

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **COOTEHILL**  
County : **CAVAN**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	35
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	30	30
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	26	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	8	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>210</b>

## **Cootehill, County Cavan**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you very much for your Plan, completed questionnaire, map and additional information. This was of great help to the adjudicator on the day and lays good foundations for projects/progress over the coming years. Well done to you on the efforts devoted to the collation of this information and in the long term this will prove successful for you.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Your Churches, schools, commercial/business premises and residential houses are all being maintained to a very high standard and set the atmosphere for the excellent community in which you live. Properties worthy of note are the Catholic Church with its splendid grounds, large rose bed, bank of shrubs sloping to the car park and its beautifully painted gates; the Church of Ireland in its grand location; the AIB, The Post Office with its attractive garden; the White Horse Hotel with its ivy and window boxes all these sets the scene for entering into the main shopping/commercial area. Premises worthy of note here were M&M Magee, E&M Stores, Gorman's Super Valu, Apothecary, Pharmacy, Credit Union, Presbyterian Church and walled grave yard. Some shops continue to use the footpaths for displaying their products and should be discouraged from doing so. Again Abbott Ireland deserves mention - its grounds are superb. The grounds of the old church close to the Manse B&B while trimmed had some weeds growing there and this detracted from the nice garden attached. It was noted that there is still construction works going on close to the Credit Union but when complete will add to the streetscape there. The corrugated roof on the Ola Garage needs improving. The building at the back of the White Star Hostel is still being developed and when complete will enhance the street further. The Tyre Centre still remains untidy. The Garda Station needs painting including the gate and the grounds also needs to be improved. The street signage is excellent.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Progress is being achieved under this heading. On adjudication day, it was lovely to see the ducks at Haltons and also the duck shelter. Perhaps a Wildlife Information panel identifying the various habitats in the area could be considered for the future.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Your choice of trees, shrubs and flowers and where they have been sited are to be commended. Landscaping in the town, on the approach roads and in housing estates are all very well maintained. Planters and hedging that have been used to cloak unsightly areas are an excellent concept. Great credit to all concerned here! Again worthy of note - the amenity on Cavan Street with its the landscaped bank with the donkey and cart, wishing well and lovely stone surround, the grounds opposite this area are to be commended too. The colourful cart with its floral display is a very nice effect on Cavan Street. The workhouse famine pot with its attractive sign, floral displays and grounds were flawless on adjudication day. The floral boat (at the IDA entrance) is pleasant but part of the surround needs replacing. There is a magnificent floral display on the Cavan Road which is set in stone and is very eye catching.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Generally the town was free from litter on the approach roads and in the housing estates but there was some residual litter in the town centre and at the GAA Park. Some bins need replacing. Be vigilant in this area.

### **TIDINESS**

The overall impression of the town is one of neatness and tidiness. However, there are some unsightly buildings in Church Street and Cavan Road of which you are aware. Hopefully you will get the co-operation of these owners for the future. As mentioned above shop owners who display their products on the street presents a sense of untidiness.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

As one enters this town they immediately get a favourable opinion of Cootehill. The houses and gardens with their manicured lawns - one surpasses the other. Errigal Estate was well maintained, though it could do with some further planting to add colour. Griffith Park and Griffith Avenue were excellent with their brightly painted houses, window boxes and the grounds with its beautifully painted picnic tables, seating and bins, and floral arches are an absolute credit to all concerned. It was noted that one of your future proposals is to build a stone wall here. The house on an elevated site opposite the R.C. Church is worthy of note with its beautiful grounds with mature trees and manicured lawns. The new red bricked houses on the Cavan Road when complete will enhance that area and already some landscaping has taken place here. St Michael's Close beside the Church Car Park was also neat and tidy with lovely shrubs and trees. Most of the houses in Hillview Estate were very attractive with their magnificent floral displays, garden features and the surrounding grounds were trimmed. The basketball court also looked good. Also

the houses in Bellview Drive were neat and tidy. A nice stone house on the Cavan Road with ivy catches the eye.

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

Immediately on entering this town one is made aware of the existence of the Tidy Towns efforts. On your Welcome to Cootehill sign the addition of - Keep Cootehill Tidy - is a splendid idea and makes locals and visitors aware of your efforts. Well done! The approach roads are very good and when the sewerage works are complete presumably the street surfaces and any broken footpaths will be replaced most noticeably was Bellview Estate had very uneven surface. There is already some nice new paving in the town. There are also some back areas that need attention and certainly detracts from the excellent efforts of others.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Your adjudicator was impressed with the standard that has been set by Cootehill. It is noted from your Plan that you propose to involve the community and local organisation and to give greater attention to detail. If you can follow through on those two points Cootehill can be a contender for greater achievements. Well done!