

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DAINGEAN**
County : **OFFALY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41	39
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	19	20
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	210	205

Daingean, County Offaly

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Daingean is a pleasant place to visit. The town has many interesting features several of which have been provided as a result of your efforts. It is encouraging that you are continuing to implement your development plan. You have now reached a high standard of presentation under all headings. It is therefore all the more important that you pay increasing attention to the finer points of detail.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The overall impression of the Main Street is good. Most of the buildings are well presented although a number do require painting especially gable ends. Signage is also generally restrained which adds further to the character of the street. The new hotel is a fine stone building. The two and three storey Georgian style buildings around the canal bridge are an important feature of Daingean but they do require painting. The Reformatory is an important and imposing building and appears to be in good condition. Hopefully some useful purpose will be found for it that will guarantee its future. The Town Hall is another important building but its façade is weedy and requires attention. The canal store is another historic building in a good state of preservation, the new wooden railings and flower beds look well. The Church and School are well maintained but vegetation was noted in the roof gutters of the Garda Station.

LANDSCAPING

A number of trees on the main street have failed or are failing and these should be replaced as soon as possible. These trees as they mature will greatly enhance the appearance of the street. The well maintained grassed area together with the other planting is a lovely feature in front of the Church spire. Several colourful and well maintained flowerbeds were noted throughout the village. The feature at Fortfield Drive is particularly eye catching. Many hanging baskets and window boxes were also noted.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The canal is a lovely feature. On the day of inspection it was nice to see people using the picnic tables and also fishing in the canal. The mooring facility is an attractive amenity and hopefully will bring more boating visitors to the town. The grass is well maintained on the canal banks and the black and white painted wooden bollards add interest. The picnic tables now require painting and a seat at the grassed triangle with the matures adjoining the Gaelic Bar needs attention. It is good to see that you have put up bird boxes as indicated in your plan – one was noted in the copper beach at the Church carpark.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control continues to be one of the weaker areas. A light scattering of litter was noted in several locations especially in the vicinity of the G.A.A. grounds. Improved litter control must be one of your top priorities.

TIDINESS

The generally high standard of presentation helps generate a tidy atmosphere throughout Daingean. However weedy footpath kerbing in several locations does somewhat detract from the overall impression.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are many well presented houses throughout Daingean, several have well planted gardens. A couple stand out on the Edenderry Road and there are others. The approaches to Coolure and Fortfield Drive are well kept. As has already been mentioned a number of houses do need painting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The grass verges on all approach roads are cut, however, there is room for improvement particularly on the Tullamore Road close to the town. The stone flower in the car park adjoining the church is attractive but weeds in the car park need attention. The wall at the rear of the car park would be suitable for planting. Pyracantha would be suitable and also provide food for birds. Many of the direction signs need cleaning or painting. The Spar Sign approaching the corner at the Edenderry end is not appropriate.

GENERAL IMPRESSIONS

Great progress has been made in recent years. Keep up the good work.