

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **COLLON VILLAGE**  
County : **LOUTH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	38
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>194</b>

## **Collon, County Louth**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your entry form. If you now wish to proceed further in the competition you must draw up a simple 3/5 year work plan for the village, setting out your goals for the coming years. If you do not highlight each year the projects you have carried out and those you plan to undertake, the adjudicator will be unable to award extra marks and your valuable work cannot be rewarded.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The new stone wall and railing being built at the village hall is an impressive project and should do much to enhance the appearance of the centre when completed. The yellow buildings around the village green are very attractive. Extending the same colour scheme, if possible, to all the buildings would have a lot more impact. The derelict house here is hopefully only a temporary problem. The Churches and Credit Union are well presented. Most of the business premises are well kept, e.g. The Forge, Mathews and Donegans, but several others are becoming a little shabby and in need of painting and cleaning of signage. The Round House Restaurant remains in poor condition, but now that a sale has been concluded, will hopefully be upgraded in the near future.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The village green is well maintained and a very pleasant sight for the passing motorist. Some beautiful gardens along the main street contribute much to the overall appearance of the village, as do the colourful hanging baskets and planters. Your tree planting programme along the approach roads is already starting to have a valuable impact. The semi-landscaped banks on the northern approach road offer great potential to create an impressive entry into the village.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Unfortunately, no information on your plans under this heading has been provided. As mentioned last year, the suggestion of a riverside walk is a worthwhile project to explore and would provide a very welcome escape from the heavy traffic on the N2.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control must be difficult in a village with such a high

level of passing traffic. However, there was happily little to be seen, except for a few pieces on the green and along the grass verges on the Kells Road.

## **TIDINESS**

Substantial weed growth on the northern approach road gives an untidy impression on entering the village. The telephone box on the green needs attention urgently. The railings at the front of the Church of Ireland need to be painted and the tall weeds removed. The vacant site on the corner opposite the church will hopefully receive appropriate planning permission in the very near future.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are some very attractive well-kept houses and gardens along the main street and on the approach roads, but a few do need to paint their boundary walls. Papal Drive and the new houses opposite are nicely presented, but again more attention to maintenance of some boundary walls would be of benefit. The Cloisters is well maintained and the large green with young trees should become a pleasant amenity for the residents over time.

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

The footpaths, new areas of paving and road surfaces are all in good condition. However, sections of the footpath from Papal Drive to the new estate is in poor condition, where it exists at all. Grass verges had been cut on some approach roads but not on others. The Kells Road is very well presented. Mathews Agri Services might consider painting or screening the wall at the entrance to their premises.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Collon faces more challenges than most villages because of its location on the N2. It is a village with many attractive features, such as the village green, which it should try to make more of. There is much potential here and with a planned approach you should be able to achieve much in the years ahead.