

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CARLINGFORD**
County : **LOUTH**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	32
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	221	219

Carlingford, County Louth

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Many thanks for you informative map and the comments. Undoubtedly, a hard working committee is in evidence. A short synopsis of your plans for 2002/3 would have been helpful. It is a number of years since the judge has adjudicated this village and there have been a number of improvements. The setting of the village is really wonderful and on a sunny summers day the visit was very enjoyable.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The small streets, the buildings of character and the layout of the village must be the envy of many villages. The castle and other heritage buildings were generally well maintained though the old building near the TIO required attention. The carpark, childrens play area and the toilets are all well maintained though there was evidence of some vandalism in the toilets. The carpark in the village close to the castle is well presented – no doubt there are plans for the site adjacent to it. The marina is a wonderful facility – clearing up is continuing and the judges look forward to its completion. New whitewashing of premises was being undertaken on the day of adjudication. Many of the premises looked well, including Teach Cuirte, the Garda Station, the Church, the Oystercatcher, Magees and Memories. The Heritage Centre was also presented to its usual high standard. A green corrugated roof near the Tholsel required repainting and it is suggested that black or darker colour be used so as not to detract from the character of the area. New developments blend well with the village and there are a great number of good restaurants –Carlingford seems to be coming a gourmet centre. Both the Catholic Church and car park were well presented and planting looked well.

LANDSCAPING

Attention to detail is required in this section, particularly as you advance in the competition. Areas around trees and wall edges in the amenity park required attention. Incidental tubs and planters looked well despite the recent poor weather. The picnic area on the Omeath Road required tidying up and cutting. The litter bin needs either refurbishment or replacing. The red Impatiens at the Tholsel contrasted well with the gray stone in the area.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENTIES

This is a section that requires additional attention and where valuable marks can be gained. The seashore is a wonderful habitat as is the mountainous area behind the village. Children should become involved in the development of a trail, undertaking a wildlife audit and this could be part of their

school work and curriculum. Extension of the town trail to include wildlife elements should be considered. Incidental wildflowers, particularly the Valerian, make a great impact at this time of the year.

LITTER CONTROL

There was some litter evident on the day of adjudication. No doubt this may have been due to the large numbers of people enjoying the village. Some of the litterbins also require attention. There was a scattering of litter on Newry Street and particularly at the walkway and stream beside the ruin of the Friary. This area is a project waiting to be undertaken. Cleaning and management of the area was required.

TIDINESS

The main part of Carlingford was tidy though pockets of untidiness e.g. beside the Friary and the picnic area on the Omeath road were noted. The recycling facilities in the amenity area were also noted. Might it be considered that they should be moved to a less visible place, as they obscure the view across the bay from the car park?

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The terraced houses along Dundalk street looked well and many of them sported hanging baskets. The honey colored houses on from the Back Lane looked very well and the gardens are well managed. In general, residences both within and on the outskirts of the village were presented to a high standard. St. Oliver Plunkets also had some nice front gardens and some had colorful baskets – well done.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Dundalk Road was reasonable in presentation, though the fire station does have an impact on the right hand side and new building can be seen up in the village. It is a long sweep into the village and should be kept cut back. The back road out by the Catholic Church needed attention as it had many weedy areas. The village itself was well presented and side streets well kept. Signage throughout the village was also in good condition. The Omeath Road required some cutting back.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is always an air of anticipation when arriving in Carlingford. It is a popular village and rightly so. Concentration now should be on eradicating litter, ensuring approach roads are up to standard and a focus on the wildlife section. Valuable marks will then boost you further in the competition. Good luck.