

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LOUTH VILLAGE**
County : **LOUTH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 29-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23	22
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	22	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	24	23
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	18	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	20
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	164	158

Louth, County Louth

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The map provided was helpful but no plan was received. A detailed plan to cover a three to five year period is needed. A basic plan outlining the work you wish to carry out would help achieve your aims. Each year an assessment of progress could be made against the plan and further goals outlined or modified.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Everything is centred around the impressive Church in the village. The car park is in great condition. The cemetery is well cared for and a prominent feature of the village. The school would benefit from some redecoration. The craft shop and credit union building are both very attractively presented. Building developments in the centre of the village are causing some disruption but this is only a temporary situation and will be reinstated soon. The traditional signs and business premises are nicely kept and add to the general neat appearance of the village.

LANDSCAPING

The two Copper Beech trees at the entrance to the Church are most impressive. The people that planted these could never have expected to see them come to maturity. Similarly we should consider such a legacy to future generations by planting now. Frequently the choice of trees is of the highly ornamental types. Ash, Beech, Sycamore and Chestnut give much more character to a village. There is ample scope for tree planting in the Church grounds and cemetery. More tree planting in the school grounds would be desirable. The wall being built at the corner of the village centre is progressing well. Attention will be needed to adjoining Green road footpath.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Roadside hedges and trees provide a home for wildlife. In the enthusiasm for cleaning verges and roadsides it is important to avoid scouring the hedgerows. There is plenty of interesting vegetation in the surrounding areas of the village. Nature trails and walks could be developed and would enhance the area. The stream in the village provides another interesting feature for wildlife. Projects organised by schools could help bring an appreciation of nature and provide interesting information for the village.

LITTER CONTROL

Very good litter control. Little evidence of litter. The litterbins are very obvious. Perhaps at the next painting a trial of some different colour scheme rather than bright green and cream could be tried. One of these bins in a very prominent position on the green.

TIDINESS

Overall the village has a tidy appearance. The building developments are causing some temporary disruption of the tidy

appearance but this will be resolved soon.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Both Abbey Court and Feran Drive have a well tended appearance. The greens would benefit from tree planting. Individual gardens play an important part in giving a good appearance to an estate. The variety of garden styles add further to the pleasant scene.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads are well tended. The grass verges and thorn hedgerows are a great feature in this county and need to be carefully preserved. There is a very pleasant approach to Louth from all sides. On the Green road there is attractive work done providing a green sloped area focusing on an impressive gateway entrance. The carefully and artistically trimmed hedge at a nearby house has to be mentioned for credit.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

This is a nicely presented village. The pleasant approaches and cosy atmosphere at the centre is welcoming.