

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **SLANE**  
County : **MEATH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 03-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	34	33
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	19
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	17	16
Residential Areas	30	24	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	32
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>227</b>

## **Slane, County Meath**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thanks for your submission which included a long-term plan and a map of the village. The submission would have been improved by the inclusion of a schedule of completed works. The group have actively co-operated with local community and business interest groups and with the local authority.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Slane consist of an eighteenth century model estate village at a busy crossroads. The village plan is arranged around a central octagon. The village architecture contains a magnificent collection of stone-faced eighteenth and nineteenth century village architecture. A number of new developments have taken place recently and these have for the most part been completed in sympathy with the predominantly eighteenth century character of the village. The octagon is the central feature of the village. Unfortunately, the road surface here is in a very poor condition.

A number of the houses in the village have had their front plasterwork removed. This should not be encouraged as these buildings were plastered in their original form, and the practice of removing the plasterwork will greatly detract from the integrity and quality of the street architecture.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The approaches to the village pass through an outstanding natural landscape and this is complemented by the many attractive landscaped gardens which lie along the roads. The landscaping around the village – both private and community was also very attractive.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

When the proposed wildlife/nature development at Lynchs Field is complete it should attract extra marks. In the meantime, the work of the Group in presenting the river aspect of the village is noteworthy.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was very little litter around the village and on the approach roads. Clearly the work of the Tidy Towns Group is paying dividends. A few individual instances of litter were noted, but these were the exception.

### **TIDINESS**

Generally, the approach roads, the main axis, and the residential areas were found to be extremely neat and tidy. The one dull spot was the area immediately around the

octagon which is inclined to be a little bleak. This is caused by the large expanse of roadway and could be relieved by a limited programme of landscape and tree planting. The improvement of this vital area would qualify the village for extra marks.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The residential areas around the village were outstandingly attractive, with their stone walling, green areas, trees, shrubs, flowers, planting, and landscape features all magnificently presented and maintained – a credit to the residents.

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

The approach roads to the village are excellently managed with, good stone walling, tree planting, green areas, attractive planting, trees, hedgerows, and well managed margins.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Slane is an intrinsically attractive model eighteenth century estate village which has been splendidly maintained and presented by the Tidy Towns Group.

### **SECOND ADJUDICATION (03/08/01)**

Slane was looking well for the numbers of visitors at midsummer. However, one untidy spot was the high-profile and much visited lay-by/viewing point to the south of the river; this resulted in the increase of two marks under 'Tidiness' suggested by the first adjudicator being reduced to one mark by the second. New kerbs and footpaths were in the process of being laid at the west end of the village – when completed this area will be safer for pedestrians as well as visually neater. Some of the road surfaces are deteriorating, and this should perhaps be the next project for the local authority. On the date of second adjudication the traffic lights on the Boyne bridge were not working – this is a serious matter, for motorists were taking chances at this notoriously dangerous place – perhaps the Committee would urge the local authority to be ever vigilant in this matter. The Committee should also persist in its contacts with the National Roads Authority in regard to the N2 traffic. There seemed to be less litter than on previous occasions – congratulations.