

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **STREAMSTOWN**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	19	19
The Built Environment	40	17	16
Landscaping	40	15	15
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	10
Litter Control	40	19	20
Tidiness	20	9	9
Residential Areas	30	16	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	14	14
General Impression	10	4	4
TOTAL MARK	300	123	123

Streamstown, County Westmeath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The village though small, needs a short development plan which can be set out in points if wished. This needs input from the local community and should take into account the resources and limitations of the community and area as well as the role each associated organisations and body plays in village development. A unique aspect needs to be identified and this needs then, to be developed. Good luck in your plan formulation.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings were presented to varying standards. The derelict buildings do cause a problem through the village. The school beside the Mullingar cross-roads looked well. The Agristores is a fine building though there were bits and pieces left outside which made it look untidy. The Beechtree pub was well presented and had some nice wooden seating. The handball alley was well painted, but on entering it, litter and weedy areas were noticed. The stone wall behind the pump looks well and will look better with some natural vegetation growth. The pump also requires a coat of paint.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping was quite inconsistent. Is there a plan and purpose of it? The area beside the trees on the Rosemount road requires selective cutting to allow through wildflowers. The area beside the shop looked well and the area beside the cross roads looked as though it was being reseeded. The area beside the pump under the Beech tree looked well, though was there meant to be another pump here? A plan for landscaping using native trees, shrubs and plants is required to enhance the village further.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This village which is so much part of the rural landscape should identify a number of wildflowers and use them to landscape the area using the theme of these flowers - oxeye daisies could be considered as they are so prevalent. Wildlife habitats should be identified and those knowledgeable about these habitats consulted in order that plans can be drawn up for enhancement and management.

LITTER CONTROL

There was quite a bit of litter to be seen especially in the grass beside the derelict house. A standard and an awareness needs to be encouraged. All in the village should be vigilant of litter and deal with it immediately.

TIDINESS

The village did not look particularly tidy on the day of adjudication due to the long grass on approach roads, derelict areas and the litter. A concerted effort must be made to improve in this category.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Houses in the village and on the outskirts were generally well kept. One of these of note included a white house with a lovely garden on the Ballymore road - well done.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads were poor in presentation. The Killare road was not identified by a sign and required cutting back. The area in front of the sign on the Mullingar road required cutting back, however in cutting verges, a margin is all that is required so as not to destroy the many flowers that are evident. Both the Boher and the Rosemount road also require cutting back and tidying. Selective cutting is encouraged so that ferns and wildflowers can be allowed flourish through the hedges.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Streamstown has a bit of work to complete before it can compete in a serious manner in the competition. For such a small village, litter is a big problem and this should be eradicated. Again, a simple plan drawn up by the committee would help to focus work in the coming years. Good luck with this.