

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GURTEEN**
County : **SLIGO**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 20-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	23	21
Landscaping	40	22	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	171	165

Gurteen, County Sligo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

As mentioned by last year's adjudicator it is essential at this stage of the competition that you formulate a three to five year programme. This document need only be a few pages long outlining the plans for the village's future and setting a time frame for their implementation. This document will prove invaluable as a means of assessing the progress over the years – both for yourselves and the adjudicator!

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There are a number of agricultural/industrial buildings on the Ballymote Road. Cost-Cutter's Supermarket and Centra both contributed well to the overall presentation. Mc Govern's was quite fresh. Both the Roisin Dubh and the Post Office were fine. The church looked well with its fine statuary, set behind Main Street but accessed off it.

LANDSCAPING

The planted area outside and opposite the Creamery looked extremely well as did the planted bed opposite AOL Engineering. Trees had been planted along the main street and are coming along nicely. The landscaping to the car parked area and to the roadsides outside the Heritage Centre contribute well to the streetscape.

WILDLIFE

Your work in relation to the wildlife habitats at the cemetery is to be highly commended.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day was extremely good with the village being virtually litter free. However you seem to have rather a small number of litter bins and it is advisable to invest in more and place them at strategic locations as visitors may not be as vigilant as the residents of the village obviously are.

TIDINESS

Weed control was a problem outside the new houses on the Tubbercurry Road and it is hoped that this problem will be resolved once these houses are totally complete. You should consider screening the creamery area and ESB sub-stations (on both sides of the road) by means of stone walling and indigenous hedging such as beech or hawthorn in conjunction with some tree planting. Screening should also be considered for the recycling bins. A concrete post and wire fence at the Machinery Hire would also benefit from replacement with something more appropriate such as stone walling or hedging. A derelict two storey cottage on the Boyle Road detracted from the area. However, the

adjudicator did notice that a tin shed had been repainted cheerfully in its traditional red colour.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are a number of sites along approach roads and quite close to the village centre which are being developed. Your work in relation to encouraging the developers to finish off these areas to a high standard is commendable. A house on the Boyle Road which has extended its area of interest to the opposite side of the road by means of flower planting was admired. Shannon Drive seemed fine but some of the boundary walls at the entrance area of Rathmadder were quite badly stained with red algae growth.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The standard in this category of the competition could have been better – approach roads looked generally uncared for and overgrown. Please discourage advertisement hoardings as they can give approach roads a rather cluttered appearance. Directional signs in the centre of the village had been vandalised with graffiti and appeared quite grubby. However the carved stone village nameplate signs were greatly admired.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Gurteen is a busy village with much industrial activity taking place. The Tidy Town's Committee is obviously one which has great interest and care in the village's future.