

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNKINEELY**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 30-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	22
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	18	15
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	11
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	162	155

Dunkineely, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your plan, informative entry form & maps. The committee continues its constructive association with the local bodies and the village community. Your 3/5 plan shows a thoughtful approach to many aspects of the development of the town. Perhaps if you were to use the competition headings for a year by year development of your plan it may help focus the work of the committee for the future. It is commendable to see you involving the children in your work towards improving their future environment.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Dunkineely is a busy thoroughfare with some fine feature buildings set in a beautiful location. Approaching the town the proposed plan for the G.A.A pitch will vastly improve this area. Novelty Design looked well but they need to repair their wooden railings. The prefab at the national school needs attention. KF Furnishings looked well with its flowerbed and clean presentation as did McGettigans & McShanes.

Mc Intyres, the two premises opposite it & the Green Isle had some lovely flower features. The latter having maintained most of the original sash windows, still needs to clean the weeds in the roof gutter. The mart could refresh the paintwork on their sign. McGuinness's looked very well presented. The Community Centre looked very well as did the Health Centre. Killagher school looked well with a lovely games field adjoining but it needs a little weed clearance in its car park. The Heritage Centre and adjoining building where evidential work continues & the Church of Ireland look well, as did the Methodist Church, hall and grounds.

LANDSCAPING

The colourful flowerbeds at your signposts looked very well, as did your picnic area with complimentary stonework noted at both. The flower bed at the Castlegreen entrance and the newer estate were noted, as was the fine perennial bed beside the Health Centre. The well maintained planters on the Donegal side looked well but they were empty. A tidy hedge & verge was noted at the first corner here also. Your pump also looks very well.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Tidy Towns Committee have an important role in preserving and suitably enhancing the natural environment within their community. There are also other opportunities for enhancing and conserving wildlife habitats and the environment within the village. Wild flower meadows / grass areas, nesting boxes, pond/water features, trees and

hedgerows offer additional opportunities. The local children and their school and grounds are an option for developing some of these opportunities. When choosing appropriate signs for projects ensure they enhance rather than detract from the environment you are promoting and preserving. Work in conjunction with relevant local bodies, ENFO, or a local wildlife expert to develop this important aspect of the competition.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little litter on the main street, but there was some evident on the whole length of the lane down to Anchor Lodge B&B, and a little in the housing development, well done. Your very thorough Litter Awareness Scheme is admirable, however the committee must remain vigilant in this important area..

TIDINESS

There are some derelict sites scattered throughout the village. Dereliction is a challenge often imaginatively faced by many entrants. A simple tidy or cosmetic paint job can be very effective. It is important all areas of the town are appropriately maintained and kept tidy and litter / weed free, including forecourts, back yards, kerb edges, all open spaces, and areas between properties. Back alleys/yards, should be appropriately screened particularly in areas that will attract rubbish or dumping.

McIntyre's garage needs some attention to its presentation. Some good screening gates were evident on the lane to Anchor Lodge and other premises with open side areas & lanes should endeavour to do similar. A very tidy yard was noted past the Furniture Centre.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The majority of houses throughout the town and on the approach roads, were generally well presented. The attractive hedges lawns and colourful flowers in some individual gardens were noted, as were some attractive tubs and window boxes, and hanging baskets, in some of the town houses. This splash of colour is very welcoming and always brightens up a streetscape, well done for the hard work to those responsible. However the nicely maintained homes highlight those that need attention or their paintwork refreshed both in the town, housing developments and on the approach roads. Castle Grove looked tidy, some tree planting would further enhance this estate. Ivy cottage caught the eye with its lovely ivy , original sash windows & timber porch. The small collection of newer houses opposite the pump also looked well and were nicely presented. A lovely original wall and stone railings were admired at a house adjoining the Methodist Church and a lovely raised bed and anchor feature were noted in the adjoining property.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads present the first impression of the village.

The Killybegs road looked well with some lovely clearance of the stone walls, tidy verges and nicely faced hedges. Some stone walls were also noted on the Ardara road which would look well with the same treatment.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The committee's perseverance, full community involvement and attention to detail are the key factors in your progress in the competition & to allow Dunkineely to optimise its full potential.