

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **FERMOY**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **E**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 07-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	35
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	17
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>200</b>

## **Fermoy, Co. Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your very thorough submission, there are some fine ideas for the town's future development. The adjudicator was particularly impressed by the advice available for developers in relation to the colour treatment, façade treatment and general design of their buildings from the UDC architect. The adjudicator was also pleased to note the approval by the Department of the Environment and Local Government of the Town Renewal Plan. The upgrading of the Barnane Walk is indeed a commendable achievement.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The standard in this category of the competition was quite inconsistent. Many of the buildings along Main Street needed attention to facades and to gable walls. There are many empty and developing sites - so much ongoing work is apparent. Milligin's Foodstore on the bridge appeared quite fresh. The backs of buildings along the Main Street are quite prominent as one approaches the town over the bridge on the Dublin side – consideration has been taken in terms of their presentation which is indeed commendable. Centra was quite fresh and the Post Office was fine. Gubbin's Foodstore had attractive displays of flowers and shrubs outside. The sandstone Catholic Church set off the main road on Chapel Square is a fine building. Bishop Murphy Catholic Schools with their attractive landscaping were extremely well maintained, as was the CYMS Hall with its attractive hanging baskets and the Technical Institute opposite with its red doors. The Fish Market with its deep red awnings looked most attractive and welcoming. There was a great deal of staining to the modern library building on Connelly Street, although the landscaping to the nearby car park looked most attractive. Do discourage projecting plastic signs and replace them with more traditional timber signage.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Both private and public landscaping of the town was well maintained. The attractive planting outside the Shell station on the Dublin approach was admired. There is much evidence of tree planting and maintenance such as those on the raised footpaths on the Dublin side of the town and the thickly trunked trees on the Youghal side. The park is beautifully maintained and its children's playground looked most cheerful. The attractive hanging basket and window box displays to the Credit Union House and adjacent Kent Street looked most cheerful. There is scope for landscaping by private enterprise such as garage forecourt areas etc. A good example of well thought out landscaping was that to the NCI industrial buildings on the Cork approach which looked most unusual. However the concrete post and rail fence to the front

could be removed and replaced with a more natural barrier such as beech or hawthorn hedging, or indeed, stone walling.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Fermoy is indeed fortunate in this regard with its wide banks along the Blackwater River, its wealth of open space and abundance of mature trees and hedgerows along approach roads. The development of the Barnane Walk with its trees and wildlife information boards will be a fine asset to the town.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Your efforts in this regard are obviously paying off, the main streets of the town appeared quite free of litter on the day, although quite an amount was evident on approach roads, in particular those to Cork and Youghal.

## **TIDINESS**

Weed control was a problem on the day on the Youghal Road. Although generally weed control throughout the town was good on the day. Do discourage advertising hoardings as there are an abundance of same on both the Dublin and Cork approaches to the town and these give these roads an extremely cluttered appearance.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Housing stock both within the town and along approach roads was well cared for. A well maintained Local Authority estate on the Dublin Road was admired as was Wolfe Tone Park although there is scope for further landscaping in regard to the latter. The attractive terrace of houses on the Dublin Road above road level and those on the Cork Road behind their stone wall adjacent to the roadside are always admired when travelling through the town. The B&Bs both in the town and on approach roads add to the presentation in this category. Of particular note was the creeper clad Virginia House B&B and St. Anne's both of which were extremely well maintained. The attractive houses on the Cork Road were admired, in particular, those bay fronted ones closer to the town. Knellar Villas appeared quite quaint and unusual.

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

The standard in this category was reasonable on the day. The wild daisies and roses on the Dublin Road were admired and the verges were quite well maintained. The road surface on the Cork Road was not in the best of condition, although ongoing road works were apparent. The new cycle paths were admired as indeed was the mature trees and hedging. This road was quite overgrown further out but account was taken of the ongoing road works. Boundaries along the Youghal Road were in need of some attention, in particular, those to industrial type business premises along this road. Signage was generally fine although directional signs in the center adjacent to the bridge were in need of some attention.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Fermoy is an attractive and busy town which has much to offer the visitor. Much work is ongoing at the moment and hopefully in years to come these buildings will add to the fine stock of architectural spaces already apparent in the town.