

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **LEIGHLINBRIDGE**  
County : **CARLOW**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 27-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	43	41
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	38	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	27	25
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	34	33
General Impression	10	9	9
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>251</b>

## **Leighlinbridge, County Carlow**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you indeed for all information supplied with your entry form and the map which was most useful on adjudication day. It is gratifying to read that you continue to have the support of Carlow County Council, ESB, Eircom, Inland Waterways, Dúchas and, of course, your local community. Your Committee also appears to have grown from last year and this is very encouraging indeed. Nothing succeeds like success. Your Development Plan is excellent. You have kept it simple and it clearly identifies projects to be undertaken mainly within your physical and financial resources. The employment of Consultants for your Wildlife Project is also to be commended. You received an in-depth adjudication last year. The following therefore should be read in tandem with that and is by way of comment on further progress to date.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

On adjudication day your public buildings including Churches, School, Day Centre, Garda Station and Credit Union were very well presented. Congratulations to all concerned. Business premises throughout the village, too numerous to mention, also looked well and great credit is due to their owners who obviously take pride in the improvement of their environment. One or two do need improvement but, in the main, the appearance of shop fronts and business premises in general created a wonderful atmosphere. Stone walls in the village are a very nice attraction and are being very well maintained.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Landscaping throughout the village and on the approach roads was a joy to behold. Great work has been done and continues to be done. The whole village was a blaze of colour. The Millennium Garden is maturing very nicely. The garden on the high bank on the Kilkenny approach road is just wonderful. All landscaped sites are being meticulously maintained and open areas are also being very well presented. On adjudication day work was noted in progress on the open spaces at the northern junction of the Leighlinbridge and the main Carlow/Kilkenny road. The whole landscaping effort in Leighlinbridge has been extraordinary and deserves the highest praise.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your comments regarding the employment of Consultants have been noted and the Information Signs are a great addition to the river bank area. On adjudication day, while the noises of various birds were heard coming from the island, there was, in fact, nothing to be seen. Perhaps your

Consultants could advise on this. The appearance of ducks or swans on the river would be a wonderful attraction and create a wonderful atmosphere in that whole area.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Leighlinbridge was practically litter-free on adjudication day. There was however some evidence of minor littering in St Lazerian's Terrace. This is an important aspect of the Competition and needs constant monitoring.

## **TIDINESS**

The village was presented in a very neat and tidy manner. There is a lot of disruptive construction work going on particularly in the area of housing estates and opposite the Church but this was allowed for. Hopefully this work will have been completed by next year and will greatly add to the appearance of the village.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The vast majority of houses in Leighlinbridge looked exceptionally well on adjudication day. Many had gardens in full bloom which were a joy to behold. The support of residents within the village is an important part of the Competition. You cannot succeed without it. It would be true to say that some houses need a coat of paint and railings also need painting but these were the exception more than the rule. Congratulations to all concerned.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

All approach roads into Leighlinbridge were extremely well presented on adjudication day. In fact it would be true to say that they were the best presented roads that this adjudication has seen this year in any town or village adjudicated on. The highest praise and congratulations are due to all concerned. Approach roads are an important part of the Competition, as they tend to set the tone for the rest of the village. In the case of Leighlinbridge this was very true. The appearance of the approach roads suggested an environmentally conscious village. The adjudicator was not disappointed. Street surfaces and pathways are being very well maintained and work on cleaning the streets was to be seen on adjudication day.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Extraordinary and wonderful work has been carried out in Leighlinbridge. There are a few areas of dereliction and your comments regarding Carlow County Council in this respect have been noted. You have now reached a very high level in the Competition. From now on marks will be harder to come by and your future efforts will require careful planning and attention to detail. In the meantime we wish you every success in Entente Florale. This adjudicator looks forward to returning to Leighlinbridge next year to see the result of even the greater efforts, which, hopefully, may bring you a National Title.

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (27/07/01)**

Leighlinbridge was presented to the standard of excellence we have come to expect from past experience (during second adjudication). Floral displays were breathtaking and complemented stands of young, semi-mature and mature trees and shrubberies. Stretches of hedgerow should be reinstated where necessary (along an entrance from the bypass). The old bi-lingual street names should be retained and refurbished rather than replaced. Litter control is excellent, well done! The village recycling point was tidy. Residential properties are presented to a high standard even where rear garden façades face onto public roads. Congratulations on your bronze Medal status.