

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DYSART-WESTMEATH**  
County : **WESTMEATH**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 13-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	27
The Built Environment	40	22	21
Landscaping	40	23	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	17	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	18
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>163</b>

## **Dysart, County Westmeath**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Dysart is welcome to the first Tidy Towns Competition of the third millennium. Thank you for your application form and in particular for your five year plan. We note with interest the proposed developments and we look forward to its implementation over the next few years. You might like to add some of the points made in this report to your development plan.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Bar Lounge at 'Keenans' should have its signage changed. This building and 'Keenans' should always be presented to the highest standard as they are an important focal point in the overall streetscape of the village. No doubt the vacant shop will be redeveloped soon, we look forward to your plans for the carpark here. The two signs on the roadside façade should be removed and, if signs are going to be used upon redevelopment, ensure that they are of a good quality and appropriate scale. Both the church and the school look well. The small wall enclosing the pump is a nice feature together with the green area, however the pump itself could be repainted. The retaining wall at the carpark is looking a little weather-stained and might need to be cleaned or painted for next year. We look forward to the restoration of a stretch of stone wall on the Castletown road. The school and its grounds are being very well maintained.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Well done on landscaping throughout the village, landscaping in the church car park is maturing nicely. The grotto looks particularly appealing. The flower troughs were in bloom during adjudication. The area around the telephone kiosk could be developed as an incidental seated amenity area and the area at the nameplate at the northern entrance to the village could also be developed for visual amenity. Your tree planting / landscaping programme could be extended to 'soften' the visual impact of the outbuilding behind the telephone kiosk which can be seen from the public road.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The hedgerow which runs along the centre of the village across from the church car park has too much 'goose' grass which is invasive and which will inhibit the growth of other species. This hedgerow should be managed for wildlife, more hawthorn could be replanted and a species count taken including indicator species to establish its wildlife value. It is good to note from your application the importance of this

section of river for spawning.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was good during adjudication, well done! Keep us informed of your activities in this area.

### **TIDINESS**

The village had an overall tidy appearance, however grass cuttings had not been collected and as these become discoloured, they tend to look untidy. Be vigilant regarding weed growth at the base of walls, etc. The bridge walls could be cleared of growth. Weed growth was also noted around the vacant shop, this will have to be dealt with. The derelict building on the top of the Castletown road will be redeveloped soon as it is noted that the site here is for sale.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The majority of houses are well presented and, in particular the house beside the church has an excellent roadside boundary, well done on the landscaping here. Again be vigilant regarding weed growth. There are some very fine gardens to residential properties on the Castletown road, however there are also a number of roadside boundary walls in need of attention and roadside areas to these.

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

Some stretches of roadside edge were pot-holed, particularly near the church. We wish you well in the acquisition of additional lighting and other items of street furniture. Areas around nameplates should always be very well presented as these are often the first and last impressions of a village for the travelling public.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The overall impression of Dysart is that of a tiny village located on a busy thoroughfare. Substantial work has already been achieved for the village, however more can be achieved and we look forward to the fruits of your labour over the next few years.