

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BOYLE**  
County : **ROSCOMMON**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	37
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>193</b>

## **Boyle, County Roscommon**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Boyle is welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition, thank you for your completed entry form. It is important that a work plan for the Town be drawn up, initially perhaps for the next three years. It will set out yearly goals and encourage further involvement by the wider community and especially the business community.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

There are an amount of business premises very neglected, some lying empty and the others requiring at least some paint and minor repairs, what a pity for a town with Boyles streetscape. A number of business premises, school, Plunkett home, Church, Hotel and Garages all looked well. It was noted building work was ongoing at a number of sites throughout the town and when completed will add to the appearance of Boyle. The railway station and immediate environs looked very well. The exterior walls of buildings such as the National Irish Bank building require attention especially being in such a pivotal position, as does the nearby Department store building. Old signs especially plastic signs should be removed from buildings, shopfronts which have become dated should be replaced by more traditional facades and the introduction of the Irish language on shopfronts should be considered.

The possibility of removing the utility poles throughout the town, especially in the town centre should be considered as this would enhance the towns streetscape. The Crescent area looked well on adjudication day, the improvements carried out in recent years is to be commended.

King House and grounds, Boyle Abbey are well maintained and look well. The new navigation canal and harbour is a fine facility and asset to the town.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping at the crescent enhances this area, however the black plastic base of the bedding is starting to appear in spots and detracts from the shrubbery. The flower boxes, flower beds and baskets in full colour add to the character of the town, well done. The landscaping and gardens at private residences, Schools, Forest Park Hotel, Railway Station shows commitment and effort, keep up the good work. The grounds at the Famine Grave, Plunkett Home, St Joseph's Church, Abbey House are all well maintained.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

With the Boyle river passing through the town it lends itself to an abundance of wildlife, as advised previously a notice

identifying the various species of birds common to the area should be erected. The river walk was pleasant, the amenity at the river at the end of Chapel street will require monitoring, and the road side grass verges at the stone walls need attention.

Perhaps the schools could be approached with a view to the pupils undertaking wildlife projects with a view to seeing the formation of a wildlife habitat in a suitable location in the general area of the school or town.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

There is still room for improvement, there was evidence of litter throughout the town, it is important that it is tackled and measures put in place to prevent it. The approach roads need attention as there was some litter to be seen along the side of the roads, especially the Roscommon approach road. The litter bins at the amenity at Assylinn, and at the Crescent outside the Plunkett Home were overflowing.

## **TIDINESS**

A number of premises require painting i.e. exterior walls, boundary walls, gates, as already stated the derelict and neglected buildings give a untidy appearance. Side and rear entrances open to view should be tidied up and or screened off. The storage of material especially the roof trusses on the roadway off the top of the Crescent area is disappointing, as they appear to be there for some time.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

A large number of the private residences are well maintained and the use of flowers and plants is to be commended, there are still some private residences requiring attention. Builders rubble stored outside properties should be removed from in front of the properties.

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

Properties with arrangements of varied window and flower baskets all looked well and added to the appearance of the town. Side and rear entrances especially storage areas should be screened off from view. The back lane from the bridge to St Patrick street should be improved, especially the car park. The entrance and gateway to Frybrook house at the bridge was disappointing, with a little effort the general area here with its fine millennium fountain could look so well. Hazards for pedestrians on the footpaths especially the less able bodied are in evidence outside business premises and should be discouraged.

The public Park was disappointing, the grass had been cut but the remainder of the park looks somewhat neglected, the play area was being well used on adjudication day and is a nice amenity for children. The main approach roads to

the town looked well and welcoming, the flower and shrub beds at the various locations added to their appearance.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

It is vital for Boyle that a practical Tidy Towns work plan be drawn up, initially for the next three to five years. The town has much potential but it needs the full support and commitment of the business community to help the town progress in the competition. Improvements are happening, these are obvious but a group such as the Tidy Towns Committee cannot be expected to do all the work. Property owners need to improve the appearance of their buildings, the weak buildings are not just the derelict ones, some appear to be trading well but the exteriors of the properties requires attention.