

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **FENAGH**
County : **LEITRIM**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	--
The Built Environment	40	23	--
Landscaping	40	20	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	--
Litter Control	40	25	--
Tidiness	20	10	--
Residential Areas	30	18	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	--
General Impression	10	6	--
TOTAL MARK	300	159	--

Fenagh, County Leitrim

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Fenagh Development Company Limited is indeed welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition 2002. You currently have six on your committee and presumably will be seeking more members. Your next task in the competition should be that you formulate a three or five year work programme outlining your objectives for the village's future. This document need only be one or two pages long outlining these objectives and setting a timeframe against their implementation. The village renewal scheme in 2004 should be of great benefit to you but it is important that you make a start yourselves before then. Fenagh is in a very fortunate position with its fascinating history including the abbeys, dolmens, standing stone and ring forts in the general vicinity as well as its close proximity to Lough Reane.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The handball alley looks quite unfortunate and prominent on the approach from Keshcarrigan. Perhaps some attempt can be made to present it to its best advantage. In terms of commercial and public buildings the Abbey Bar and Quinn's both looked quite fresh and the school looked extremely cheerful in yellow with green trims and nicely maintained grounds.

LANDSCAPING

There is scope for development of this aspect of the competition throughout the village and along approach roads. There didn't appear to be any village nameplates and this is always an ideal spot to develop a landscaping feature. You could also consider looking at incidental areas throughout the village or opportunities to create planting or to plant trees. Do ensure that whatever planting takes place is one that will be of year round benefit rather than merely the cosmetic treatment of flower planting. A combination of permanent planting as well as flowering plants would be ideal. Berry-producing plants/trees will also have the added benefit of attracting bird-life.

WILDLIFE

Fenagh is fortunate in this aspect of the competition with its wealth of mature trees and close proximity to Lough Reane. A trip along the road leading down to the side the lake indicated an abundance of wild flowers such as wild roses, ferns, foxgloves and jaunty yellow bog irises in the water as well as reeds. Perhaps get the local school children involved in identifying wildlife habitats in the location. Local wildlife experts will also be of help in this category of the competition.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day was generally quite good although minor outbreaks were apparent to roadsides and gateways along the Keshcarrigan Road.

TIDINESS

A recessed area on the Keshcarrigan Road appeared quite rough – this would be an ideal location for an incidental landscaped area. Pavements throughout the village were extremely weedy and this will need addressing.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The attractive houses and gardens sloping down to the roadside on the Keshcarrigan Road were greatly admired. There are a number of fine vernacular buildings on this road closer to the village which appear somewhat neglected. The bungalows with attractive gardens on the Ballinamore Road were also admired as were the magnificent houses and gardens that face onto Lough Reane.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads were generally quite well maintained – the Keshcarrigan Road had well cut grass verges and attractive stone walling. The Ballinamore Road affords the visitor a fantastic view to the abbey beyond and the Mohill Road was fine. The retention of the traditional box is commendable but unfortunately it is in rather bad order at the moment and would benefit greatly from a face lift. Do try to retain the use of glass rather than putting in perspex as it can stain rather badly. Discourage the practice of fly posting as this can give approach roads a rather cluttered appearance. The village nameplate appeared to be missing on all approach roads and this is an essential means of making the visitor aware of your presence and announcing their entry into the village.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Fenagh is an attractive village set in the magnificent lakeside scenery around County Leitrim. It has all the necessary ingredients to do well in the competition – good luck with your future endeavours.