

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **THREEMILEHOUSE**
County : **MONAGHAN**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	32	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	32	35
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	202	200

Threemilehouse, County Monaghan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Even though there is a great amount of ongoing work in this village it would be most helpful to make a plan in which goals and objectives can be set against a time scale and an action plan made. The adjudicator can see which developments will have an all year round effect and this is taken into account at adjudication. There is a great spirit of progress in the village and the compact nature of the village allows for a concentrated focus on the central areas.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church is the dominant building in the village giving a very commanding impression. The church has been nicely painted and hopefully the roadside walls of the school will be painted soon too. The McGuinness pub also holds a prominent position. The stone wall features are very attractive . the stone at the approach road to the church is nicely organised and the stone wall along by the football grounds is a fine wall. Kerbing and paving and timber palings add to the village picture very well. Some improvements in fences are needed especially wire fences.

LANDSCAPING

The great efforts in this respect are very pleasant. The Monaghan road entrance with its attractive shrubbery, stonework, and the dramatic begonia border was noted. The shrubbery beneath Lynchs shop is particularly good. The greens at the centre of the village could be improved by additional tree planting, more meticulous grass care and a few spectacular border displays. The birch and sycamore trees have been pruned back. Why not let these trees grow to their natural shape and size ? The surrounding lands have many ash and sycamore mature trees and it would be nice to plant some more where any possibility exists - for instance at the inside of the wall from the cross to the entrance of the football grounds,(some small trees were noted at this point) also at the grass verge at the pub carpark. There are many more places for such tree plantings. The new hedge on approach to the church by the cemetery is good and an excellent choice. The cotoneaster spreading down the wall is a nice touch and the planting at the rock feature on the way to the church is excellent.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is an area well worth considering carefully as in the surrounding countryside there is a wealth of wild life. The river area and the wooded areas nearby could provide an interesting walk. Identify such possibilities and with the aid of local history and co-operation through school projects an interesting feature could be created.

LITTER CONTROL

There was a considerable amount of litter about on the main areas and in the river which was a little disappointing. The adjudication took place at 11.00am on a Sunday morning . The effects of Saturday night could be blamed although provision should be made for peak litter times and difficulties and a remedy put in place appropriate to the situation. There are 52 Saturday nights in the year and this is a well known difficult point.

TIDINESS

The railings in some places need attention. The area coming into the village from Lynchs pub has a difficulty with the boundary and needs to be addressed. A broken down tin shed on the roadside past the football grounds needs to be removed. The lamps give a tidy appearance as do the lack of overhead cables. This is a very welcome development

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The housing within the village is well tended and nicely organised giving a true village green atmosphere. The houses are well maintained and look well. The houses on the approach roads have very nice gardens and take great care of their properties and this gives a very important contribution to the village and its approaches. The new housing developments behind the pub are progressing well and please ensure that before the developer leaves the site a good finish to the surrounds is completed..

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The roads are well presented. The verges and hedgerows are well trimmed and some nice walls add good character to the scene. The trimming of roadside hedges needs to be examined in the light of legislation to facilitate wildlife.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village is developing a very tidy appearance with a very cohesive appearance well centralised and with its own characteristics of greens, landscaping and the presentation of buildings.