

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEWCASTLE-LYONS**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	11
Litter Control	40	27	27
Tidiness	20	13	14
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	24
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	189	186

Newcastle-Lyons, County Dublin

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Newcastle-Lyons is welcome to the 2002 Tidy Towns Competition. The village appears to have a rich heritage and we would like to know a little more about it. Perhaps you could forward your plan with next year's submission. We note the problem of through traffic and wish you well in your efforts to have traffic calming, we hope that this brings about the desired result. You describe the village as the last remaining rural village in the South Dublin County Council area. Do try to find some way of reflecting this in the presentation of Newcastle-Lyons, perhaps by featuring old farm equipment refurbished as a sculpture at various locations or in some other appropriate way. It is good to know of the support that you get from the local community in terms of donations, subscriptions and help for clean-up days, well done.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Historic buildings in the village are well maintained and St. Finian's Hall is presented to a very high standard. The Brian McEvoy (thatched public house) looked particularly well. The National School and the Dowling's premises look well also. The tiled façade of the Letts Butchers premises is somewhat dated and hopefully will be replaced at some stage in the future upon refurbishment.

LANDSCAPING

We note with interest from your application form that the Parks Department of South Dublin County Council have landscaping plans for the village. We would like to know more about this if not implemented before next year's competition. The hedgerow inside the footpath out the Lucan Road should be reinstated. A mixture of beech and hawthorn might be appropriate here. Stands of mature trees and shrubberies throughout the village were admired.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Church of Ireland graveyard is being nicely maintained and, no doubt, has abundant wildlife. Your application does not note any activity under this heading. A good place to start would be to conduct a wildlife survey of the village and its environs. Being a rural village there will be plenty of wildlife in surrounding areas, do try to find a way of celebrating this in the life of the village and the built environment.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was quite good during adjudication, we note from your application that you organise clean-up days for approach roads. Submit details of your litter management plans and strategies as these can gain additional marks.

TIDINESS

Derelict buildings located opposite St. Finian's Hall are quite tidy in their presentation and we hope that there are plans to redevelop these in the future. The roadside marking the entrance to the site which accommodates caravans and lorries looks very bad. Footpaths out the Celbridge / Athgoe Road were in need of weeding as was the carpark located beside Letts Butchers. The newer carpark at the shops and the Medical Centre was nicely presented.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Roadside boundary walls to residential properties marking the Lucan entrance to the village were disappointing in their presentation and let the village down to a certain extent. Some houses marking the entrance from the Dublin Road were impressive in their presentation, together with their roadside green areas sloping down to the road.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Congratulations on new footpaths both in the village centre and out the Lucan Road. It is hoped that the inside to the footpath out the Lucan Road will be finished nicely. The new black and gold cast iron fingerposts and lampstandards look especially well. Some of the older roadsigns could have their posts refurbished. Hopefully all service cables will be ducted in the not too distant future. Apart from the Dublin entrance to the village, which was quite well presented, other entrances could be improved upon to achieve greater 'crispness' in presentation.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Newcastle-Lyons village has some nice features and has the potential to look particularly well. At the time of adjudication, it had an unfinished appearance as there appeared to be considerable work in progress. We acknowledge your difficulties with through traffic and hope that you are successful in having this resolved. Thank you for your continued participation. We look forward to many repeat visits.