

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DAINGEAN**  
County : **OFFALY**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-2000

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2000 | Mark Awarded 1999 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 33                | 32                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 28                | 27                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 28                | 27                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 20                | 20                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 22                | 25                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 11                | 11                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 20                | 19                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 30                | 28                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 6                 | 6                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>198</b>        | <b>195</b>        |

## **Daingean, County Offaly**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your completed application and indeed thank you for your well thought out three to five year plan, it has made interesting reading and facilitated adjudication greatly. The village enjoys a magnificent setting on the banks of the Grand Canal and has many other fine features including its Georgian architecture and handsome Town Hall.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The market square looks well, no doubt the building materials will be removed upon completion of all works. The two corner landscaped areas are particularly appealing with their glorious display of colour. We look forward to the refurbishment of the Town Hall. We note with interest your future plans for the Town Hall, however, weed growth should be removed from the roof. Some of the lampstandards here need to be repainted. The Garda Station looks quite well. Both the Catholic Church and the school on the Walsh Island road are presented to a very good standard, although the boundary walls of the latter could have been hosed down and weeds in the carpark removed. Both Mangan Meats and the Sportsmans Inn and Bar look well as does the Library. Daingean's building stock is a successful mix of single, two storey and three storey handsome buildings, many of which are fine examples of Georgian architecture. Its wide tree lined street together with the walk along the canal bank give Daingean an ambience of graciousness.

### **LANDSCAPING**

New planting along the roadside edge of the canal bank will create a successful enclosure with maturity. Young trees are maturing well along the main street to enhance the main street, (some at a more advanced stage than others). Well landscaped areas are too numerous to list, however, the landscaped areas on the main street are worth a special mention, particularly in respect of the sculpted seat.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Well done on the presentation of the canal bank, this was neatly and effectively presented and supports a wide variety of flora and fauna. Bags of litter were noted around a litter bin, however they were very tidy and perhaps just waiting for collection. You make no reference to your presentation under wildlife. Perhaps a good starting point would be to survey and highlight the flora and fauna associated with the canal banks. The back road is a very pleasant stretch of road, being lined

as it is with hedgerow and trees and makes a very pleasant short walk around the town centre.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control could have been stronger on adjudication day. The worst litter spot was the area between the Post Office and the Cosy Bar, although it is acknowledged that it might have been blown here by the wind. Perhaps more litter bins are necessary along the main street. The existing ones certainly need to be refurbished. There was some serious littering of the canal bank at the bridge on the 'Tyrellspass' entrance to the town, however it was confined to just one spot which suggests an accident or event of some sort.

## **TIDINESS**

Daingean enjoys an overall appearance of tidiness with no major problems.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Perhaps a co-ordinated colour scheme of soft pastel shades could be featured in the terraced houses at the top of the Edenderry road in the town centre (across from Quinns Spar). Fortfield Drive looks well and there are some nice house colours here. The stone structure at the entrance to the drive is imaginative. Many roadside boundary walls and roadside areas to boundary walls in the housing development to the back of the Gaelic Bar are presented to a poor standard. Some new house building was noted here also. The new housing development off the main street across from Mangan Meats is superb. Chestnut Gardens is really beautiful. Do repair the seat around the tree before it gets any worse.

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

Approach roads were presented in different ways and each had its own beauty. Both the Dublin and Tyrellspass approach road had been neatly trimmed. While the long grasses of the Tullamore road had a shimmering effect in the sunlight, the wildflower displays of the Welsh Island road had their own kind of appeal. A water pump on the Welsh Island road needs to be refurbished and the bridge on this road needs to be cleared of growth and highlighted as a feature. Some attention is also necessary to the speed limit signs. Well done on the new stone wall out the Welsh Island road and the footpath to the school. The footpath, of course, as you are aware needs to be surfaced. Some other items of street furniture beside the litter bins need attention, for example a seat near the bridge on the Tyrellspass entrance is in need of attention as well as other seats. The wirescape as you are aware is visually obtrusive and the service poles are unattractive. No doubt at some stage in the future you will be

successful at having wirescape ducted and presenting attractive lampstandards.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Daingean is a pleasant town in which to spend some time and no doubt is an excellent place to live.