

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CARNEY**
County : **SLIGO**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	20
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	17	15
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	10
Litter Control	40	20	20
Tidiness	20	8	8
Residential Areas	30	16	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	4	4
TOTAL MARK	300	142	139

Carney, County Sligo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is encouraging to see that the Committee in Carney are sustaining their interest in the competition and in the development of their village. The completed questionnaire and map were helpful. The committee has outlined some future plans for the village and these could be translated in to the work programme required for this section of the competition. A concise 3/5 year plan using the headings of the competition as a guide, and outlining achievable targets for the committee will help focus work in the future. It also provides the adjudicator with an opportunity to measure progress. Publication of the development plan or presenting it at an accessible location, may generate a new appreciation within the community, of the ideas and work the committee are involved with, and aid their realisation.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As stated last year the village has many fine features, the bridge, stone walls, trees, and some fine buildings, and the planned development will highlight these further. It is good to see the stone bridge and surrounding areas being tidied up and repaired. This area is the first focal point that you see as you approach the village from the Sligo road. The next feature you notice is the brightly painted new houses which are a colourful addition to the village. The development work continues at the changing rooms and Car Park and Pitch. Brady's Orchard Inn, looked well, but the alley at the side needs to be tidied up or screened with a suitable closed gate. Laura's, also looked very well, with a lovely stone wall adjoining it. The garage opposite the Orchard Inn still needs to be tidied and painted, as it continues to detract from the centre of the village. Carroll's shop and adjoining property also looked well. The attractive ivy covered house looks very well beside Laura's and as mentioned last year, the gate adjoining this property is ideal for similar settings to disguise unattractive areas. Some work has been done around Carney Hall, but it needs some attention as does Scouts Den and its surrounding area. The new housing development will certainly add a different dimension to the upper end of the village, and this adjudicator hopes that the developer working in conjunction with the residents and T.T.C., will leave the project tidy, and suitably finished. I note that you have some plans for the pump in this area and there are some attractive walls that need attention around here also. Hopefully, the builder will take these into account, with a sympathetically designed entrance to the development. The derelict ruin on the corner of the Lissadell road looks like it will be included in your project 1 on the map, and when addressed will add to the appearance of this important corner of the village. There is a fine farm shed in the field behind which reflects the rural

heritage of the village, and this could be whitewashed. The stone farm house at the top of the village with its attractive stone walls has not yet presented itself to its full potential, and once the renovation of its surrounds and farm buildings has been completed. Because of its very focal position, it will further enhance the two approaches on this side of the village.

LANDSCAPING

Once again, this adjudicator acknowledges that whilst the village development is in progress a lot of landscaping cannot take place. Once again some attractive flowers features were noted at some of the village business premises. The bed beside the pillions close to the bridge looks well now that it is suitably planted as does the area around the tree at the Orchard Inn, although permanent planting at the bass of trees should be avoided. There are two attractive mature trees in the village, and the young trees by the bridge look well now that the area around them is starting to be cleared. The plans for landscaping will certainly enhance the village. The Committee should ensure that they get appropriate advice about the choice of trees, including the use of native trees, and low maintenance planting that provides colour and content throughout the year.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is a relatively new category in the competition, and the T.T.C. have an important role to play in the appropriate development and conservation of the natural environment. Carney is located on the coast with a river running through the village itself. This is the first and obvious choice for enhancement as a wildlife amenity, it is both accessible and with the continued work around the bridge area, could be a very attractive amenity area. There are many other opportunities for enhancing and conserving wildlife habitats and the environment within the village. Wild flower meadows / grass areas, nesting boxes, pond/water features, trees and hedgerows offer additional opportunities. Work in conjunction with relevant local bodies, ENFO, or a local wildlife expert to develop this area. As stated last year, the wooded area on the road to Oxfield Park/Playing fields could provide another opportunity for a sympathetic amenity area.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter was evident on the day of adjudication, in the car park area, around the housing development on the approach roads, and in the alley beside the shop and bar opposite. This important category is a challenge faced by many competitors, and both the committee and the community must remain ever vigilant in its efforts to control litter.

Household circulars, education programmes in local schools, clean up days, have proved effective measures in other villages, also voluntary daily clean ups during busy periods of the year, have been particularly successful in other towns and villages. A litter management programme incorporating aspects of the above points and well maintained litter bins are all part of this category within the competition.

TIDINESS

Once again the ongoing development work throughout the village tends to lend an untidy appearance to the Village. Some individual efforts of householders and business premises who are trying to keep their properties tidy were noted. Once again the well maintained playing area beside Carroll's shop only highlights the area adjacent, and barrels were stacked on the green area again beside the Orchard Inn, giving it an untidy appearance as you approach the village. It is important that all areas of the village are maintained, kept tidy and weed free, including forecourts, back yards, kerb edges, all open spaces, and areas between properties. Back alleys/yards, should be appropriately screened particularly in areas that will attract rubbish or dumping.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many of the houses in and on the approaches to the village were generally well presented and maintained. Some tidy hedges and boundary walls, flowers, tubs and hanging baskets were noted. Due consideration must always be given to repairing and maintaining boundary walls, forecourts fences, and gates. Some properties still need to refresh their paint work, and presentation. The trees were noted in the parking area in the housing development, as were the loose chips from the wall, which as suggested last year could be swept up and used at the base of the Tree adjacent. The first cottage next the bridge in the housing development had some lovely baskets and window boxes again, and similarly the first house on the left going towards Lissadell was noted for its attractive flower features. Other houses on this road, and on the Carney Hall road were noted for their presentation and well maintained gardens and attractive stone walls.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Generally the approach roads were fairly well presented, with some nicely faced hedges and tidy roadside verges. It is good to see the area before the bridge on the Sligo road being completed. The Carney Hall road has many fine stones walls, which could be tidied to display them more effectively. Generally there is some work to be done on road surfaces in the village, but the new kerbing and

footpaths look well to date.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Carney village is on the route to some other tourist and leisure destinations, and once it has developed or enhanced its many attractive features it could entice people to stop and enjoy the village as they pass through. Continue to build on the existing co-operation between your committee and the local bodies. The committee must continue to persevere with its plans as they will both enhance and enrich the village and the community.