

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **INNISKEEN**
County : **MONAGHAN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 25-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	30
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	32	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	25	27
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	31
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	208	212

Inniskeen, County Monaghan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your completed application form and map. Under this heading the committee are requested to submit a proposed work programme incorporating the various aspects of the competition headings for the village. A clear and concise 3/5 - year working plan, outlining achievable targets for the committee, both focuses your objectives and sets the scene for the adjudicator.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The lovely church and grounds catch the eye on the approach to the town with its colourful trees and tidy beds. The Credit Union building looked well with its lovely perennial planting. Two buildings in this area would look better with screening gates. The area around Magees looked well, as did the lovely home and garden opposite. and it particularly good to see the railway station being restored. It is important to keep this commercial area tidy and free from debris and pallets. The Round Tower and Churchyard are a lovely focal feature in the town, hopefully the church roof will be repaired before winter. The lovely Gleneven Guest House with its tidy landscaped road leading to some fine private but derelict industrial buildings also caught the eye. The Patrick Kavanagh centre is a very important attraction within the village, however it needs its paintwork refreshed and also to remove the weeds from the gutters. The Poets Rest Coffee Shop looks very well with some lovely walls and colourful landscaping. Mc Nello's is also an attractive focal building in the village unfortunately the adjoining white farm buildings are unkempt. The industrial building beside the fine community centre had a lovely perennial bed within its walls.

LANDSCAPING

Some effective landscaping features were evident throughout the village, adding a lovely splash of colour to landscape. The Grotto with its fine stonewall, tidy pump and lovely rose bed present a lovely first impression of the village. The mixed perennial and summer planting bed opposite the church looked well but the weeds at the kerb could be removed. Some lovely flowers on a stonewall opposite the play area gave a lovely splash of colour. The little flowerbeds at the stone bridge and out this road were noted also adding little splashes of colour. The mixed beds in the car park looked well as did the lovely feature at the roundabout. The simple and colourful nasturtiums beds caught the eye outside Ruddys.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The committee has an important role in preserving and suitably enhancing the natural environment within the village. The Fane River walk is a pleasant feature accessible to all in the centre of the village and could be appropriately developed further under this

heading. Wildflower meadows, nesting boxes, further tree planting, suitable information boards or trail signs all could be considered. The school grounds could also be a possible location for an appropriate project under this heading. Get practical help and advice from local experts and involve the school children in your plans.

LITTER CONTROL

There was some litter in the Dun Ard Estate, on the Fane river walk and in the Round Tower area. All the older slated bins in the town need to be repainted (consider a standard village colour), or replaced with lidded bins, this might reduce the problem of rubbish blowing around. It was very encouraging to see the children on 'litter patrol' picking rubbish in the playground where once again a very full open bin was causing the rubbish to blow around. Some rubbish had accumulated in the sub-station grounds close by and in the alleyway adjoining Duffys shop. The committee must remain pro-active and vigilant in this important section of the competition.

TIDINESS

Two buildings close to the Credit Union could have screening gates to hide for instance the old debris has accumulated at the side of the shed. The old diesel sign should also be removed. The old but neat building close to the bridge would look better with a simple cosmetic paint job. Some debris & rubbish should be cleared from the O'Rourke Bridge at the end of the River walk and at the back of P. Kavanagh centre. Verges could be tidied without compromising local fauna & weeds cleared on the path from the 30MPH sign to the church. Similarly the verge could be tidied in front of the Round Tower.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The majority of homes in the village and on the approach roads were well maintained and presented, with attractive gardens, lawns, hedges and flower features noted. These contribute to the overall pleasant picture of the village, well done to all involved. However these homes highlight the few houses that need to pay some attention to the presentation of their property and surrounds. Dun Ard has a generous green area but needs its benches repaired and repainted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

There was a mixed quality of road surface on the approach roads and in the village, particularly on the Carrickmacross road, though the road out past the centre was very good. Some tidy stretches of verges and hedges were noted. Some roads in areas of the village need a simply tidy like the grass edges on the corner past the bridge. A small side area adjoining the cottages next to the centre is looking untidy. Some signposts

need some simple attention. A lovely horizontal built stonewall opposite the Community Centre is worth cleaning to display its unusual aspect. The village has some lovely and unusual Failte signs.

GENERAL

The village of Inniskeen has a number of impressive aspects in addition to the obvious Patrick Kavanagh connection. Through applied objectives and paying attention to detail, your small committee could be an even more effective force in optimising the villages full potential. Build on your successes to date and do not become disheartened with the lack of resolution on some issues.