

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **RAHARNEY**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	35
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	29	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	186	184

Raharney, Co. Westmeath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The Raharney Tidy Towns Committee are commended for their planned approach to the ongoing development of its village. The village presents very well and is attractively spread over undulating hills which emphasise its variety of interests. The results of a number of year's activity in improving the village environment can be appreciated by both local and visitors alike.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The car park and telephone kiosk opposite the church was clean and tidy. The church was attractively painted with well maintained railings in front. Shops in the village centre are well presented with frontages dressed with flower barrels.

The national school is well presented, the building freshly painted, litter free, and with nice lawns. The lawns have been cut and there are nice plants in the surrounding border areas. The Granite Bar and Lounge looks fine though the car park frontage could be improved. A bungalow at this point is beginning to show dilapidation and some weed show at its side entrance.

LANDSCAPING

On the Bolliver road is a green area with an attractive display of shrubs. Unfortunately the remains of a car bumper lay in its top corner and there is some damage to the green at this point. The bridge over the River Deel looks fine but would probably be more attractive if curtained with cut stone. The grotto is a pleasant retreat with its small lawns and display of roses. Work is nearly complete on the amenity park and it looks well although more decorative safety railings at the river side might be considered for the future. Along the road frontage is a colourful display of rose bushes but unfortunately, some litter at the park entrance. The stone walls with seating are a nice touch. The loose pebble has been spread from the flower beds to the pathway. The petrol pumps in front of O'Reilly's shop have been painted and with their floral display have become an nice feature.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Hedgerows along the side of the river combined with the maturing plants and shrubs in the park are very attractive. The rural location of Raharney should provide many opportunities for suitable projects under this heading. In identifying projects seek the advice of ENFO - a public information service established by the Minister for the Environment and Local Government or contact your area wildlife ranger.

LITTER CONTROL

There was a fair amount of litter at the entrance to the Island Amenity and the rubbish bin near the rear of the shop opposite the Church, was full. The rubbish bin on the Delvin road corner was full

and beside it an old timber pallet had been dumped.

TIDINESS

The petrol pump outside McHugh's Pub is badly presented as is the pub's storage area between the pub and house. Lighting at McHugh's car park has left broken road surface. The hilly nature of the village layout tends to emphasise the wires-cape which on approach is almost at eye level

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Rathwire Road entrance has a number of attractive bungalows and gardens but the verges are not well maintained. A feature of the entrance to the village is the new housing development at Ashcroft Park. This is a new estate and a considerable amount of work remains to be done. The green areas are not well maintained and there is evidence of litter and some graffiti on litter bins. The presentation of bungalow housing on the Bolliver Road varies from good to disappointing.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

There is a fine stone wall running along the front Ashcroft Park on the Killucan road while to the left side are some attractive hedgerows.

The chain link fence right is well camouflaged but wall frontages to some new housing have yet to be built. The entrance from the Corbetstown road is very attractive with a fine floral display close to Weir's shop. This entrance also features a fine private garden. Link fence on right could be screened.

The Delvin Road entrance is very good with good road surface, the Grand Gates, very well maintained open green and grass verges. The wall to the left is excellent and to the right at the village entrance a fine stand of mature trees which provides for wildlife habitat within the village. The entrance from the Rathwire side has intact wall to left and to the right trimmed hedges leading to McHugh's car park. The view of the rear of the pub with its outhouses should be screened.

Village Close has a well maintained green area bordered by timber and wire fence. The milk stand on the Ballivor is a well presented an interesting roadside feature.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Raharney is a most pleasant village to visit. The well organised work of your committee is ensuring good progress on a number of fronts. Some works have yet to be completed, but already there is much of which you can be proud.