

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DELVIN**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	20
The Built Environment	40	20	19
Landscaping	40	22	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	163	155

Delvin, Co. Westmeath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

I would like to commend you on your future plans for Delvin, which appear to be very constructive and well thought out. The proposed parking bays would create a sense of order on the main street, which presently suffers from double parking and poor use of the space on the street. I am also delighted to see the proposed pedestrian crossing. The changes planned for the church grounds are again well laid-out. It certainly makes more sense to move the main entrance away from the junction. For the moment however, I would place more emphasis on the main street as its redevelopment is more pressing.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The majority of shop fronts in the village are well maintained and are very bright and colourful. Lenihan's butchers deserves special mention for a beautifully maintained facade. Congratulations also to the Caman Inn and O'Shaughnessy's on their very colourful flower displays. The sign over Gaffney's pub needs to be repainted or replaced. A commendable effort was made at the Court House with its floral display, but the area in front looks very untidy.

LANDSCAPING

The church grounds are beautifully maintained and the trees are maturing well. The green area across from the mart, on the Clonmellon road is very pretty and well cared for. I would encourage more landscaping particularly on approach roads. The grass verges entering the village need more attention and the planting of flowers around the village nameplates is recommended. You might also consider planting trees in front of the mart to enhance this stretch of road.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

I like the idea of public seating within the grounds of the church. It is an attractive, peaceful space that could be used for quiet reflection. Landscaping an area around the seats would enhance the colour and beauty of the place. The castle is quite a magnificent structure, but the ruin nearby is very overgrown and takes away from it.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter is somewhat of a problem. There was evidence of rubbish on the footpaths, empty beer bottles were left lying on window sills and there was litter in a phone box. It is good to note the presence of recycling bins on the Castlepollard Road.

TIDINESS

The hanging baskets on the main street have a very strong impact, as do the window boxes. They really lift the place and I applaud all those concerned. The paths are quite weedy and need to be sprayed, particularly along the kerbs. A burnt-out van near to the golf club entrance should be removed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

I would like to give a special mention to the two houses opposite the Navan turn, which were beautifully maintained and had wonderful gardens and flower pots. Other housing was not up to this standard, so the impression was quite mixed. Some housing along the Castlepollard road was in need of attention and a house on the main street had a broken window.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Many of the footpaths need to be resurfaced or replaced. It would greatly enhance the look and feel of the town and in accordance with your plan, create a sense of structure and organisation. All sign posting within the village is excellent. However, Ryan's Take-away signs are completely unnecessary and their presence on the footpath impedes pedestrians. There were also wheelie bins parked on the path.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Delvin is a bright, colourful village enhanced by very attractive shop fronts. The litter problem needs to be addressed for next year. Good luck in getting your plans for the main street and the church area implemented.