

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ANNAGASSON**
County : **LOUTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 29-06-98

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1998 | Mark Awarded 1997 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 30 | 30 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 25 | 25 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 25 | 24 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 16 | 16 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 26 | 25 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 13 | 12 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 20 | 20 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 25 | 25 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | 5 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 186 | 182 |

ANNAGASSAN, COUNTY LOUTH

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

As noted last year, a development plan for the village would help focus the needs of the committee over the next number of years. The map was helpful in locating all the sites. The committee is deserving of praise for work to date and can build further on this by setting themselves definite priorities or projects to be carried out each year. The good working relationship with Louth County Council is evident, as is the support of the local community in their work at the annual beach clean up. With so many unique aspects to the village, such as its seaside/harbour location and Viking Heritage there is much of interest to include in future development plans.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The well maintained stone walls and bridge in the village are attractive features. The TADCO Offices are very well presented, as is Togher Credit Union and the Glyde Pub along with most of the main buildings. The wall in front of the large house next to the TADCO offices would benefit from painting, as could O'Neills Bakery and the boarded up premises adjacent.

LANDSCAPING

The line of trees on entering the village looks well. The grass borders and flower beds are well maintained. As previously noted, planting in exposed seaside areas is challenging and robust seaside shrubs and small trees will have a better chance of survival than bedding plants in open grassed areas.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is potential for an interesting exploration of the abundant wildlife in and around the village. Perhaps local schools or environmental groups could get involved in identifying the different habitats and the species these attract. Information boards and nature walking trails could be developed around the harbour area in particular.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control in general was quite good. The one significant exception was the area underneath the step over wall at the bridge, where assorted drinks cans and rubbish had been left to accumulate. This is an area where vigilance is always required.

TIDINESS

Annagassan has a generally tidy appearance. As previously noted, kerbing around the fronts of some buildings is variable and

a more consistent approach here would improve this aspect. The boarded up premises beside O'Neills Bakery would benefit from some attention.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The small An Rian housing estate is very well presented, with the stone flower beds adding extra colour to the small green in front. The residential properties are well kept in general, with some very attractive gardens. A small derelict thatched cottage on the south side of the village could be turned into a charming property if restored.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The village approach roads are presented to a good standard, with tidy verges and well maintained houses and gardens providing colour. However, verges may require some extra attention in the growing season. Entering the village, the Valeriana covered bridge and harbour area, backed by views of the Mourne and Cooley mountains is a very pleasant scene. The harbour area is tidy and well kept and perhaps the addition of some form of seating would improve its amenity value.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The efforts of the committee to date in this small community are commendable. There are many interesting aspects of Annagassan which can be developed further, including its unique Viking Heritage, seaside location and abundance of natural wildlife habitats. We look forward to seeing further worthwhile work in the years to come.