

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ABBEYSHRULE**
County : **LONGFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	37
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	32	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	30	30
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	216	210

Abbeyshrule, County Longford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Abbeyshrule is welcome to the first Tidy Towns Competition of the third millennium. Thank you for your updated development plan summary and map, both were useful. We admire your representations to Duchas, the Local Authority and the Heritage Council regarding various development possibilities within the village. This is the right approach to adopt and we wish you well in the achievement of your goals for the village. The village is rich in heritage, both in relation to the Cistercian Abbey and to its location on the Royal Canal.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church looks well and the cross here was much admired. The Rustic Inn is nicely presented. The roadside boundary wall to a commercial property badly needs to be cleaned or painted.

LANDSCAPING

The neatly maintained green verges together with the mature trees at the entrance from the 'Palace' road is very beautiful and is complemented by the stone work of the bridge. The small landscaped green area across from the Rustic Inn was much admired together with gardens of nearby residential properties. Congratulations on your landscaping programme and the assistance provided by Duchas. The number of species planted is truly astonishing.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Well done on the presentation of the graveyard. The banks of the canal are being well maintained, well done here also. A wildlife survey should be undertaken to identify species and take necessary protective measures.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was good, there were a few scraps of litter here and there but nothing of any great significance. Keep us informed of your litter control activities.

TIDINESS

The furniture factory continues to be a blot on the landscape, however you are aware of this problem and you are taking action to have it rectified.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The large residential property located beside the Rustic Inn forming a corner on the road to the Royal Canal is one of the first buildings to be seen on entering from the 'Palace' road and because of its layout gives an impression of a square or an open space in the village centre which is very pleasing. The house opposite the Rustic Inn is well presented and bungalows nearby have very attractive gardens. The thatched cottage is charming.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads to the village together with hedgerows had been recently cut and were neatly presented forming a very favourable impression of Abbeyshrule. Nameplates are all well presented. New signposts are attractive, some of the older ones need to be straightened. Stone walls are a handsome feature of Abbeyshrule and everywhere they are being well maintained and / or restored. The barrier along the canal on the path leading to the airfield is in need of repair and the sign for the airfield could be refurbished.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of Abbeyshrule is extremely favourable in relation to the impact of well thought out landscaping and the presentation of your greatest natural amenity, which is of course, the canal. We look forward to the further development of the Abbey over the next few years and given your past record know that it will be done in a professional manner. The information board is a nice feature.