

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GRANGE**
County : **SLIGO**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	26
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	17
Litter Control	40	28	29
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	190	186

Grange, County Sligo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the completed entry form, supporting material and plan. Your concise 3/5 year plan demonstrates the committee's interest and future commitment to the village. Perhaps you could use all the section headings of the competition to expand and develop your plan, outlining achievable targets for the committee that will help focus your work in the future. Your continued co-operation with the County Council and FÁS is noted and it is encouraging to see that you have good co-operation from the community.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Approaching the village from Sligo, the busy and expanding premises in the Industrial area presented a mixed first impression of the village. Gilroy Tiles has some attractive landscaping. Mc Gowans Kitchens was tidy but the building and surrounding area past it, needs to be tidied. Other industrial premises here also need to maintain their forecourt areas, boundary fences, and shrub beds. The Mart looks very untidy but some development seems to be in the offing. The former Sligo Crystal has been smartly revamped. The old school needs its grounds tidied and the new school looked well. The Church, Hall and Parochial House look very well with their bright new paint work. Derelict buildings on the way to Pine Grove and the very untidy farm building behind the Church continue to detract from the overall impact of the village. The Vocational School and grounds were tidy but it needs its paint to be refreshed. The North Sligo Leisure Centre was tidy, but again some attention to presentation would make this leisure building more inviting. John Langs, The Drapery, and L. Watter's looked well as did the G.A.A. Clubhouse. The Bilingual sign was again noted at the Grange Leader Office.

LANDSCAPING

The paving, footpaths, trees and beds on the Donegal approach road look well, it will be good to see something similar on the Sligo approach, when the committee completes its plans for this side of the village. The tubs at the entrance to the G.A.A. pitch need to be replenished or emptied. The small flower features at the signs were noted. The committee continues its landscaping in St. Molaise Park and it all looks very impressive. Congratulations to the committee for its involvement and plaque detailing the millennium family tree planting venture. The new trees look very well. The paving and trees outside Patsy Barry's Pub also look well and I assume that the concrete structure is some sort of base for the planned benches.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It is particularly good to see that you are working with the school concerning this section of the competition. The river and the park continue to be very important habitats conveniently within the environs of the village. The river is currently being occupied by a lot of building material from the housing development behind it. The committee has a responsibility to protect and enhance all the wildlife and natural amenities within the village. Continue your good work and plans in this area.

LITTER CONTROL

There were incidents of litter in the village on the day of adjudication in the G.A.A. grounds, on the road to the Vocational School and once again an overflowing bin in St. Molaises Park. The bins in this park also need to be upgraded. There was also some building rubbish from the development behind in and on the banks of the river. It looked very unsightly and needs to be removed.

TIDINESS

The village continues to present an overall general impression of tidiness and your continued input will add to this impression. However, there

are still a number of “black spots” that need to be resolved. The farm buildings behind the Church look particularly bad this year with loads of unsightly bailer wrap in the open front yard. The fence at the Court House needs to be repainted and the waterworks could also do with a tidy and the area around J Costello’s also needs to be tidied up. A derelict house past Barry’s pub on the road to the school is now looking very untidy and needs to be cleaned up. The building previously mentioned in other reports on this road is looking tidier this year.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The new houses in the centre of the village have added to the immediate impact of the centre of the village. There are many new houses under construction in Grange and it is good to see the community grow. Work closely with the builders of the housing development to ensure that it is appropriately finished, enhancing the village environment rather than detracting from it. Many houses, on the approach roads and in the village and housing developments look very well presented and maintained, with some lovely gardens, lawns and landscaping noted at many individual homes. The development on the road behind the Church looked very well again this year but the weeds need to be removed at the immediate entrance. Some lovely stone walls were under construction at individual homes on this road, complementing the traditional walls on the opposite side of the road. Pine Grove looks better this year with some tidy grass and new landscaping and tubs, however they too need to remove weeds from the kerbs and some boundary fences still need a little attention. The stone house on the corner opposite the college is now finished and looks well.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main road through the village is very good and your plans to enhance the Sligo approach will certainly compliment the good first impression you get on the Donegal side. The two roads off the

village need some attention, the road surface is very poor on both roads. There are some stone walls on the Streedagh Road and on the road behind the Church that are worth tidying and repairing. The industrial sites and their surrounding untidy open areas were mentioned earlier and need to be addressed as they contribute to the overall impact of the village. Similarly there is some building material waiting to be cleared at the G.A.A. pitch and at some sites in the village. There are also some weeds that need to be cleared from the traffic islands. The road to Pine Grove and past the Leisure Centre, had some very neat verges and hedges and a lovely tidy stone wall.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Grange continues to develop and the changes continue to enhance the village and hopefully the community and environment. You have a pro-active committee that has the best interests of the village and its environment at heart. Every success with the development and realisation of your future plans, your work to date has been rewarded with an increase in marks, well done.