

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MALIN**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 04-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	43
The Built Environment	40	34	33
Landscaping	40	36	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	22
Litter Control	40	39	37
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	26	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	36	37
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	259	259

Malin, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Whilst your application form and submission highlights projects undertaken within the last year it is imperative that you include a development plan for the years ahead. No doubt you have done so in the past and I would encourage you to do so again as marks have been lost under this heading. The map would benefit from further annotation and clearer cross referencing to the development plan. The development plan itself could have included more detail regarding each project.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The old National School looks well and just beyond that, the old water pump was admired. The National School on the Glengad road looks to have been recently repainted – yellow and blue, which is very pleasant. The Victorian street lights are very attractive here and all overhead cables have been removed. The very attractive gate lodge has been beautifully restored, the grass lawn is immaculate and the grass verges have been recently cut. There is a second gate lodge, restored to the same standard, a mile and a half further out on the Malin Head Road. The Malin Hotel and the Post Office looked well presented. To your credit there is very little dereliction in Malin Town.

LANDSCAPING

At the Millbrook riverbank, the new fencing was noted. The white-washed stone walls throughout the village are very well maintained with one or two notable exceptions referred to under tidiness. Hedges and grass verges are in excellent condition throughout. The car park on Culdaff Road has a fine seating and viewing area beside the water with a lovely view of the original bridge, however, some removal of weeds is required within the car-park and a fresh layer of chippings would help to soften it up. The Diamond itself is in beautiful condition, the grass is very well kept, the park benches and well established trees make it very picturesque. There are also new trees and lovely flower beds to admire.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river is most attractive with large mature trees on its banks which are very pleasant. Is it possible to walk beside this river? The completed wildlife viewing area, on the Carn approach road, with its new benches, picnic area and trees is really very attractive and a fine achievement. That you have made it accessible to all is to be commended. The creation of nesting boxes at the National School is a credit to the students.

LITTER CONTROL

There was virtually no litter to be found on adjudication day, an area which all

Committees are to be vigilant. Congratulations to all concerned.

TIDINESS

Unfortunately, as you approach the town from Glengad there is an old thatched cottage in a ruinous state and a part of the white, stone washed wall is broken. A problem with the white washing of stone walls located so close to the road is that they tend to get dirty very quickly from the combination of heavy traffic and poor weather conditions, as we have experienced this summer.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The new houses being built beside the gate lodge were admired for the variations in scale and the retention of the trees around it. Many houses were admired for their window boxes at ground and first floor. The houses at Brookfield Terrace are in very good condition and they have lovely planting outside, however the over-head cables would be better ducted underground as was done in the square. In Milbrook Terrace not all the houses supplied with window boxes seem to have them on show. The walls, painted annually, looked well.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Malin Head approach road, with its lovely white-washed stone walls, was being resurfaced on adjudication day. The verges are cut very tight along the approach roads and are very pleasant. The stone up-stand kerbs are very well maintained. On the road in from Glengad, the grass verges and hedges have been cut back. The Culdaff approach road would benefit from the addition of a footpath. The bridge into Millbrook Terrace could do with resurfacing whilst the road surface over the ten arches bridge is quite bumpy and in quite poor condition. Pot holes in Milbrook Terrace have been filled but the road would still benefit from resurfacing in certain areas. Do you have the results of the survey carried out on the bridge and the implications of that survey? If you do please include them next year.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Malin town is very picturesque and very well presented.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (09/08/2002)

The car park on the Culdaff Road was sealed off on the occasion of second adjudication and a mound of stone chipping was noted in the corner, this suggests that work is about to commence on resurfacing as was suggested in the report on the first adjudication. A sign on the thatched cottage on the ' Glengad' Road indicated work to commence here shortly also. Well done on a high standard of litter control and maintenance of green verges and open spaces. The recycling point was excellent in presentation also. The school out the 'Glengad Road had been recently painted and looked wonderful, bird

boxes were noted here, this is a valuable initiative for promoting an awareness of wildlife among the school children. The bridge walls could have been white-washed to freshen their appearance, no doubt the amount of rain this summer has been a factor in this respect. Trees planted along the perimeter of the commercial premises located beside the 'Health Centre' would make a valuable contribution to the visual amenity of this area. It is hoped that the new residential developments under construction will be a new resource for Malin.