

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **ROSSES POINT**  
County : **SLIGO**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 05-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	27
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	27	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	13
Litter Control	40	25	22
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	24
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>171</b>

## **Rosses Point, County Sligo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The completed questionnaire, map and supporting material was all very helpful and informative. You set the scene with the historical development of the village, and the evolution of the current T.T.C. In this section of the competition the idea of a concise 3/5 year plan outlining achievable targets for the committee, is to help the committee to focus and measure your plans in the future. Your plan for this year includes some good ideas and it is particularly praiseworthy to see the growth in interest in the many aspects of the competition from within the community. Your continued co-operation with the County Council, local Heritage and Development Associations and other interested bodies was again noted, and the benefits of these partnerships will continue to enhance and enrich the village and its community.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Rosses Point with its rich maritime history, has many attractive features that contribute to its overall appearance. Approaching the village, the Garda Barracks and the adjoining house both looked well. The Church of Ireland and its well maintained grounds, and planters make an attractive statement at this end of the village. Progressing along the old road in the village, the grounds around the derelict portocabin residence needs some attention, and the tidy grass was noted at the enclosed junction box. The busy Petrol Station and shop looked tidier this year, although fully enclosed gates provide even better screening than those currently used. The Moorings with its attractive flowers and landscape features caught the eye once again, and both Harry's Bar, and the attractive House with the balcony beside it looked well. Niftys Bunker and Austie's were also extremely well presented, with some lovely flower features in their forecourt areas, the latter also having some well presented and interesting nautical features. The Catholic Church looked tidy but will soon need the paint work on its outside wall refreshed, and the Hall still needs some attention. The graveyard area also looked relatively tidy. The Caravan Park and its approach road and facilities looked very well. The Golf Club is a very attractive building in a focal position in the village, with some attractive landscaping, but it needs its paint work refreshed and perhaps they should now consider improving their railing opposite Greenlands Tce.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The very attractive stone wall on the approach road from Sligo looks well. Following last years comments, the new

surface dressing and sprayed weeds were noted for some length of the wall, and it would be good to see it extended further past the speed limit sign post. The small pump opposite the cottages looks well in its new maritime colours. The large expanse of green area along the promenade looks very well, well done to the weekly volunteers for their long hours of hard work. The attractive picnic furnishings, and varied landscape and flower features look really well. There was a good mix of plants with colour and content for the whole year, and the new brightly painted tubs and tyres also caught the eye on the approach to and around the village. The seats look well on the promenade, but the footpath and verges still need attention. It is possible to keep this area tidy without compromising the flora and fauna, this point can also apply to the roadside to the beach, the scenic walk, and around the harbour area. The Nautical theme was taken up again in the very attractive planting and features at the harbour entrance. On the top road the pump, water trough and flower bed features brighten up this poor junction with its vibrant presentation. The perennial beds were noted in Grave Yard Car Park, and some attractive landscaping features were also noted in the Blennicks. The stone flower bed tidy green area and planters also looked very well in front of Greenland's tce.. The nice stone flower bed and seats in Columcille Drive was noted again, but the surrounding area still needs to be tidied. Some attractive paving and planters also caught the eye outside the new apartments. The inclusion of a horticulturist in planning your planting was an excellent idea, as there are many suitable plants and indeed specialist nurseries for coastal landscaping. These plants may cost a little extra at purchasing stage, but you are rewarded with a greater cultivation or success rate compared to perhaps inappropriate planting in the past. Well done for taking the initiative and every success in its implementation.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This is a relatively new category in the competition, and the T.T.C. have an important role to play in the appropriate development and conservation of the natural environment. Rosses Point is very fortunate to have so many beautiful natural amenity areas in its environs. Congratulations once again on maintaining your Blue Flag Status, and this achievement must not be taken lightly. There are many other opportunities for enhancing and conserving wildlife habitats and the environment within the village. Wild flower meadows / grass areas, nesting boxes, pond/water features, trees and hedgerows offer some opportunities. The scenic walk from the harbour to the beach could be developed as an option, with its varied bird life, shoreline, grass meadows and hedgerows offering additional opportunities. The large new signage on the beach resolves my point about the varied fauna on the hill towards the life guard hut and explains the important conservation work on

the sand dunes. Although the sign itself may not be as sympathetic in design to its surrounds, it hopefully will be effective in generating an appreciation of the natural environment in the people who use this wonderful amenity area. If planning further signage for the harbour area or other areas in the village please choose /locate your signs carefully, so that they enhance rather than intrude on the environment you are trying to preserve. When developing other plans under this heading work in conjunction with relevant local bodies, ENFO, or a local wildlife expert for accurate and practical advice.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Once again there was very little litter in evidence in the village and surrounds on the day of adjudication. Some litter was noted at the first seat on the scenic walk. The bins at the beach were again well maintained. Your Litter Awareness Scheme in the school is admirable, combined with your volunteer clean-up sessions and your co-operation with the County Council, they are all showing good effect. Well done, but the committee and community must remain vigilant in this area.

## **TIDINESS**

This category of the competition covers a variety of aspects related to the overall presentation of the village. The attractive landscaping and the many well maintained premises contributed to a general impression of tidiness in Rosses Point. Derelict or untidy sites remain a challenge, and some areas still need some attention to improve the whole image of the village. It is important that all areas of the village are maintained, kept tidy and weed free, including forecourts, back yards, kerb edges, all open spaces, and areas between properties. Back alleys/yards, should be appropriately screened particularly in areas that will attract rubbish or dumping. Hacketts Car Park looks better this year. The large shed on the hill beside the beach Car Park still looks untidy. The sea pool at the Yacht Club, still needs to be tidied up, as this amenity is obviously used by people. While acknowledging that some improvements have been made in the harbour area the road surface remains poor, Elsinore House and surrounds look very unsightly. It is good to see that the committee are investigating the possibility of developing this important local heritage site. It is also good to see that somebody has plans for one of the derelict cottages on the main street, but there are still some premises and open areas that need some attention, as they detract from the streetscape.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Many of the houses in and on the approaches to the village were well presented and maintained. Some tidy hedges and

boundary walls, flowers, tubs and hanging baskets were noted. Once again the beautiful and colourful flowers in some individual gardens looked particularly. As stated last year, there is a wide variety of house styles in the village and, once again, many homes were painted in traditional bright seas side colours. On the upper road, the very attractive stone wall and flower features on the lower section of Ros Beolain looked well, although the upper part of this development needs some attention. A fine new stone wall was also noted at the entrance to a home opposite Ros Beolain. Woodbine Cottage and the thatched cottage past it also look very attractive. Some very attractive railings were noted in front of the two houses beside Nifty's Bunker, and the sympathetic restoration of the large house and wall beside the apartments looks very well. The apartment block also looks smart on completion. Whilst acknowledging that there are some holiday homes in the village, some properties new and old, still need to tidy their forecourt or surrounding areas, finish entrances, gates etc, throughout the village. Similarly, some of the housing developments around the village need attention, some grass areas need to be tided, and weeds removed at paths and walls. This is a small matter of attention to detail and easily addressed by the individual property owners/developers. The landscape features in the Blennicks looks well even though the development is not yet complete. A nicely maintained green area was noted in front of a line of houses in the upper part of the village, as was the many home owners who maintain areas outside their boundaries.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The new road surface in the village had started, well done for your successful approach to the County Council, hopefully this new surface will be continued on the top road of the village also. This work will both benefit the residents of the areas concerned and enhance the overall presentation of the village. The approach road and promenade have a good surface, road markings and footpath. The road to the beach needs to be tidied. There are some old stone walls along the roads in the village and on the way to the beech that reflect the last vestiges of farming in the area; these could be cleared, weeded and tidied to show them to their best advantage. Some nicely faced hedges and tidy grass verges were noted on some of the roads. Some signs in the village need attention in particular the one school sign.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Your continued progress is rewarded with an increase in marks in many areas of the competition, and once again demonstrates your commitment and enthusiasm for your village and its idyllic environment. The successful outcome of your plans, vigilance and attention to detail could

eventually lead Rosses Point to greater achievements within the Tidy Towns Competition. Well done to all involved and keep up the good work.