

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **LEIGHLINBRIDGE**  
County : **CARLOW**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	32	31
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	24
Litter Control	40	31	31
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	31
General Impression	10	9	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>236</b>

## **Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your Plan and maps which were very much appreciated. You have outlined your objectives very clearly for the next few years which will now cover all aspects of the towns presentation. It is good to see that you have a very good working relationship with the County Council, FAS, and Telecom Eireann. It would be advisable to liaise with the National Rehabilitation Board who will have valuable advise to give you for making your town more accessible for persons with disabilities. Your Committee is hard working and achieving continued success with your efforts. Well done !

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The stand and in this category continues to be well presented. The public buildings are being maintained quite well. The School tower does need painting. The Church and car park beside it are well cared for but the grass was at the stage of needing a cut. The trees at the Parish Centre are maturing nicely and the area was spotlessly clean. The commercial buildings were all well presented throughout. The Saw Mills and area would need attention as it looked untidy and the signage would need upgrading. The grass at the Health Centre needed a cut. You are aware of the buildings and out-offices which are in need of repair and restoration. The lamps on the bridge compliment it and they do look well.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping of Leighlinbridge is extremely good and you have put a lot of time and effort into it over the years. It has been worthwhile. The landscape on the Old Leighlin road was a delight - which included a beautiful display of roses. It also had an interesting mix of shrubs. The sorbus and silver birch complete a wonderful effort. The trees throughout are maturing very well and give a wonderful atmosphere to the place. The shrub beds at Seskin and St Lazerians Terrace looked well. The green area at Milford Street overlooking the river was beautifully presented and again the roses were in full bloom. The paved area with lights near the river is a job well done.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your town has huge potential for the development and conservation of wildlife. Look to involve all members of the community and focus on schools and youth groups - who you will find are amazingly responsive to the care of the environment. You have many combinations of habitats i.e. wetland, grassland and woodland. Perhaps you might consider a suitable signposting programme for fowl, fish and plants as a start. You have identified some species and I would encourage you to complete it. Do seek advice from the Conservation Volunteers Ireland organisation who will be only too glad to give assistance to you.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Your overall litter control is quite good with just odd bits throughout the town. Pieces of litter were observed on the riverbank area, with small amounts at the Church, School and Carlow road. There was also some at the entrance to the river opposite Meaneys Pub.

## **TIDINESS**

The standard in this category continues to be good overall. Weeds were evident at the kerbside on houses opposite the Lord Bagenal, some at the base of the wall opposite the School and on the Kilkenny road. The telephone booth in the Church car park needs freshening. The seats by the river need repainting. The river was clean and free of debris.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The residential areas continue to be improved and more planting is being done. Some open green spaces were at the point of needing a cut and the name stone in St Lazarians needed the grass to be trimmed around it. The new houses when completed no doubt will be landscaped to a very high standard. The new landscaping on the Bagenalstown road was to be admired. The area which Forogie cleaned was a job well done. It is great to have the assistance of youth groups to help with projects such as this.

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

The standard was good overall in this category. The Carlow road was well presented with its delightful landscaping, as was the Tullow road with the exception of one 30 mph sign which needs repainting. The streets surface was in good condition except for the link road from Tullow Street to High Street which had pot hole(s). The railing on the Bagenalstown road was noted as was the landscaping. The childrens warning sign needed to be cleaned and a 30 mph sign pole needed to be painted.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

This Committee has achieved great results in making this town go from strength to strength over the years in the competition. You have made tremendous efforts to take on the work that needs to be done. In your Plan you have very clear objectives to achieve and no doubt you will achieve these. The efforts of the Committee and all involved are commendable !

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (16/08/97)**

Improvements to the bridge area have really created a sense of centre to the village and effectively links both sides in a strong visual way. The bridge is really quite beautiful with all the wall plants which provide it with a very different character to other bridges of similar style. The use of native tree species are excellent in blending with the countryside and have a much stronger impact because they are not of several different mixed species. The proposed new plantings on the entry road from Muine Bheag should bear in mind that views over the lower

meadows and farm residence should not be lost through the planting of small crown trees, rather, large trees should be planted so that when they mature the views to the residence will not be blocked. The Post Office sign is a bit too loud and not consistent with other shops, though its presentation is very pleasant. Colour is a strong image for the various buildings throughout the village and work well with the hanging baskets. The Committee must be complimented on the restricted use of bedding plants and that when used they are strategically placed. The new planter at the corner beside the residential development with *Viburnum davidii* is very pleasing and understated.