

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	41
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	37	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	30	27
Tidiness	20	17	16
Residential Areas	30	27	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	28
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	240	231

Glaslough, County Monaghan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the information supplied with the application form which was very helpful. The map was most useful in locating all the important aspects of the town. Your disappointment with the marking system may be alleviated by considering that while your village is truly unique with its elegant cut stone and on account of the particular developments that have been so successfully undertaken, there are many other towns and villages in the country who have other features totally different, making them unique and in which large investments of finance and energy have been made. We are pleased that you have entered in the true spirit of competitiveness and wish you well in the great work that has resulted in such a fine place. Rising standards are noticeable nationwide.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The stone walls are a dominating factor and create a lovely and an unique theme of the town. The many fine cut stone premises look extremely well, the streetscape is beautiful and was being admired by a number of visitors at adjudication time. The Coach House makes a lovely entrance. The standard of maintenance of the buildings is very high and great credit is due for the consistent effort. The school, nicely placed a little away from the centre could be improved by replacement of the wire fence. The murals on the shelter walls are pleasant.

LANDSCAPING

The context of the landscape in Glaslough is of course the background of the magnificent trees of the castle grounds. These predominate the landscape. It is good to see that some large trees are present on the green in front of the houses at Tullyree, these unite the landscape from beyond the walls. The planting and the maintenance of the greens in front of the Tullyree Estate is excellent and a lovely amenity for the residents. The grass verges by the castle walls are in pristine condition and the controlled system of management of the ivy is good. The containers in the street are nicely placed and do not predominate the buildings which need little embellishment. The monument is a fine emblem within the town and creates a centre or focal point from which the rest of the town can relate. The recreation area has been well planned out and it is a marvellous asset in the town. The old railway station is in poor condition and it would be lovely if this could take its place in some way with the rest of the fine buildings. The Church of Ireland is a lovely building set so beautifully among the yew trees.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The castle grounds obviously have a great wealth to offer in this regard and the availability of access is a consideration. Your work of awareness through the schools is a positive approach

LITTER CONTROL

Litter is well under control. Some small amounts of litter were spotted in various places. Litter is a national problem and a constant vigilance is needed.

TIDINESS

The layout and organisation of the town makes Glaslough a very orderly and tidy place. The bus shelter is great, as is the shelter gazebo structure at the Tullyree Green. The manner in which plant containers are placed also is a tidy approach. The wire fence at the school is not the best idea in the context of the village style. The road signs are attractive in their black and gold colour but their legibility at night time could be a concern.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

A number of individual houses on the approach roads are extremely well tended, with both the house structure and their gardens in fine condition. These contribute greatly to the overall appearance of the town and great credit is due to those who work away on their own in this regard. The Greens as already mentioned are well planted and cared for. Planting of "real" trees, - oak, chestnut , sycamore and ash should be considered where space permits to ensure the next two generations can enjoy the maturity of such trees as we do now.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The roads are in good condition. Some disruption due to new house building is present but, hopefully, full restoration will follow. It is important that a watchful eye is kept on all developments to see that they are finished off well and the necessary landscaping is done before the developer leaves the site.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A impression is formed of a very active committee who appreciate the superb quality of their town and who are making great strides in improving their environment while at the same time respecting the true nature of Glaslough.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (02/08/01)

We are sorry that you feel your efforts have gone unnoticed, and should have thought that to be consistently placed in the top category nationally out of seven hundred entries, as well as being placed first in your category in the County, indicates the high regard in which the work undertaken in Glaslough is held. Your five year plan has not been 'ignored'; it is one of the reasons for your exceptionally high

marking under 'Overall Developmental Approach'. This year, on second adjudication day, the village was looking particularly spruce, with neatly clipped hedges, lawns and verges, and truly engaging floral displays. This adjudicator had not been in the village since the publication of 'The Most Beautiful Villages of Ireland' in which it was stated that the bronze head of Sir John Leslie was to be replaced in replica on the memorial fountain – this has now been done, and the whole ensemble, with the excellently maintained surrounding street furniture, makes a handsome centrepiece to the fine formal prospect.