

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNBOYNE**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	20	20
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	19
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	189	188

Dunboyne, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thanks for your submission which included a 3-5 year plan and a detailed map of the village. The Group has been extremely active and have co-operated with local community and business interest groups and with the local authority.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The village core consists of a wide main street with a central green. The fabric of the core consists of a range of mixed nineteenth and twentieth century buildings, with interesting vernacular shop fronts, used mainly for retail purposes. These buildings are generally well maintained. The village has recently seen the establishment of a range of housing estates arranged around the village core.

LANDSCAPING

The existing green is very attractive with areas of planting and trees. In addition a number of the buildings are decorated with attractive window boxes.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Little wildlife or natural amenity facilities exist in the village. Perhaps such a feature could be incorporated along the river as part of the proposed new park.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter in the village remains a problem particularly around the central area. Areas of litter were also noted on the approach roads - although these were isolated instances. Litter control amongst the housing estates varied from litter free to occasional isolated instances.

TIDINESS

The village green was poorly managed and maintained. This, however, can be attributed to the on-going landscaping works. The litter bins and the landscape furniture were generally in poor condition. The area around the RC church car park was untidy with litter and weeds. Perhaps this area could be landscaped in conjunction with the central green. The proposal to remove the water tower is a curious decision. This is an imposing and historic feature of the village. Perhaps consideration could be given to conserve the tower by putting it to some community or practical use.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The residential estates were generally well presented, with well kept housing and gardens, and landscaped open spaces.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads to the village offer a mixed presentation. In some instances, sections of the roads are very well managed and presented, with neat margins, stone walls, tidy hedges, fences and trees. Other sections are unmanaged with overgrown areas of weeds. These unmanaged sections offer a poor approach to the village. Extra marks could be achieved through better management and presentation of the approach roads. The entrance to the old cemetery and the Church of Ireland church was in very poor condition with dilapidated buildings and extensive litter. This is a great disappointment as the site contains a number of medieval features and a very pleasant Victorian church – all of which highlight the village's origins and history.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Dunboyne is an historic and attractive village with three major features: the medieval church yard and buildings, the village green, and the river bank. These offer enormous scope for enhancing the village environment. It is understood that work is already in progress on the green and that a new park is proposed along the river. These works, together with the refurbishing of the old churchyard, would result in a considerable physical and environmental improvement to the village.