

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CARRICK-ON-SHANNON**  
County : **LEITRIM**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 25-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	46	46
The Built Environment	40	33	33
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	14	15
Residential Areas	30	26	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	30
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>236</b>

# **Carrick-on-Shannon, County Leitrim**

## **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Carrick-on-Shannon Tidy Towns Committee would appear to be a most hard working and enthusiastic one. Your enclosed map and scrap book were most impressive and extremely useful on adjudication day. Leitrim's County Council's plans in relation to the old Courthouse are looked forward to with great anticipation. MBNA's contribution of a new park area shows a distinct interest in the town's future development and for the welfare of its inhabitants. The Market Yard Centre has matured well.

## **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

It is most important that upper storeys of shops on the main streets are not neglected when considering the presentation of streets. The upper levels of the old hotel above Cox's Pharmacy looked most neglected with their tattered curved canopies. In contrast areas such as the Landmark Hotel and its associated retail units looked most colourful on the riverside. The Marina area is also well kept and reasonably litter free. The shops on Bridge Street were generally well kept of particular note being the Optometrist with its original windows (which the adjudicator was most pleased to note) and the previously mentioned Cox's Pharmacy. James McGuire's Auctioneers was also admired located next to the Catholic Church. A large site on this street was in the process of construction work on the day and it is to be hoped that this development and the County Hotel will be in keeping with the general character of the town. The Costello Memorial Chapel is quite charming and unusual and looked quite sweet with cheerful daisies outside. The Póitín Stil was quite fresh as was Collins Solicitors with its simple shop front. Most of the buildings of the town looked well with a few gaps here and there and a number of empty buildings – including the Irish House which still sports its original sash windows and limestone surround to door beside the Bank of Ireland. Flora Dale looked most cheerful with its flower displays outside.

## **LANDSCAPING**

This category of the competition has its own strength. The monument opposite the Market Yard Centre was admired. There are numerous modern sculptures and pieces of artwork throughout the town. Those by the Catholic Church and County Council Offices being particularly admired. The landscaped park area by MBNA was admired as was the floral planting on the roundabout. Leitrim County Council Offices were admired with the associated landscaping and mosaic wall.

## **WILDLIFE**

This is a category of the competition in which Carrick-on-Shannon is most fortunate with its central riverside area with much activity on it. There is also an abundance of green space throughout the town. Yet you have left this section of the application form blank.

You should consult with local wildlife experts in order to draw up a study of the wildlife habitats in your area. The local school children could also be involved and associated projects could be set for them.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control for a town of Carrick-on-Shannon's size was generally fine on the day. A minor outbreak however was noted at the car park of the County Council Offices and over the bridge leading down to the Tourist Information Office. Numerous cans and broken glass were noted. Litter was also spotted in the vicinity of the private car parking area along the back way to George's Terrace from Bridge Street. Rubbish had also been dumped beside the statue by the Marina. More was noted to the landscaped features to the front of the ESB and to the grilles of the basement areas of the main streets.

## **TIDINESS**

Unfortunately derelict properties and empty buildings detract somewhat from the overall presentation of Carrick-on-Shannon. Weed control was a problem in a couple of areas such as to the stonework of the bridge and to a flowerbed across the road from the Tourist Information Office. Christmas lights were spotted on the Irish Permanent building and a weedy yard and alley way in the vicinity of Cryan's looked most unfortunate.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Houses throughout the town centre and along approach roads were generally well maintained. There are a number of new housing estates – that at Liscara being particularly admired. St. Patrick's is a mature estate which is well maintained with colourful houses for the most part and attractive mature hedging. Kingston Terrace was also fine.

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

The sand-blasting you mentioned to the bridge area was admired to the roadside – however to the waterside when viewed from the numerous traffic on the Shannon it appears quite dark still. In terms of surfaces – potholes were noted on the bridge and pavements along Main Street are in need of some work. In relation to approach roads these were generally maintained to a good standard. Of particular note being the Dublin Road with its trees each side of the road and yellow bog irises beyond. The grass verges at the roadsides were well cut and then the grass becomes somewhat more natural further out below the trees – this is an attractive means of presenting what is after all a visitor's first impression of the town. There are a number of advertising hoardings which should be discouraged as they give approach roads a rather cluttered appearance. The Ring Road area was also fine and it was noted that a number of beds had been dug and presumably are to be planted with flowers before too long.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Carrick-on-Shannon is a busy and active centre – perhaps the County Council may give some consideration to the traffic flow in the centre of the town which is bad at present. The town generally looked well loved and cared for on the day.

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (03/08/2002)**

Carrick-on-Shannon looked very well overall on the day of second adjudication, litter control was quite good and the town exhibited an ambience of tidiness. There were however some areas that could be improved. A site beside the garage on the 'Leitrim' entrance to the town is a bit of an eyesore. The boundary wall of the Community Centre opposite should be brought to the same standard of presentation as the building itself. Some buildings within the town centre have weedy gutters and there are still some unfortunate fascia signs, those at the "Pound Cheaper" premises stand out in particular. The canopy of the 'Florists' needs to be repaired and cleaned, however, these canvas retractable type of canopy are preferable to plastic awnings. The old V.E.C. administrative offices could also do with some work.

New footpaths have been noted in the environs of the Fire Station and beds have been prepared for planting, we look forward to seeing these next year. The new shopping development on the ring road with its orderly car-parking arrangements was admired as was the waterfront area. Many new developments within the town are in the course of construction. These will present the committee with challenges and opportunities, we wish you well for the future.