

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TALLANSTOWN**
County : **LOUTH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-08-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	41
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	25
Litter Control	40	35	34
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	33
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	255	251

Tallanstown, County Louth

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Many thanks for the information map and plan. The prospect of renovating the old school house is exciting and commendation on your initiative involving the school children exchange programme. Tallanstown is a fine village and there is evidence everywhere in local pride and interest which provides a pleasant atmosphere for the visitor.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both the school and the church are the best-presented buildings in the village. Lennons has more of a traditional presentation than the Louth Inn or Centra. May consideration be given to a more traditional frontage by Centra as it has a prime location in the village though the judges are aware that this frontage is universal in presentation? Perhaps some greenery would enhance both Centra and the Louth Inn. Work was being undertaken on the building beside the GAA ground on the day of adjudication and the wall is nicely whitewashed and look fresh.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping around the village is very good. The picnic and fishing area on the Ardee Road is a nice touch. Do consider over time the use of more permanent planting rather than reliance on the annuals to give colour in the summer months. Wooden basket type of natural material should be considered for the baskets rather than white plastic and it would be more in keeping with the wooded nature of the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Maguire Park is a wonderful amenity area and the Motte is an important piece of village history. The park is well landscaped and will develop its own character over time. The Wildlife sanctuary is also a fine amenity and the small lake/area of water was pleasant. Some signage indicating its presence at the style would be useful as would possibly some parking area for cars as the farm gate is the only area presently available and this can not be blocked. It is commendable in involving the school children in such a project.

LITTER CONTROL

There was little litter evident on the day of judging which must be quite difficult to achieve with the number of cars passing through the village. A couple of pieces were spotted at both the wildlife wood and in Maguire Park, though around the village was litter free – well done.

TIDINESS

Tallanstown is a tidy village. There is a sense of community and this helps to keep the area tidy. Hedges did need a trim though the weather has probably not helped in maintenance of these.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

All residential areas were presented to a very high standard. Both those on the Glyde Road and estates had made tremendous effort. It is good to note the reopening of a play area for children as you mention that there is a high density of children in the village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Ardee approach road has a wonderful sweep of trees and wide verge, which provided a nice welcome to the village. The Glyde Road and Carrick Road were both well presented. The Dundalk Road has a long lead in and a number of well kept houses helped enhance this approach. The judges noticed that there was quite an amount of traffic particularly on the Ardee – Carrick road. Many of these exceeded the maybe there be a case to consider some type of traffic calming measure through the village?

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Tallanstown consistently presents itself well each year in the competition. The committee have a proactive approach which is evident throughout the village. The adjudicators look forward to the initiation of the school house project.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (02/08/02)

A few road signs were in need of freshening up. In general the village again had a very tidy appearance but in this context an untidy carpark can make all the difference. Despite a wet Summer an extraordinary standard of grass cutting had been attained. Do not allow trees in hedgerows to become choked with ivy. Road surfacing in general was good. Virtually no litter was apparent. It is the simple and consistent presentation of so much of the village - stone walls, neat grass, clipped hedges and trees - which is so effective. In this context the sparing use of flowers is commended. The subtle paint colours seem to blend beautifully with the natural environment. The appropriateness of red brick is questionable.