

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BORRIS**
County : **CARLOW**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	35
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	206	203

Borris, County Carlow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your development plan and progress report attached with your entry form. It is a very comprehensive plan and sets out your goals for the next few years. It is good to see that you work with the agencies and in particular with Carlow County Council has been of great help and assistance. The village is a very attractive one and also its natural environment helps to enhance this. In your plan you have indicated the areas on which work must be done in particular, the industrial premises, waste and open grounds. It is good to see that you are conscious that any plans which are drawn up must take into consideration the existing design and heritage.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The presentation of many buildings throughout the village is very good. Business premises which look particularly good are: Coady's, The Green Drake, Joyce's pub and Teddy's Take Away. Business premises which have plastic signage might be encouraged to replace it. The telephone booth, which is of the old design, needs to be repaired and painted. The tennis courts need attention and it is a pity to see them in an untidy condition. The public buildings such as the church, school and post office continue to be maintained well. Other industrial buildings and the mart need attention, and are not presented very well currently. The filling station on the Bagnalstown Road is presented in a neat and tidy condition. It was good to see that the walls of the estate were repaired.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping throughout is very good, but the maintenance of it is very important. The main Fair Green and the Upper Fair Green need good maintenance. On the day of adjudication the grass needed cutting and grass cuttings would need to be removed. The area to the front of the green, inside the wall, was overgrown and did need to be tidied up. The entrance by the steps was well maintained and the flowers looked very well. The grass under the picnic tables needed to be cut as does the grass around the trees. Regular maintenance of open green spaces is necessary so that the area can look attractive at all times. The additional planting of new trees was noted. The viaduct embankment had its grass cut and looked neat and tidy.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

I note that you have not gone ahead with your wildlife

project in the Upper Fair Green and the reasons given. However, I would not let that deter you and would proceed with it as soon as possible. The area indicated is ideal and would be a tremendous asset for the community. Perhaps another area worth investigating to establish a wildlife habitat would be the viaduct.

LITTER CONTROL

The overall control of litter in the village is very good. There is a large area to cover and your preventative measures are paying off. You now have measures in place to counteract this problem. However, vigilance is necessary at all times. Also, do not forget to involve the schools in your anti-litter drives. There were some small pieces to be seen in Woodlawn, The Green and on the Fenagh Road.

TIDINESS

There was an absence of fly-posting throughout. The control of weed growth at kerbs, at the base of buildings and walls was very good. Continue to encourage individual property owners to control weed growth on a co-ordinated basis. I note that you intend to install a recycling depot for bottles and cans. Ensure it will be in a suitable location with screening if necessary.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most property owners throughout the village make a very good effort in presenting their houses very attractively. The open green space in the Woodlawn Park area would need more regular cutting. It is also essential that the grass cuttings be removed. The Upper Cottages are presented to a very high standard and make a great effort with the use of flowers and colour. The houses in the Old Station Road look very attractive and the owners here again make a great effort to have them looking good. The open space here was neat and tidy. When meeting residents' committees you might appeal for individual householders to pay special attention to their boundary walls and the control of weeds at the kerbs outside their own houses. When house building is completed in Bog Lane, the landscaping of the gardens here will help considerably to further improve this area.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All the approach roads are maintained in good condition with perhaps the Myshall Road needing some more work. Attention has been given to the pavements and this does help to improve the overall presentation of Borris. The linking laneways to the main street: Bog Lane and Pound Lane are clean and tidy but perhaps some footpaths or resurfacing will be necessary here. The signposting, generally, is clean and in good condition, however, this has

to be monitored continuously.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Borris has the ability and the potential to do well in the Tidy Towns Competition. You are fully aware of the areas which need to be tackled. It is hoped, in time, that the industrial sector of your community will come on board with you in helping to present their properties in a better light. You have identified the problems and with your continued effort these should be resolved over the next few years. Persistence should pay off in the end. Well done to you and your community in the great efforts you are making for Borris to look clean and tidy.