

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LONGWOOD**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	34
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	31	31
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	204	202

Longwood, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

As the Conservation Volunteers report states "Longwood is a classic former estate village and contains many of its original buildings.. and has a high potential for heritage development and high marks in the Tidy Towns Competition". The Conservation Volunteers report is a concise and excellent blueprint on what needs to be done and these requirements are further amplified in your comprehensive and interesting three to five year plan. The implementation of the various recommendations is now the challenge facing the village. How the community responds will determine your rate of progress. Developments will be watched with interest in the years ahead.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The village is quite drab and a painting scheme as outlined in the conservation report would make a huge difference. Dargans is one of the best presented buildings. There are also several inappropriate name signs and shop fronts which are not in keeping with the architecture of the village. The schools are well presented but the appearance of the Church could be improved. The presentation of the hall is marred by long weeds at the boundary wall which should be removed. Your plans re the Garda Barracks are noted. Iron railings are an interesting feature in the village but some need to be repainted.

LANDSCAPING

The large green is a magnificent feature with its mature trees. The need for better definition of margins is outlined in the conservation report and should be implemented at an early date. Long grass at the margin of the green at the Hall should be cut. Your plans for additional tree planting are important and will further enhance the village. The pump and its surrounds in front of the Garda Barracks needs upgrading and the wooden fence and kerbings should be painted. The flower container at this location even though well planted is not very attractive.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The proposal to develop the Sli na Slainte walk is commendable and linking up with the canal and the river will make it even more interesting for visitors and locals alike. Native trees, berried shrubs etc. are also important wildlife habitats.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control continues to be satisfactory although a light scattering of litter was noted here and there.

TIDINESS

The village has a cared for appearance, however, it will not look its best until more of your plans are implemented.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the houses in Longwood are satisfactory. Painting would brighten a number in the village centre and a number of boundary fences also require attention.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The grass margins and hedges are maintained on all the approach roads. However, weeds were noticed on a number of gravelled areas, e.g. G.A.A. grounds and other locations. The condition of footpaths needs improving. Long weeds are unsightly in the unfinished footpath between the Garda Barracks and the Fair Green.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Longwood has a good base to build on. Your plans are in place. Implementation is now the priority, working closely with the Committee and State agencies. For success it is important that you generate as much local support as possible and work closely with the appropriate State agencies.