

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CARRIGALLEN**
County : **LEITRIM**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	24
The Built Environment	40	26	23
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	185	180

Carrigallen, County Leitrim

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Carrigallen Development Council have clearly identified itself the main problem of the town – you have an abundance of faked houses and derelict sites which create an air of faint neglect to certain areas. Many thanks for your very clear map which was most useful on the day. However you have not yet formulated a three to five year work programme, as mentioned in last year' s report. It is essential at this stage in the competition that you formulate a strategy for developing the town further. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator it would be useful in terms of garnering financial support from state bodies and will also give yourselves a clear series of objectives to target. It will also make the work of the adjudicators more straight forward as they see how you are progressing as the years go by. The document need only be a couple of pages long outlining your plans and ideas and setting a time scale against their implementation.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Vocational School looked extremely well and its associated planting was admired. In terms of commercial premises, most were presented to a high standard. Of note were the Corner Bar, Mitchell's Bar, the Takeaway, John O'Malley's, Centra and Harte's Hotel with its magnificent display of hanging baskets and window boxes. Public buildings such as the Post Office, Credit Union and Garda Station were also fresh. The Corn Mill Theatre looked well and its associated feature wheel was admired. However the notice board outside the theatre seems to have been abandoned as it was just lying on its side in the forecourt area. Do discourage curved plastic canopies and encourage their replacement with ones of a more traditional fabric variety. The National School will need painting before next year's competition as will its boundary wall. The Catholic Church looked extremely fresh in an ochre colour and its associated planting and grotto looked well. The Church of Ireland has a magnificent setting above the lake.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaped areas to public buildings and spaces looked well. The grass bank and new trees at the sports grounds on the Mohill Road will be a fine asset to this approach when complete. The planting and stone retaining wall with inset seats at the Vocational School was also greatly admired as was the planting outside the Corn Mill Theatre. The hand ball alley is an ideal location for future development of this aspect of the competition as at the moment it looks rather neglected.

WILDLIFE

You are indeed fortunate in this regard set as the town is in the magnificent lake district of Leitrim. You are particularly fortunate to have the town lake on your doorstep, so to speak. Perhaps you could consider getting the local school children involved in drawing

up a map indicating areas of wildlife importance in the locality.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day was generally quite good given the busy nature of the town. However a number of papers were evident scattered along the main street and an outbreak was also apparent at the vocational school. More was evident to a gateway and adjacent laneway on the Mohill Road.

TIDINESS

There are quite a number of out buildings and tin sheds at strategic entry points to the main street of the town which give a rather unfortunate appearance in these prominent locations. These should be painted up, freshly whitewashed and tin roofs repainted in their traditional red colour. Industrial and manufacturing facilities on approach roads should make an attempt to screen their untidy areas from public view and paint up their buildings. A number on the Killeshandra Road caused alarm! On the Mohill approach a grassy bank on which timbers are being stored on created a bad impression. This should be stored in a less obtrusive location. Weeds were evident to the kerbsides at the Corn Mill Theatre.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many of the houses in the town centre and along approach roads were presented to a high standard. A traditional cottage with sash windows was admired on the Mohill Road as was a bungalow with a high level garden and stone boundary wall on this road. A couple of houses appeared to be in the process of renovation on Main Street. The gardens of houses on the Killeshandra Road were greatly admired as was the yellow B&B adjacent to the handball alley.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Although some efforts had been made to present approach roads well the standard could have been better. Roadworks appeared to be in progress on the Mohill Road on the day. This road affords the visitor a magnificent view to the lake and the Church of Ireland beyond. The children crossing sign at this entrance to the town was quite grubby. The grassy banks had been cut but dead grass had yet to be removed. A junction sign to the Killeshandra Road also appeared rather grubby. The hedgerows had been cut back on this road, do ensure that bird nesting time is taken into account when cutting back hedgerows. The Longford, or Church, Road was quite rough looking closer to the town but presented to a higher standard further out. Fly posting is a practice which should be discouraged.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Carrigallen is an attractive traditional Irish town with all the ingredients necessary to do

extremely well in the competition. You must at this stage formulate a work programme to give yourselves the framework within which to work.