

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **STREETE**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-06-2001

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2001 | Mark Awarded 2000 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 26 | 26 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 25 | 25 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 26 | 24 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 12 | 12 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 21 | 21 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 10 | 10 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 19 | 19 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 20 | 20 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | 5 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 165 | 162 |

Streete, Co. Westmeath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Details of 3 year plan not available but your excellent year's work was concentrated on the restoration of approach walls, the maintenance of the green areas and some commendable flower plantings particularly along the entrance road from Rathowen

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The colour scheme of the village's main commercial buildings is light and attractive with a nice contrast between the predominantly cream coloured buildings and the cut stone fronted shop. The Dunnings pub sign is fine if a little tarnished to the right, with hanging flower baskets on the house. The attractive cottage on the corner under the chestnut tree is a delight if marred by the introduction of plastic windows. The old church which overlooks the village from the Rathowen side has much potential. There appears to be work commencing on an adjacent building which it is hoped will mark the eventual restoration of the church building. The remains of an old forge also offers great potential and is noted by its massive clock dial above its entrance.

LANDSCAPING

Approaching the village from the Rathowen side there is a well presented village sign with floral base and well maintained grassed area backed by a new wall and flower beds. It contains a seating facility and an extension of this development is ongoing around a corner to some housing access. Nice touch is the litter bin which is housed in similar stone as the wall. There are limited public open spaces but what there is of private gardens and frontages is well presented. The string of bungalows out on the Rathowen Road are well maintained with exceptional gardens. Large and mature chestnut trees dominate the centre of the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

A swathe of trees have been cut out of the forest between Deramona House Estate and the village much to the detriment of the area's wildlife amenity. While the wildlife habitat is under threat from development, most is unspoiled but needs to be protected. You might consider identifying projects by seeking the advice of ENFO - a public information service established by the Minister for the Environment and Local Government or contact your area wildlife ranger.

The River is an attractive feature which could capitalise on the development of the old forge building alongside which it runs. There is a stile access to the river bank and presumably a riverside walk in its natural state. There is a good display of wild flower and grasses in this area reflecting the high environmental status of the area.

LITTER CONTROL

There was not a sign of litter. There is some wall repair work to be done near the forge. There is a discarded car in the car park in front

of the small houses. The anti litter campaign is enjoying total success, and there is a complete absence of poster posting or graffiti.

TIDINESS

There is no kerb or wall weed growth and all boundary walls and fences, with the exception of some 'pallet gated' breaks on the Rathowen side, are well maintained. The Midland Health Board building which is off the main street is nondescript with some weed in its car park.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Streete presents a fine range of beautifully presented modern and traditional houses many with well laid mature gardens. The neat row of cottages add to the essential estate village ambience of Street.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Very attractive estate village with impressive stands of trees to the right of the entrance road from the Coole side. This is Deramona House the entrance gates to which are locked. Approaching the village from the Rathowen side there is a well presented village sign with floral base and well maintained grassed area. Road quality is good but street-scape could be improved with more tasteful public lighting. The wall fronting the road between the estate and the shop is due for future repair

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is clearly a high level of community appreciation for the village. Excellent work has been done by the committee but there are clear indications that developments at Deramona House may prove unduly intrusive. The potential the village has to exploit its old estate buildings must be placed in the context of any future plans.