

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GLASLOUGH**
County : **MONAGHAN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	38
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	36	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	27	25
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	225	219

Glaslough, County Monaghan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The estate village was looking impeccable on adjudication day. It was a pleasure to adjudicate in such a relaxed environment on a fine summer's day. Thank you indeed for the completed questionnaire and information pack which outlined in great detail your strategy for progress. The Glaslough Village Improvement plan is suitably structured and identifies many opportunities for closer co-operation with Monaghan County Council and other state agencies. Obviously your strong point is your working relationship with the community and this will stand you in good stead during the lifetime of this plan. You are now well organised with a clear focus as to what is required and the future looks very promising. In the meantime attention to detail will be of priority in order to bring you into serious consideration for the county or a national award. The year 2002 is a reasonable target to achieve your objectives. Do not get complacent - total commitment from all is now a priority - continue the good work.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The heritage appeal of Glaslough is outstanding and the ever present stone features represent a magnificent vista which dominates the village. The boundary stone walls were impressive with tidiness and overall presentation a lasting impression. An improvement in the presentation of commercial and private buildings was also noted particularly at The Coach House and Wrights where a new tarmac forecourt has up-graded this areas of the village considerably. The Pillar House looked well, however, the sighting of weeds on the paving was disappointing. The National School, Recreation Centre, Railway buildings all looked well but again the problem at the entrance to Castle Leslie still remains and is losing your marks under this heading. Congratulations to the proprietors of An Siopa Beag - nice to see the Irish language Shop Sign. The new proposals for the recreation area and enhancement programme for the monument are very positive and the adjudicator looks forward to progress. A good performance under this heading is acknowledged - well done.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping in many parts of the village was most impressive. Deserving of mention is the Monaghan Road with tidily presented green areas, colourful planting, matured trees and trimmed hedging - all creating a very welcoming approach to Glaslough. Planting at Tullynee was eye catching and the residents here have great pride in maintaining a nice landscape. The planting at Ard

Banagher is maturing nicely and is now an enhancing feature of this estate. Grass verges on all approaches were nicely cut, however, as mentioned in last year's report, do give further consideration to the greater use of plants that would provide colour and content the whole year round. Obviously the proposals outlined in the "Glaslough Village Improvement Plan" will further enhance the presentation of Glaslough Village - this will require total dedication and may require expert advice - please refer to Tidy Towns Handbook.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

In such a pleasant rural environment there are many opportunities for new initiatives under this heading. As a tidy towns committee you have an important role in protecting, enhancing and increasing the wildlife value of your community. The lakes are an obvious consideration for wildlife and amenity development providing that easy access is in place - your committee should investigate this possibility. You should also consider engaging the support of the local school to carry out research into the location of Wildlife habitats and the type of species. This could be done under the supervision of a local wild life expert or environmentalist. This would be a very suitable educational exercise for a school project. To expedite progress under this heading please refer to Tidy Towns Handbook Page 65 "Wildlife and Natural Amenities" - you will find this chapter of great help in establishing a wildlife programme.

LITTER CONTROL

Glaslough was virtually litter free on adjudication day - giving a tidy appearance and an invitation to stay longer - well done to all. Litter bins were in the main presented well and the school litter wardens are obviously of great help in promoting an anti-litter awareness within the community. However, litter is a national problem, that requires continuous attention and vigilance and the increased efforts of the community and committee will most likely be reflected in an increase in marks in the future.

TIDINESS

Overall Glaslough has a tidy and well kept appearance. The community play a major role in this regard and the support from the FAS workers is a significant factor and deserving of special recognition. A co-ordinated approach under this heading will enhance the presentation of the village even further.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses in the village and along approach roads are

well cared for. Many with well tended and colourful gardens, well presented boundary areas and neatly cut lawns. Tullynee estate was superbly presented and Ard Banagher has improved greatly. This adjudicator greatly admired Ambledown Cottage, however, adjacent buildings need attention.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

A very high standard of presentation was observed on the Monaghan Road deserving a special mention, however, some side roads still need attention including the tidying up of opening spaces, nothing major that can't be overcome. Street furniture was again presented to satisfaction and the "Welcome to Glaslough" signs are well cared for and the colourful planting an eye-catching feature. The new programme of street lighting, furniture and kerbing as outlined for later this year will improve further your rating under this heading. An improved performance deserves an increase in marks - well done.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Glaslough is a village with a clear focus as outlined in the "Glaslough Village Improvement Plan". This plan is a real mechanism to expedite progress by catapulting Glaslough into contention for a National Award by year 2002. Your enthusiasm to succeed is obvious - it will require a lot of hard work and commitment - you can do it. The adjudicator wishes you well.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (07/08/99)

The presentation of Glaslough was excellent on second adjudication also. Well done on work accomplished to date on footpaths. We look forward to the resurfacing of the road marking the entrance to Castle Lesley together with sections of the adjoining side road. The eventual ducting of service cables and the erection of street lighting on attractive lampstandards will also enhance the overall village scene. Be vigilant regarding outbreaks of weed growth along the kerbs of footpaths and ensure that the village is swept regularly. Other elements of untidiness include strewn gravel, leaves and grass cuttings. Has a co-ordinated colour scheme for buildings in the village centre been considered? Don't forget to highlight what is unique about Glaslough in the presentation for Tidy Towns. Well done on the preparation of your development plan, we wish you well in its implementation and look forward to the results.