

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNBOYNE**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	21	22
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	185	183

Dunboyne, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your development plan clearly indicates the priority areas for attention in the years ahead. Improved road and footpath surfaces, better litter control and greater attention to detail are some of the main requirements. Meath County Council has a major role to play in the achievement of these objectives and you must work closely with them in order to reach your goals. The handout map was very helpful.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The village square is an attractive feature and the surrounding buildings both residential and shops complement it. The shop fronts and scale of signage are generally satisfactory although there are still a few frontages and signs that are not in character with the street-scape. The high standard of presentation of Bradys, the Pharmacy and Fingal House are a few of the premises that stand out. The trees both soften and frame the Church. St. Peters College is an attractive modern building as is the Credit Union. Some of the premises in the Industrial Estate have landscaped surrounds. The water tower is still a problem and should either be painted or replaced.

LANDSCAPING

The green with its mature trees in the village centre is a delightful feature and is an oasis of calm. The trees in the more recently paved section add to the overall effect. The contribution of the trees around the Church has already been referred to. The mature trees on the Maynooth and other roads are also important. Most of the housing estates have landscaped entrances and public areas. The mature trees at Beechdale are most attractive and are another good example of how beneficial trees are. Flower-beds and planted containers in many locations add interest. Window boxes especially in the Square help brighten up a number of quite dull buildings e.g. the school.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Much more could be made of the Tolka as a natural amenity and wildlife habitat. Removing litter and dumped material from the bed of the stream would be a start, e.g. at the bridge beside Wood View Heights. Trees especially of the native variety and berried shrubs are important habitats and more should be encouraged where appropriate.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter continues to be a major problem and blights the village. Litter is present on all the approach roads and the village centre. It collects in gap and wind-trap areas and is even present in several of the grassed areas at the entrances to housing estates. Your efforts to improve the litter situation are noted but have not yet borne significant fruit.

TIDINESS

The standard of presentation of buildings and housing estates gives a good impression but this is off-set by litter, poor road and footpath surfaces. Weeds are also noticeable on footpaths and gravelled margins

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Dunboyne is a rapidly growing centre with many housing estates. Most of these are well looked after with landscaped entrances and public areas. It is not possible to list all these estates here and it would be quite invidious to single out some and not others. Last year's report was quite detailed on what had been achieved under this heading.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Comment has already been made about the condition of the road surfaces in many parts of the village. Much more also has to be done to bring the footpaths up to standard. Weedy footpath kerbing was noted in several areas. The wooden railings on the bridge approaches need repair on the Dublin road. Several road signs need attention. Long vegetation hides the village name sign on the Summerhill road.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Dunboyne is a rapidly growing centre with all the developmental problems that brings. Your development plan highlights what needs to be done.