

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **OLDCASTLE**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	22
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	10
Litter Control	40	18	17
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18	18
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	145	143

Oldcastle, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your submission. This should have included a brief five-year plan, a simple village map and a schedule of completed works. This plan will be of considerable benefit to the group in formulating a long term plan for the village. It will also help the group monitor their progress on a yearly basis. The Group is as yet small and, so far, has received little local or community support. However, it is worth noting that it often takes some time, and a lot of work, before a community begins to develop a pride of place and an interest in improving their village.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Oldcastle is a very interesting village, with an impressive triangular market area. This area is enclosed by a body of rich vernacular architecture and has a fine market house in the centre. There are excellent examples of cut-stone buildings and traditional shop fronts. The market area in particular has considerable potential for enhancement.

LANDSCAPING

The group have been successful in providing planting and landscape. There are a number of well maintained attractive green areas around the village. In addition, the group could consider a tree planting programme around the old market house.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The landscape around the village is particularly open and offers considerable scope for the development of wildlife and natural amenities.

LITTER CONTROL

The groups litter management seems to be working particularly around the centre of the village. There was a degree of litter around the village which was confined to individual spots.

TIDINESS

The village generally looked neat and tidy and only the area around the industrial sector looked poorly managed and untidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The residential areas are generally well presented with neat houses and gardens. Weed management seems to be a problem, particularly along the footpaths, and this detracted from the environment of the areas.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads to the village are very attractive with

hedgerows, trees and stone walling, but many sections contain stretches of overgrown weeds.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Oldcastle is a delightful village with considerable potential. The village centre currently looks dull, but a scheme of tree planting would greatly improve this impact. It may take time to achieve improvement such as this, but persistence will undoubtedly produce results.