

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ARVAGH**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	34
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	27	28
Tidiness	20	10	11
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	199	200

Arvagh, Co.Cavan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator was very pleased to note the continued progress made in your work programme. The relationship built with the various local government and other bodies is contributing to the ongoing development of the town. Arvagh is a town undergoing considerable redevelopment within its built environment as well as new residential and commercial building works in its surrounds. Your committee is commended for the policies it is pursuing to ensure that a balanced development takes place in the interests of the community as a whole.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The main feature of the Arvagh built environment is the restored Market House. This is a magnificent building complemented by the circular patterns of the cobble stone and flag resurfacing of its square. Well designed public lighting standards are placed around the square with as yet unused hanging basket fittings. The Market House has no dressing of any kind and has a predominantly grey fronted building. The self catering units at the back of the Market House are complete with garden, car park, and seating. The national school colour scheme could be brightened but there are two tubs of flowers to the front. Generally, its presentation is a little disappointing. The Health Centre looks well with a fine garden at the junction to the Gowna/Cavan Road. It was noted that the garden wall pillars have been damaged by traffic. The entrance from the Cavan side has a cleanly presented school, freshly painted white. Grass play areas have been cut and the hard core basketball court is weed free. The surface around the school building is flagged with trees inset along road frontage. The car park is presented well with some trees planted to screen its front. Brady's Garage looks well with a nice display of plants to its front and sides. A good stone wall runs from Brady's Garage along the front of the GAA Ground to the RC Church. The Church looks well with its maintained lawn. The Church of Ireland Church is a nicely presented old building with its square belfry. The car park is nicely dressed with floral displays and shrubbery. The Bank of Ireland building looks well. The new facade built to the front of the Brefni Arms Hotel makes a considerable impact along the main street. The Garda Station is a little drab in its colour scheme. Brady's Pub with its floral display looks well. While nicely presented there is nothing particularly significant about the modern wood framed Credit Union Building, or Donnelly's Butcher shop.

LANDSCAPING

There was a hanging basket and tub floral display at the Bank of Ireland but generally not along the Main Street. The lawn outside Thermobuild is kept quite well, with trees planted to front with white fence. The yard gates into Robert Kees hardware requires screening. There is a total absence of trees along the main street.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The children's amenity area at Garty Lough is nicely presented with lawn, swings, and swimming pool. Life saving course in operation at time of visit. The new wall and access slip way surface looks well and will be better when lighting is installed. There are flower pots at the entrance to the play area.

LITTER CONTROL

The rubbish bin at Garty Lough Amenity was full to overflowing. However, litter was not a major problem in the town.

TIDINESS

Some barrels etc. left outside some pubs and there was some fly posting for a circus. There was a certain amount of untidiness associated with the corrugated shed which is due for removal and site redevelopment. This whole area, including the furniture store/factory is in an unsatisfactory condition but the adjudicator does appreciate that development works are on-going at this time. The Garty Lough sign has been vandalised to point in the wrong direction. With the exception of the area around the Market House where wiring has been ducted, there is an amount of wirescape to be seen. From the Main Street to the Longford Road there is some bad road surfacing and house dereliction.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The mature housing surrounding the village is generally well presented with well maintained gardens. The small housing estate opposite the childrens amenity requires more maintenance of its small public grass areas. The new red and cream coloured housing estate will require tree and shrub screening to give it a softer appearance.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main road surface is excellent but other streets in the village require resurfacing. Each of the entrance roads into Arva is furnished with a nice welcome sign set in a planter of flowers. Hedges and verge banks have been trimmed back. From the Longford side entry walls are fairly intact, and display a fair amount of shrubbery of one kind or another. Cullen's Garage pumps should either be removed or otherwise cleaned up. There is a fine cut stone planter of shrubs at the Carrigallen road junction. Street lighting is not in keeping with village requirements. The bollards at the Market House are fine.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Arvagh is going through a period of considerable change much of it ongoing. The reconstruction process presents a temporary barrier to achieving award winning marks in the Tidy Towns Competition, but the adjudicator believes the completion of your village renewal will bring not only social and economic success for your community but also higher points in Tidy Town Competitions of the future.