

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **COLLON VILLAGE**  
County : **LOUTH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	38
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	28	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>198</b>

## **Collon, Co. Louth**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Collon is very welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed application and details of your planned work programme. It is good to note the donations received from business interests as well as voluntary labour. We commiserate with you regarding your problems in the aftermath of development and the difficulty in having areas cleaned up. The village is located on a very busy road and even adjudicating was a problem, so your difficulties in this regard, with speeding traffic, is very understood. Are there plans for a bypass road? Despite being located on a national primary route, Collon has its secret charms in the many wonderful scenic views possible from both the Tinure road on approaching the village and the Drogheda road together with nature walks.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

It appears that there is further development work planned for the petrol station. Are details of this available? The new wall at the Community Centre and its carpark looks well and provides good enclosure for this large site. A number of buildings on the Drogheda / Tinure road are in need of attention. It is good to note the refurbishment of the old building beside the Ford Restaurant. The Church of Ireland premises is a landmark building in the village and, as usual, is presented to a high standard, perhaps its boundary railings could be refurbished for maximum visual amenity here, the newly surfaced curtilage area looks well.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The Square is beautiful, it is simple yet elegant and the new Courtyard development to its rear sits in quite well. Work in progress was noted on the landscaped site at the junction of the Drogheda and Tinure roads. This is a beautiful presentation with a successful combination of mature trees and colourful bedding plants.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The walls of Pairc Mattoch should be kept freshly whitewashed. The Pitch and Putt course is a fine amenity and serves a dual function in that it is also a visual amenity from the bridge on entering Collon. The beautiful country walk from the entrance to the Pitch and Putt course out to the Drogheda road and back to the village should be sign posted and brought to Slí na Sláinte standard. This will make a significant contribution to the amenity value of Collon. It is an excellent wildlife area, many species were noted en route, and of course, it affords excellent scenic views also. The sign for Collon Pitch and Putt club needs to be repainted. The graveyard on the Slane road is beautifully landscaped and it is one of the nicest seen

anywhere by this adjudicator.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was quite good, however weak spots were noted around the 'John Watters' and adjacent petrol station premises. It seemed to be fairly new litter. Have you undertaken a litter survey to identify weak spots and the source of litter? Some litter bins could be improved.

### **TIDINESS**

There are a number of untidy sites on the road leading to the sports grounds Pairc Mattoch. The car park opposite Pairc Mattoch could be landscaped around its perimeter and the concrete posts replaced with a more attractive type of boundary finish. Stretches of footpath out the Tinure / Drogheda road were weedy, this suggests neglect.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Town houses are very well presented and the new apartments were noted. These are nicely finished and seem to sit in well in their immediate environs. Some residential properties, i.e. town houses on the main street, could do with cleaning or painting, particularly in respect of their boundary walls. Infill housing on the Drogheda / Tinure road looks well. Plans for a new residential development on the road to the sports field are noted. Papal Drive residential development has matured well. The two small pendulous trees (birch?) on the green open space to roadside of the residential development on the Slane road are quaint. The Elm View residential property has some remarkable architectural features, hopefully these will be retained upon refurbishment.

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

The road leading to the sports grounds is badly potholed and some stretches of roadside edge need resurfacing also. The Tinure road is nicely presented, both in respect of road surface, roadside verges and, of course, houses both new and old. Most of the public seats look well but some of the bins need painting.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Collon has a 'well cared for' appearance despite its location on a national primary route and on a busy crossroads.