

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **TAGHSHINNY**  
County : **LONGFORD**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 04-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	23
The Built Environment	40	21	21
Landscaping	40	24	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	26	22
Tidiness	20	11	12
Residential Areas	30	16	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	5	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>158</b>

# **Taghshinny, County Longford**

## **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for sending in your report in good time, and for the comments it contains. You have not provided a Development Plan, as suggested last year. Most committees find that by systematically listing their objectives usually over a three-year period, the attempt to achieve them annually does result in a considerable incentive to work and, incidentally, an increase in marking under this heading. You are a small community, but others do prepare plans and – ; as has been seen – many rise to a very high position in the county and indeed some do so nationally. Taghshinny has the basic attributes of what could be a very impressive village scene indeed.

## **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Church is the architectural centrepiece of the village and is handsomely cared for. The school is very well maintained. On adjudication day, the fine pub opposite the school needed freshening up with paint – perhaps this will be done for next year. The pub opposite the Church is very well looked after.

## **LANDSCAPING**

The village green was trim at the time of the visit. The Church and school grounds are well kept. Annuals in the border by the river looked well, but in general there is an opportunity here which has been missed – this could be a wonderfully picturesque corner. Tubs looked well.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The sylvan surroundings are one of the most attractive aspects of Taghshinny. It is good to see young trees flourishing, but there is plenty of space for more. One would like to pass on the tree planting tradition to the next generation. Have you considered the NeighbourWood scheme which is described in your Tidy Towns documentation? – it is specially devised for small communities. Not a great deal seems to have been done in the last year to create a greater awareness of the natural heritage – what about a school competition for identifying all the animal and bird species seen locally, and all the trees and plants?

## **LITTER CONTROL**

This was good – congratulations.

## **TIDINESS**

Unfortunately the very conspicuous derelict house gives an immediately poor

impression. Weed growth seemed to be the problem this year – kerbside weed was prevalent, and there were weeds in front of most street houses: this is something which would only take each householder a few minutes to deal with every month, but it has to be an ongoing activity. The forecourt of a handsome single-story building next the school was quite unkempt.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most of the homes are looked after with obvious pride. The cream-coloured house of traditional design opposite the church is outstanding and its owners deserve congratulation; others might follow suit.

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

The surface of the main road is of reasonable standard, and paving is first class where it exists – it might be extended to other areas. However, in most areas at present there is little definition between the road and the sidewalk. A grubby name sign for Taghshnny gives a poor initial impression when arriving from Ballymahon.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The comments of last year's adjudicator are appropriate – this is a most attractive village 'with lots of potential': it is that potential which should create the challenge.