

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **STROKESTOWN**
County : **ROSCOMMON**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 15-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	20	20
Landscaping	40	24	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	21	20
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	17	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	19
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	158	155

Strokestown, County Roscommon

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Strokestown is a town which has quite a lot of potential. The wide streets are a very nice feature and the area around Strokestown Park House could be a great attraction. Some of the buildings in the square are well maintained but there is no cohesion between the buildings - a unified approach to painting and maintaining all the buildings could do a lot. Areas such as yards adjacent to buildings need attention i.e. by the side of Connellan's Solicitors which seems to have been treated with weedkiller but unsightly residue has not been removed, and the yard beside the hotel. The fact that the hotel is not in use doesn't help the street aspect. The trees are coming on and the bedding plants looked good and were being given additional attention during inspection. Gates into Strokestown House look good but unsightly road making rubble to right of gates on roadway needs to be taken away. Could be ESB or Telecom residue.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

New street lighting very good and absence of wires a big improvement. New pavements and uprights look good. Flower containers and hanging baskets where provided give a great lift. Weighbridge House and well are no longer available - advised that they were absorbed by new road development. There are still a number of plastic signs in evidence but nice to note that there has been some improvement - keep it up ! On the road to Tulsk the hut across from Connolly & Co should either be upgraded or removed as should unsightly wire contraption beside it. Tree planting and shrubs look good. Heritage centre not open at time of visit. Wall at school entrance still needs attention. Poor quality sign at entrance of nearby side road to dolmen - no visible access from this road other than through houses to any form of monument. Either attraction should be highlighted and sign upgraded or removed. Trunk of old tree across the road well utilised by planting of flowers in it. Approach to Strokestown from Tulsk to the Heritage area looks good. There are no street signs and these could be provided. The houses on Bridge Street still require attention - the old garage/travel agency is quite ugly and Lisryan Court is still derelict and looking shabby.

LANDSCAPING

The small cobblelock roundabout looks well but grass needs attention, as does trapped litter here and the whole area could be improved by the addition of some colour by way of flowers/baskets. Coming from Longford there are earthworks at the sign for Strokestown and these should be removed - hopefully there are plans to put some focal point here. Good approach otherwise, nice stone walls and houses well painted. Nice stone walls on Drumsna road should be highlighted by cutting back verges/hedges.

Surrounds of graveyard need weeding. Grotto and park on Roscommon Road looks well but attention should be given to weeding and grass cutting and flower containers need replanting. Could benefit by the provision of picnic tables using the river as a focus. Commercial premises across the road still unsightly and could do with a lot of screening.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

No signs of a wildlife project being undertaken.

LITTER CONTROL

Generally good around town except for central island.

TIDINESS

Need to remove building material, earth mounds and rubble at bottle bank. Rubble still at bottle bank and old trailer abandoned there. While Brogans appear to be making an effort the premises could still do with a lot of improvement.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Some improvement and provision of new frontage such as Donal's is noted. Some improvement also in houses on Tulsk road but it would help if there was a structured plan for painting premises as the green house with the red door does tend to stand out and the colours are too strong by comparison with the other premises. The same applies to Macs Store at the corner of Tulsk Road and Elphin Road - the mustard colour is a bit too striking.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Continue improvement on these and watch weeds and verges/hedges but not to exclusion of wildflowers.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Continues to improve and in time to come with implementation of professional colour scheme, improvement of derelict sites and buildings and upgrading of area near Strokestown Park entrance this town could look very well.