"Caring for our environment"

Centre : GLASLOUGH
County : MONAGHAN

Category: **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication: 17-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	32
The Built Environment	40	27
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	16
Residential Areas	30	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	9
TOTAL MARK	300	206

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Glaslough success over the years and its very high standards, clearly demonstrate a very high developmental approach. Last years call from your adjudicator for a plan remains. A plan puts before a community the needs and the priorities and helps create a climate of opinion that gets things done. Therefore we still recommend that approach to you. Nonetheless you have scored very highly here reflecting your dedication and focused approach.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This new category is particularly suited for an area like Glaslough. Why not join with the Castle properties and exploit the grounds for the betterment of all. You have scored reasonably on this anyway since Glaslough is surrounded by so much wildlife, but turn this into a points getting exercise.

LANDSCAPING

The wonderful level of housekeeping throughout the village immediately suggests high landscaping marks. The smaller items such as the kid's play area, the lovely picnic area, the improved junction at the school at Middletown junction all contributed to you scoring highly in this area in addition to the marvellous planting, more of which later in the report.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As an old laid out town the scale and importance of the vernacular architecture cannot be gainsaid. Therefore it is heartening that all of your developments even the community centre for instance are in harmony with this tremendous heritage. A few black spots remain. It was unfortunate that the Pillar House has not refurbished its front. The excellent garden next door clearly indicates the owners commitment to your calls, but please encourage them to repair the pillars etc. The Convenience Store had unnecessary advertising flags flying. The Coach House was very nice but its very restraint is in itself telling. Perhaps the businesses should be encouraged and indeed the town houses within the village should be encouraged to use more colour in their paint ware etc. It was interesting to see a major farm building being restored on the Emyvale Road.... how will it turn out, we wonder?

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was quite, quite good on the day. One notable exception was an overflowing bin at Tullyree Estate. It seems as amazing to me as it probably will to you, but it is the attention to such sort of detail that will get you back into the prize winners enclosure in the Tidy Towns Competition.

TIDINESS

You have scored very highly here. The marvellous sense of husbandry throughout the village scored very well for you.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Tullyree Estate as was noted in previous adjudications was simply marvellous. There is wit and style and elegance in its planting and the residents and your committee are to be entirely congratulated on this. It is surprising therefore that the Ard - Banagher Estate has not responded with similar colour. The very flat stone work allied to the paving makes this a very monotonous area and I would have thought it would improve the quality of life for everyone if these very interesting houses were complemented by some bright and vibrant planting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approaches are simply excellent, and the attention to detail, as well as the edging right to the end of those stone walls and to the edge of the pavements is exemplary. Barrack Hill remains your Achilles Tendon. Nonetheless nature is taking over and clearly the high growing trees are filling in quite well. Why not ask the owners can you clad the existing wrout iron gates and tubular steal gates with timber which could be painted in appropriate colours and if high enough would go a long, long way towards screening the remainder of this problem area.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Glaslough sits on the edge of a return to the great days of the late seventies! Keep up the good work, put a plan in front of your community so you will not be embarrassed about making them stick to the agenda, and success will surely come your way again. Looking forward to seeing you in the future.