

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **COLLINSTOWN**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	30	30
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	198	197

Collinstown, County Westmeath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Collinstown is welcome to the first Tidy Towns Competition of the third millennium, thank you for your completed application. The village has some fine features, e.g. central green areas, handsome buildings and access to Lough Lene. Explore the possibility of developing either a footpath or a path from the village centre to the Lough as this would make a very pleasant walk being only a mile in distance

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Public buildings in the village look well but both the Catholic church and St. Mary's national school deserve special mention. Some nameplates were in need of repainting. The walls of the 'Maypole Bar and Lounge' at the top of the Castlepollard road had been repainted by adjudication day and stand in stark contrast to the walls across the road, which are badly in need of cleaning or painting. Both sets of walls might look particularly well if they were planted with a climbing plant such as a variegated or red ivy or other appropriate climbing plant. Some farm outbuildings at the top of the Delvin road need to be re-whitewashed. The old Lotto sign should be removed from the Post Office and replaced with the new slimline type of sign. Daly's Grocery and Hardware is a key building in the overall appearance of the village being located in the heart of Collinstown. It should always be presented to the highest of standards, unfortunately this is not the case at the time of adjudication.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaped areas in the village centre look especially well and the amenity area to the roadside of Dalys Grocery and Hardware is an attractive feature. Perhaps a small bench type seat and a flower display would be appropriate for the pump at the 'Lough Lene Inn'. The oak tree on the Castlepollard road and the ash tree in the village centre look exceptionally well and make a strong visual statement for the village. The landscaped areas on approach roads and in the village centre are maturing well and the stone work in particular on the Castlepollard road look well. The wire and concrete post fencing at Collinstown Motors could be planted with a climbing plant for greater enclosure to the yards here.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The graveyard is presented to a very high standard, well done to those responsible. Have any activities been undertaken to highlight the flora and fauna to Collinstown and the lake and to increase public awareness in general? Your Tidy Towns

Handbook is a treasure chest of ideas.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is quite good, however some litter had been exposed by verge cutting and had not been removed in time for adjudication, this is unfortunate. The lakeside carpark and amenity area was also littered.

TIDINESS

The village has more than its fair share of derelict or semi-derelict buildings. With the recent surge in property values, this problem may be resolved sooner than might have been anticipated. It is good to note that you are working in conjunction with your County Council on this matter. Weed growth along kerbs should be removed after it has been sprayed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

A number of roadside areas to boundary walls were in need of weeding and / or resurfacing. Generally speaking, the overall presentation under this heading is high. Some work needs to be accomplished along kerbs and to boundary walls in the small residential development across from Collinstown Motors.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads had been neatly trimmed along their grass verges by adjudication, this creates a very good first impression of the village. A sign post giving information as to the walking distance to Lough Lene from the village centre should be provided and the walk developed to 'Sli na Slainte' or 'Cospoir' standards. The nameplate on the Lough Lene road needs to be cleaned. It is good to note that the old style nameplates are still a feature of the village, these should be retained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of Collinstown is one of a tidy village which is well maintained and which has some strong handsome features.