

Tidy Towns 1996

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **LUSK**  
County : **DUBLIN**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	20
The Built Environment	40	24
Litter Control	40	20
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>166</b>

## **Adjudicator's Comments**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The five year development plan submitted by Lusk Tidy Towns Association is very thorough and comprehensive. The careful presentation of areas in need of upgrading in your plan is welcomed and it is encouraging that you have involved the total Lusk community in your plan along with Fingal County Council and local businesses.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

There is enormous potential for wildlife conservation in Lusk - being a rural village. All the hedges surrounding Lusk are well maintained and litter free providing a natural habitat for birds. The large green area beside the Church Heritage Centre would also be a good focal point as would the graveyard adjoining the Church. The application form submitted with this years entry indicated that there were wild life conservation signs throughout Lusk - on the day of adjudication these were not in evidence.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Landscaping in and around Lusk was largely inconsistent, some areas have very untidy hedgerows and weedy verges particularly in the area around Minister's Park. Hedging could also be improved along the road to Rush just past Lusk Utd Football Club - there was quite a lot of litter in evidence along the hedgerows in these areas. The Village Green area was well landscaped, with nicely cut hedges and flowerbeds in the surrounding gardens.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Many of the buildings in Lusk are quite impressive in particular the Willie Monks Museum, St Maccullins Church and the Round Tower with its Heritage Centre. Also the Top Shop and Vaughans are quite impressive as was the Doctor's Surgery and the thatched cottage as you enter Lusk. Again, the derelict shop opposite Murrays could do with improving to lift the overall image of Lusk.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control in Lusk is generally very good with a few minor exceptions. The area around Minister's Park particularly outside the shop needs to be drastically improved. There was quite a lot of litter in evidence also to the front of Vaughans and along by Lusk F.C. and would need to be better maintained.

### **TIDINESS**

Overall, Lusk is a clean and very neatly presented village. Minor exceptions were around Minister's Park, where there was graffiti in evidence on walls and gardens could be better maintained. Otherwise Lusk was quite tidy and the gardens, flowerbeds and hanging baskets throughout the town make for a nice touch.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most residential areas were presented to a high standard on adjudication day. There was a lot of care and attention put into the well kept gardens and grass verges in Orlynn Park and Kelly's Park housing estates, as with houses along approach roads. However, two minor exceptions could be upgraded to enhance the overall image of Lusk. Minister's Park was quite neglected with graffiti on some walls and litter on the streets, also the main street could do with upgrading - although it was noted they that there is quite a lot of building along the roads.

### **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Again, most roads were presented to a high standard on adjudication day with well cut back hedges. The approach roads were well presented, in particular the approach from the main Belfast Road with it's "Welcome to Lusk" sign with nicely planted flowers. Again, the approach road to Minister's Park was quite neglected and could do with upgrading.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of Lusk is very commendable from the point of view that exceptional efforts have been made to involve every sector of the Lusk community.

#### SECOND ADJUDICATION (14/08/96)

The town of Lusk was well presented on Second Adjudication Day. It is a town of great character and potential, and creates an overall good impression when passing through. However, closer inspection reveals a few problem areas in terms of overall effort. Quite a few areas - both main thoroughfares and back areas have a very dusty neglected appearance and badly need freshening up - the display of flowers alone does not resolve this issue. The area around Minister's Park, as mentioned in the First Adjudication is very neglected, and also very littered - as it was last year. More litter was apparent on the path to the Heritage Centre and along the Skerries road which was strewn with papers on the day. There are a number of sites throughout the back areas of the town which look most unfortunate, with neglected timber post and wire fencing, and an overgrowth of weeds behind. The approach roads to the town were well presented, in particular, the granite "Lusk" signs. The school was fresh and its colourful window boxes were admired. The granite church and grounds looked well, although the gate and railings could be freshened before next years competition. The charming old national school was admired, although the door should be painted. The village pump opposite was admired for its simple presentation.