

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **RATHMOLYON**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 21-06-1999

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1999 | Mark Awarded 1998 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 34 | -- |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 27 | -- |
| Landscaping | 40 | 25 | -- |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 15 | -- |
| Litter Control | 40 | 20 | -- |
| Tidiness | 20 | 11 | -- |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 22 | -- |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 23 | -- |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | -- |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 183 | -- |

Rathmoylon, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Rathmoylon is a compact village with several attractive features and has the potential to do well in the competition. A good start has already been made and augurs well for the future. Your plan sets out in a clear way a comprehensive programme for the years ahead and if implemented will transform the appearance of the village. Your liaison with the relevant State agencies will increasingly bear fruit. You are welcome into the competition and your progress in the years ahead will be watched with interest.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Churches are important buildings in the village. The stone tower and high stone wall around the Church of Ireland and the other stone walls in its vicinity add character to the village. Harnons thatched pub is a unique feature but needs painting as do several other premises. The butchers and adjoining buildings are attractively painted. There are a number of unsuitable name signs.

LANDSCAPING

Your landscaping and planting plans etc. for the future have been noted and when completed will have a major impact on the village. The maintained grassed area with the picnic seats and the village pump at the Trim junction look well. In the future it might be possible to replace the concrete bollards with stone which would be more in keeping with the stone work of the village. Consideration should be given to planting shrubberies at the car park of the Catholic Church. This would reduce its impact and bring the car park more into scale with the rest of the village. The open area at the Enfield junction with the concrete and chain link fencing is in a strategic location and it is important that the upgrading of this area is carried out at an early date. The hanging baskets in the village look well and give a welcome touch of colour.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your plans under this heading are also noted. The planting of native trees and berried trees and shrubs will help wildlife. The cutting of hedges should be carried out with nesting birds in mind.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is reasonably good. However scatterings of

litter were noted on approach roads especially the Enfield and Dublin roads. Your new litter bins were noted and should help litter control. Try and standardise the type of bin used. For example there are two different types of bins at the amenity at the Trim junction.

TIDINESS

The village looks reasonably well but there is room for improvement. Painting and better maintenance of grass verges and the upgrading of gravelled areas and road margins would contribute greatly to the appearance of the village.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are several attractive houses and gardens in the village. The two-storeyed house with its outbuildings and boundary wall on the opposite side of road to the Church of Ireland looks well. The fencing at the Local Authority houses at the speed limit signs need upgrading and dead shrubs replaced.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

While there are good examples of neatly trimmed grass margins and hedges throughout the village, e.g. on the opposite side of the road to the Catholic Church, the majority of hedges and margins on all the approach roads need more regular attention to look their best. Your plans to link the Catholic Church with the village proper is commendable. The extensive gravelled areas around the Church of Ireland need upgrading. Weeding and resurfacing would be a big improvement.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your five year plan sets out a blue print for the future development of the village. The road to success lies with involving the whole community and working closely with the State agencies. Be careful to maintain the character of the village and don't overdo special features or street furniture.