

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **OLD LEIGHLIN**  
County : **CARLOW**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	30	27
Landscaping	40	30	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	14	12
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>195</b>

## **OLD LEIGHLIN, CO. CARLOW**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH**

The information received with the application was very helpful. The plan presented is very concise and well focused. The plan is practical and has a reasonable time frame set. The developments to date have occurred in a very steady way and are a great credit to all involved. Working with local bodies and volunteers has enabled very good progress and hopefully the work will continue in this way.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Saint Lazarians cathedral and graveyard form the central focus of the village. This is a wonderful cathedral and the work that has been done to take it to its present state is a tribute to all involved. The stonework of the surrounding walls has been worked on and is now looking extremely well. The arched entrance and surrounding walls give a lovely and fitting entrance. The recently tarmacaded paths and driveway form a superb job. The level of maintenance of the graveyard - the grass, headstones, weed control and attention to detail is outstanding. The flood lighting must make a beautiful sight. The developments at the Holy Well are very good. The carpark was badly needed and the table and seats - of granite are very worthy of the place. The plaque explaining the story of St. Lazarian is a nice addition. The stone walls forming the passageway are well constructed and appear very well. The business premises are generally well kept, attention painting and tidiness of businesses should be considered well in advance of their needs so that standards can be kept up.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The entrance to St. Molaise Estate is very well landscaped and looks particularly well. The picnic table on the roadside and surroundings area is maintained very well too. Gardens in the locality contribute greatly to the overall landscape of the village. The overflowing of plants and flowers from gardens gives a very attractive appearance. The level of grass maintenance in the graveyard is especially high and gives a lovely effect. The extra tree and hedge planting was noted. The copper beech tree at the top of the village is a lovely landmark and shows the value of using trees in this way. Inside the graveyard the large lime trees are a magnificent sight.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The award received in partnership with the National School for the project on wildlife which involved the production of a leaflet and video is a great achievement. The involvement of children with such projects is so important in handing on the appreciation and awareness of the natural environment to the next generations. The award funds were well spent in the purchase of binoculars for bird watching.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There appears to be a good system of litter control in the village. Small amounts of litter were spotted. Constant vigilance is needed to keep this quality pertaining in the village.

## **TIDINESS**

Very often the term tidiness is a term defined differently by different people. Generally it means having an orderly and organised way about everything. This applies to stores of materials outside business premises and the arrangement of materials and articles at farms, housing estates and individual houses. In the public sense it means attention to detail with road signs, road markings, electric cables and a host of other items. Awareness is the key to encouraging tidiness in a village.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The St. Molaise estate is well maintained. Hopefully the new houses will be finished with a good standard of landscaping and general finish. The individual houses in the estate are well cared for. Some minor attention to wall staining could easily be rectified. The houses along the roadside are very well tended and as stated before some have gardens overflowing to the road.

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

Roadways are kept very well. The carpark at the well is very welcome, as roadside parking was very difficult at that point. An inventory could be made along each road to take account of all hedgerows, fences and gates with a view to ensuring that standards are sustained.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Old Leighlin is a very pleasant place to visit. The most interesting cathedral and surround makes this village unique and the historical significance is enormous.