

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CARRIGART**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	45	45
The Built Environment	40	32	30
Landscaping	40	36	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	24
Litter Control	40	30	29
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	31
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	243	237

Carrigart, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your determination to develop Carrigart to its highest possible potential is to be applauded. The five year plan attached to your application form is both comprehensive and professional. You could enhance it slightly by providing a detailed map highlighting areas where annual improvements have been made, sites of interest are located, and where problem areas exist etc. This would be of great benefit to your Committee as well as the adjudicator.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The new Health Centre, nearing completion, could have been more sympathetic to the vernacular of the town. Nevertheless, it is a big improvement on the existing building and obviously of great benefit to the community. The North Star would benefit from a new porch as well as external renovation. Harkins supermarket still has a very large number of domestic gas bottles located on the pavement. If it is not possible to relocate these could they perhaps be reduced down to say 5 or 6 (as is the case with the Centra)? If the overhead cables could be relocated in underground ducting the streetscape would be much the better for it. The situation with A. Speer is noted as is 'Wisebuys' which would look better with the removal of advertising signage between the first floor windows.

LANDSCAPING

The trees along Main Street are well maintained and maturing nicely. The hanging baskets outside 'Toys' and the neighbouring house are very pleasing. Those located on 'Wisebuys' are less so. Shrubs and trees are prevalent around the houses and on the approach roads. The car park to Strand Park provides ample space but could be better defined in terms of parking bays, landscaping and planting. The yellow plastic bins, whilst functional, would be so much more attractive if they were to complement the timber slatted bins used within the park itself. This adjudicator endorses your nomination of Strand Park for the Landscape Award, and it has been put forward for the award – it really is a most beautiful space and so well cared for. The new disabled access ramp is also to be praised.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You are to be congratulated on your success in laying drainage pipes to clean up the area near the new Health Centre. The estuary, allow at low tide, looked lovely – very clean too. Several people were out on horses on adjudication day and the scene was most enchanting. You are blessed with a wealth of nature.

LITTER CONTROL

No real litter in the town, nothing at all in Strand Park. The adjudicator spotted someone picking up even the tiniest scraps of litter to place in an adjacent bin. Congratulations to all concerned.

TIDINESS

The post and wire fence immediately preceding the small bridge, on the Creeslough road, would look a lot better if it was replaced with a solid wall. Generally the town was tidy. There is an unsightly caravan in the vicinity of Catriona's new hair salon.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Your concern in this area is acknowledged and justified. This may be a long term project.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Again you are well aware of the problems. Resurfacing of Main Street and reducing the camber of the road would be a great improvement. Despite the provision of ample off street parking far too many car users are choosing to park on the main street consequently congesting the town. The verges and hedgerows on the approach roads were well maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

You have achieved great things within Carrigart and are in the process of creating a very fine town.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (08/08/2002)

It is good to note that Carrigart is in line for village renewal in the not too distant future. We agree with you that the character of the village should not be changed drastically and wish you every success for future developments. In particular we look forward to the ducting of service cables and the resurfacing of the main street. The caravan mentioned in the first report was no-where in sight on the second visit. The suggestion of the first adjudicator regarding the open storage of domestic gas cylinders outside 'Harkins' is supported by this adjudicator. The Strand Park was admired and is being considered for a landscape award. The harbour car-park was admired also. The entrance to Carrigart from the road by the Catholic Church is magnificent, well done! The high ground in the environs of 'Radharc- an- Oilean' present many opportunities for further amenity development and walks. Litter control is good, as is tidiness, although development works present a problem in this respect, however this is only temporary. The many signs 'as Gaeilge' were appreciated.