

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **LUSK**  
County : **DUBLIN**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 05-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	34
The Built Environment	40	30	28
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	24	23
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>195</b>

## **Lusk, Co. Dublin**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH**

Thank you for your detailed submission and accompanying documents. It is obvious that your committee has great pride in the village and its heritage. There is clearly a lot of disruption and development going on. With your work and assistance the transition from a village to a town will be made all the easier. I recommend that you formulate a detailed development plan for the next 3 –5 years – this is very important in times of much change. It will give you something to work towards and also an instrument by which to measure your results. Your fundraising projects seem to be very successful and you work well with businesses and relevant statutory bodies.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

There are some charming buildings to be found around Lusk which really set the tone for the village and celebrate its heritage. Both Churches looked very well and the Round Tower is a fantastic historical feature. In general, the commercial premises looked well. I particularly noted the flower planting and landscaped courtyard at Murray's and the efforts made by Gino's. However, the building beside Gino's looked very neglected. The old cottage B&B behind Leonard's looked beautiful and colourful with its many flowers baskets and the Garda Station, the old thatched cottage next door, the post office and pharmacy are all attractive premises. Kelly's Garage again stood out with its landscaping and multitude of granite stones which provide a lovely welcome into Lusk – it would be nice to see some of these more spread around the village instead of just concentrated in one main spot. I look forward to seeing your plans for new street sculpture in Lusk Square come to fruition. The recent resurfacing of roads and repaving around Lusk were also noted.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There is some nice landscaping and planting to be seen around Lusk. The square looked very attractive with its mature trees and the water pump and green triangle beside Murray's Bar is quite beautiful and obviously very well maintained. There is some nice planting at the corner outside the national school. Joe's Bridge was a great initiative and it is good to see it consistently cared for. It's nice to see the trees planted in Murray's car park, but watch out for litter under bushes and some weeds growing in the beds.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

There are particular areas where wildlife can be encouraged in Lusk and it would be worthwhile to formulate a specific environmental plan in this regard – wildlife can be ignored and

habitats destroyed all too easily in the name of development. Joe's Bridge is a wonderful example of how something wonderful can be made of a simple roadside.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

The centre of the village was generally free of litter on the day of adjudication so well done on efforts made in this regard – there is a lot of traffic that travels through Lusk so this can cause difficulties. There was some sporadic litter to be found in the car park opposite Murray's and also a fair bit down Hand's Lane so be particularly vigilant of back areas.

## **TIDINESS**

There has been a lot of work going on in Lusk, but messiness and untidiness seems to be kept to a minimum. Although the grounds of Round Tower's Gaelic football and hurling club looked very well, there was some graffiti to be seen on the opposite red brick wall on Hand's Lane and within Orlynn Park. Recycling facilities by Top Shop were clean and tidy. Kerb control for the most part was very good, though some weeds were noticed in the grounds of Scouts Den. It was disappointing to find a bike, old fridge and traffic cones thrown into the stream down Hand's Lane, so again make sure to pay attention to areas outside the village centre.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The houses and gardens of Lusk are well cared which makes a huge contribution to the overall appearance of the village and the mix of older and newer residences is very pleasing. The granite plaque at the entrance to Orlynn Park is looks very well and there are some nice open green spaces within – some of the grassy banks in The Park and the Grove need attention where they are starting to look a little overgrown.

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

The small country laneways and side roads to be found around Lusk are really pretty with their attractive hedgerows and walls. These form an integral part of Lusk's character and heritage so be careful to maintain them and keep them litter and rubbish free. Hand's Lane was disappointing but this was an exception on the whole. Kelly's Garage forms a welcome entrance from the Dublin Road. Similar welcome signs at other approach roads would be nice too. The overall appearance of Lusk will be greatly enhanced once all the building works and disruptions are complete.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

You have had to endure much development and change in your village in recent times but your ongoing work is to be commended. Lusk has a lot of character which is important to maintain. By encouraging newcomers to the area to participate and feel part of it you will also maintain an overall sense of pride in the village/town in the future.