kavanagh Birthplace sign need to be painted. The abandoned car at the old railway station should also be removed. The adjudicator acknowledges the comments in the questionnaire regarding the space opposite the school, and agrees that this roadside area must be tackled to improve the appearance of this area.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many houses throughout the village and including the Deery Park, and Dun Ard housing developments, were very well presented, with attractive hedges, lawns and flower features. The bench in Dun Ard needs to be repaired and painted. There is also a lovely old pump at the entrance to this estate. The kerb at the entrance to Deery Park needs a little attention. The open grass areas and landscape areas are nicely maintained. The beautiful and colourful flowers in some individual gardens were again noted. Well done for the hard work to those responsible.

ROADS STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All the approach roads are well presented, with tidy verges that do not compromise the wildlife in the roadside hedges. The footpath area outside the attractive new cottages and the road area opposite Mc Nello's both look well. The road surface on the immediate approaches to the village could do with some attention, and the wall opposite the grotto needs to be repaired and the graffiti removed. The Grotto area combined with the attractive landscaping features on this road gives a lovely first impression of the village.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The community of Inniskeen are to be commended for the way they have acknowledged and developed the village's unique features and literary heritage. They should try to involve the community and local organisations when drafting the future work programme. Continue to foster co-operation with local bodies who may be able to help with advice and ideas. Your efforts to date are a good advertisement to the rest of the community. Keep up the good work .