

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 25-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	27
The Built Environment	40	30	27
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	19
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	12	13
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	20
General Impression	10	6	7
TOTAL MARK	300	191	189

Leitrim Village, County Leitrim

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Leitrim Village Development Company Limited would appear to have a large committee given the small size of the village. The adjudicator noted your comments in relation to the numerous new developments taking place in the village at the moment. You mention that you are now in a position to put together a five year plan for the village in conjunction with the Village Renewal Scheme. It is to be hoped that you will be in a position to enclose this with your entry for next year's competition. Good luck with your plans in relation to additional litter bins, recycling facilities and street furniture. Perhaps for next year you could also enclose a map of the village highlighting and identifying those areas in which progress has been made during the previous twelve months.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the buildings of the town looked extremely well cared for on adjudication day. Donald's Bar looked extremely cheerful in a bright yellow and red trim and Carthy's Bar in pink looked fine. The Barge was also extremely fresh as was the Leitrim Inn and B&B. The Post Office was fine but one of the letters to the sign on the gable of the building to Mace was missing and should be replaced. Some weeds were noted to the base of the stone boundary wall of the school on the Keadue Road. The church looked quite charming with its mature overhanging beech trees.

LANDSCAPING

This is an area of the competition which will hopefully be improved upon once the ongoing development work has been completed. Private houses contribute well to this aspect of the competition with their numerous colourful hanging baskets and window boxes. The canal side area, although neat could be greatly improved upon. Although the facilities building was well maintained weeds were apparent to its base and the stump of the tree in this location looks quite sad and neglected.

WILDLIFE

As you correctly identify the canal side area is a major contributing factor in this category of the competition. Perhaps you can consider getting the local school children involved in putting together projects on the wildlife habitats in their locality – the numerous mature trees will also contribute to this aspect of the competition. Local wildlife experts should also be considered as sources of potential information.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control on the day was generally reasonable although some litter was evident on the Drumshanbo Road and a bottle was spotted on the Keadue Road. However even

one or two papers create a strong impression in a village of Leitrim's size.

TIDINESS

The dereliction and empty buildings cause great problems to the village in this category of the competition. It is to be hoped that progress can be made on these in the not too distant future. As a stop-gap you could consider contacting the various owners of said buildings in order to obtain their permission to merely paint them up. This would make an immense difference to the overall presentation of the village. The surface of the church car park should be attended to, at the moment it is quite potholed. Litter was also apparent in this location and you should consider screening the recycling bins from public view. Weed control was a problem on the day – a weedy yard area in the vicinity of Mace created a bad impression as did weeds to the base of the stone wall on the Drumshanbo approach to the village adjacent to the old Milestone (which was admired). What appeared to be an abandoned trailer and dumping of rubble looked unfortunate on the Carrick-on-Shannon Road.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are numerous new housing developments in the village – Riversdale was admired in this category. A number of houses for sale appeared quite grubby and neglected – it is to be hoped that they will be purchased and restored to their former glory in the not too distant future. A grubby gable and garage to a house on the Drumshanbo Road created a bad impression. However for the most part houses were well maintained – one in the vicinity of Leitrim Inn sported cheerful hanging baskets and was greatly admired. The new houses in the vicinity of the canal area appeared to be extremely well maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

This category of the competition could have been improved upon. The slow through the village sign on the Carrick-on-Shannon Road looked extremely grubby although the timber tubs filled with flowers including marigolds were admired. Although an attempt had been made to cut the grass verges the dead grass had not yet been removed. On the Drumshanbo Road the verges were quite overgrown although some of the houses appeared to attend to the verges in front of their properties. The reasonably new ash trees were coming on well. The Keadue Road was also extremely overgrown - an allowance has been made here due to the ongoing construction work on this road. The road leading down to the canal side was well maintained with cut grass and some attractive hedging and planting.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Leitrim Village is an unusual and attractive one. However it appeared quite forlorn and somewhat neglected on adjudication day due to the large number of derelict and empty buildings in the village. The five year work programme that you intend formulating is

looked forward to with eager anticipation for next year's competition.