

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNSHAUGHLIN**
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	27	27
Landscaping	40	25	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	20	23
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	22	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	183	181

Dunshaughlin, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

A rapidly growing centre such as Dunshaughlin has particular problems to overcome especially as it also has a huge volume of traffic to cope with. In these circumstances the role of the Tidy Towns Committee is particularly important in focusing attention on and in helping address a range of environmental and developmental issues. Your detailed map, entry form and work plan were helpful and the points were noted. Your photographs of the road junction area amply portray the range of problems that you have to try and contend with. We look forward to receiving a copy of your village design statement. It is hoped that you will be successful in obtaining a village renewal scheme as this would have an enormous impact on Dunshaughlin.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The public buildings are attractively presented, Churches, Schools, Library, etc. Many of the industrial buildings have landscaped grounds. Bridisco, however, has a weedy gravelled parking area. The shops and business premises are a mixed lot. Many have attractive frontages, others are in need of renovation. In general there are still far too many unsuitable plastic signs and there are several derelict buildings all of which impact on the street -scape.

LANDSCAPING

The quality of landscaping at the entrance areas and in the public areas of many of the housing estates is one of the better features of Dunshaughlin. The landscaping on the Dublin road is also noteworthy with its trees, trimmed grass, well maintained shrubberies, etc. The Cart looks well and is an interesting feature. The planting at the main Navan/Swords road junction looks very well as it does further out the Swords road and the Kilcock road etc. The landscaping work at the SuperValu car-parks is praiseworthy. The many well planted hanging baskets, window boxes etc. were also noted. The trees in the footpaths on the Main Street help soften the street- scape and do make a difference. Several of the trees are struggling and there are considerable gaps. A fresh look should be taken to see if there is scope for planting additional trees.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Well planted gardens, native species of trees, berried shrubs, etc. are all important wildlife habitats. There is

scope to involve the schools in a variety of wildlife projects including the identification of habitats in and around the village.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter is a major problem. On the day of inspection excessive amounts of litter were visible throughout the town, on the main street, side streets and approach roads. Tackling litter should be one of your top priorities.

TIDINESS

Better litter control and more regular sweeping of street gutters would bring about significant improvements under this heading. The number of derelict buildings also detract from the appearance of the town.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are many fine houses in the town. The presentation of most of the houses and housing estates as has already been said is one of the better features of Dunshaughlin and they continue to improve year by year. It is not necessary to list the estates which are present throughout the town especially on the Kilcock road.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Hedges and grass margins on all the approach roads particularly the Dublin road are well tended. Many of the road signs especially in the town centre require attention. Road surfaces could also be improved. Traffic calming as suggested in last years report should be considered.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A planned approach involving the community and State agencies especially the County Council is the only way that Dunshaughlin's problems can be solved.