

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CARRIGALLEN**
County : **LEITRIM**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	20
The Built Environment	40	21	19
Landscaping	40	22	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	24	25
Tidiness	20	7	7
Residential Areas	30	17	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	19
General Impression	10	5	4
TOTAL MARK	300	159	152

Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The strategic approach adopted by the Carrigallen Development Company Limited appears to be working. The laying of services underground, the provision of stone walls and the paving throughout the main street have been achieved with the assistance of state agencies, including Leitrim County Council. This year the Dept of the Environment asked each Tidy Towns Committee to submit a simple plan outlining their activities in this regard over the next 3/5 years. Perhaps one could be submitted next year, prepared by the Development Company in conjunction with state agencies, the local authority and the community in Carrigallen. Thanks are due to the Committee for returning the completed questionnaire and map. They were most helpful.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Some of last year's remarks still apply particularly in relation to untidy sheds and rusty corrugated roofs and cladding plastic signage. The R.C. Church is well maintained and the graveyard looked well. The car park needs resurfacing and the lovely wall will need refurbishment for next year. The Church of Ireland and grounds are lovely. The Corn Mill theatre is eye-catching as is the beautiful presentation by Harte's Bar and Restaurant. Some nice traditional shop fronts were noted including McGerty's Bar (nice wooden flowerbeds), Dolan's, Mastersson's and Whitneys. The Esso Garage has a nice stone wall and flower beds. However, the forecourt needs tidying up. The Health Centre is also worthy of comment. The presentation of the VEC is exemplary, with its brightly painted building and lovely flowers. The National School has a neat appearance and could do with some colour. O'Reilly Wood Products on the Killeshandra Road is unsightly as is K Motors where the forecourt rather spoils the nice wooden fence and magnificent stone wall in the vicinity. Jet Wash has some nice shrubbery beds at its perimeter fence but its forecourt is rather cluttered. The timber yard beside it should be screened.

LANDSCAPING

The planting of trees at the Town Lake and its environs plus the stone wall is charming. Seating is also worthy of comment as is the planting. Would it not be an idea to cut the grass bank near the lake so that the whole area has a uniform appearance? Tree planting beside the wall at the Church of Ireland will be an asset as they mature. The display of hanging baskets, window boxes, flower tubs and flower beds throughout the town and especially the Main Street is a credit to all concerned.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The co-operation of the Development Company and the local gun club is to be admired. The development of a wildlife habitat at the Town lake might be considered. A nature trail might be set up identifying the flora and fauna of the area.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was a bit slack on adjudication day. The centre of the Main Street was relatively free of litter. However, the approach roads leave a lot to be desired. There was a lot of litter on the Arva/Killeshandra approach as one got nearer the town. Litter bins on Chapel Street were full to overflowing. Some litter beside the Main Street on the Ballinamore approach. The bottle bank must be a useful addition to the Tidy Towns effort. The key to a litter free village is eternal vigilance.

TIDINESS

The view of the neglected sheds with their corrugated roofs as you approach from Ballinamore or as you drive down Chapel Street towards the town is most unsightly. As mentioned last year the Ola pumps and their environs detract in a major way from the main street. This should be a priority item for any Tidy Towns plan. Apart from this the main street looked bright and colourful. The lovely walls on all the approaches create a nice ambience as you approach the town but there is an untidy area on the approach from Ballinamore (lots of timber scattered about).

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many of the private houses on the approach roads were extremely well presented. Tree planting, shrubbery beds and floral displays were excellent. Boundary walls and brightly painted houses were the order of the day. Well done! The local authority housing estate has a poor entrance; while there was some nice tree planting, the presentation of houses was very mixed. All that can be said is that it is improving slowly.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In general the approach roads were remarkably well presented. Stonework on most of the approaches contributed greatly to this effect. The verges on the Arva and Killeshandra approach roads are the first item a visitor notices. They normally set the standard for the rest of the town. The old Church and graveyard on the Arva approach were well maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The objective of the Development Company should be to try to achieve the wholehearted support of the community in their Tidy Towns efforts. Nil desperandum. Keep up the good work.