

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEWCASTLE-LYONS**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 17-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	23
The Built Environment	40	22
Litter Control	40	23
Tidiness	20	11
Residential Areas	30	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	163

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The majority of residents and shop owners have involved themselves in the village's Tidy Towns work. It is important for future development that your committee builds on this co-operation among residents as well as consultation with the relevant statutory bodies. Thank you for your completed entry form and map which were helpful on the day of the adjudication.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Future development in the area of wildlife and natural amenities would be of benefit to Newcastle. Suggested projects include steps taken to encourage wildlife, the development of amenity walks and nature trails and appropriate management of access (including access for persons with disabilities) to natural amenities and wildlife areas.

LANDSCAPING

Your committee has undertaken some landscaping in the village which must be complimented. However, the new trees on the Rathcoole approach road need to have the grass cut beneath them. The newly planted area opposite the church and school looks very attractive. The trees, shrubs and benches at the entrance to Alymer Road could be brightened up with some flowers and there was also incidental litter which should be removed.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Brian McEvoy's Pub and car park are well presented. The village stores and St Finians Hall must be complimented and the hanging baskets are quite attractive. However, the derelict building and its grounds on the opposite side of the road need to be cleaned up and some camouflaging of the building may help to improve its appearance. There was some graffiti on the exchange box beside the telephone box which needs to be removed. The church and school grounds are clean and tidy with pleasant landscaping. The two old water pumps located on the main street and at Ballynakelly Road have been appropriately resorted and compliment the village. The Gondola Lounge, Letts Butchers and the post office are all well maintained. However, the area in front of Val Ryans and Topland Farm Supplies needs some additional flower boxes as well as the removal of weeds at boundary walls. The forecourt of the Texaco Station is well presented.

LITTER CONTROL

Incidental litter is apparent in the village area. More regular clean-up campaigns should be encouraged as well as responsibility on each of the residents to ensure that their immediate areas are litter-free. More litter bins are required in the village and the committee should consult with the local authority on this matter. In addition, the local businesses could sponsor bins in the village.

TIDINESS

Improvements are required in the control of weed growth at kerbs and at the base of buildings and walls. Management of pathways both on the approach roads and within the village is important in this respect.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses along Peamount Road have made a great effort in terms of planting trees, shrubs and flowers and they must be complimented on this. All of the residences on the main street are very well presented and the grass areas and flower beds to the front of the houses are well maintained. The entrance to Orchard Grove needs a signpost and it would be a welcome addition if some flowers could be planted at the base of trees. The houses on Alymer Road should ensure that weeds and grass at the

kerbs are removed. The entrance to St Finians GAA and Camogie pitches must be complimented and it would be beneficial if the Peamount FC would brighten up its entrance area also. The open communal grass area on Ballynakelly Road could benefit from some landscaping which includes tree planting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On all of the approach roads the grass verges and hedges need to be trimmed. There are some new houses on the Athgoe Road which are currently developing their gardens and we look forward to the completion of this work. The stone entrance sign on the Peamount Road looks very well and the flowers are very attractive. The Newcastle Truck Centre needs to remove the grass and weeds which are growing at its boundary walls on the Peamount Road. The bus shelter on the Rathcoole approach road needs to be repaired and the rubbish behind it removed. The rock at the entrance to the graveyard would be complimented by planting some flowers. However, the grass verges beside the graveyard need to be trimmed. The sign for the Gondola car park needs to be repainted and there was also some incidental litter present. The presentation of laneways in the village area needs to be improved.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The Tidy Towns Committee in Newcastle has to date adopted an integrated approach in its work. Further improvements and projects should build on this approach which will help to enhance the attractiveness and presentation of the village.