

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNKINEELY**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	24
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	22	18
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	11
Litter Control	40	27	25
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	179	162

Dunkineely, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

In respect of your comments under section D of your application form the adjudicator's report was not carried out until as late as the deadline allowed.

Your 3 to 5 year plan is clear and concise but more cross references to the map are required. Your detailed responses to Section B of the form are applauded.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The new fences at Laverty Design and O'Donnell Motors were noted and approved. The newly painted wall to the National School was also noted but now serves as a pointer that other walls along this area require similar attention.

Derelict buildings within the town obviously detract from the overall ambience and will require imaginative planning to upgrade them. The Methodist Church is very attractive. Like many towns in rural Ireland, Dunkineely suffers from the blight of overhead cables that ruin even the most attractive streetscape. Perhaps you could address this issue by planning their relocation within underground ducts as part of your long term plan of improvements.

LANDSCAPING

The painted fence and summer benches at Bunlacky shore was noted. However, the grass was quite long around the benches and made them less inviting to sit on. Your longer term plan to replace the fence and develop this area is a good one. The picnic area is very attractive with stone wall and seating, freshly cut grass, planting and paving. The tourist information panel is a good addition at this point and was being utilized on adjudication day by a pair of touring cyclists. The new stone wall to Eagles garden is very attractive.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The bi-lingual sign for Bunlacky shore was duly noted at the crossroads. This makes for a very pleasant walk down to the shoreline. Well done to the children at Killaghtee N.S. on the creation of a garden and compost bin this must be a great source of education and inspiration to them. Are the Heritage Trails, signposted off the Killybegs Road a part of the town?

LITTER CONTROL

The addition of a bin at the Bunlacky shore parking area would be good idea. Quite a lot of litter was seen in Main Street on adjudication day but other areas were mostly free of

litter.

TIDINESS

There was what appeared to be an upturned blue hulled, boat in the Bunlacky River just where it runs into the sea. An abandoned van was seen at the side of the road just along from ref 8. The gable ends to Sea View B & B, due to their prominence within the streetscape, need urgent attention under this heading and the Garda Station would benefit from repainting. McIntyres bar and the building beside have a lot of weed growth in the roof gutters which adds to an air of untidiness.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Houses along the shore road were well maintained with attractive gardens but do discourage crazy paving facades to houses. Houses within the town have character and well cared for gardens. Castleview estate was admired for the use of colour by the residents to individualise their houses and brighten their facades.

The road gutters need cleaning. An area at the end of the estate was very untidy with a large number of pallets and general mess around. The footpaths appeared to have been recently upgraded. The houses opposite the entrance to Castleview estate also had well maintained gardens. The single storey cottages on the Killybegs Road were very much admired and the planting to the front of one in particular looked splendid.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Donegal Town approach road is lined with small trees and well maintained verges. The town sign is adorned by flower beds but a more attractive sign could be created to replace the ubiquitous council ones. The shore road has a lot of grass growing through it and requires attention. The forecourt to KF Furnishings needs attention. The road surface to Main Street is in very good condition. The Livestock Cooperative requires attention to its forecourt road surface.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Charming buildings dominate the village of Dunkineely. Your efforts under all the headings are paying dividends and your future proposals will further develop the character of the town.