

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEWTOWNCASHEL**
County : **LONGFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-07-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	44	43
The Built Environment	40	32	31
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	23
Litter Control	40	35	35
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	33
General Impression	10	9	8
TOTAL MARK	300	248	243

Newtowncashel, Co. Longford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the comprehensive information and beautiful map of the village. It is a very picturesque village and has a wonderful vista over the surrounding countryside. It is immaculately kept and the use of local craft in the form of the bog oak pieces which are so graceful, are to be commended highly. The effort in this years entry shows that the community has been hard at work and the village looked very well on a sunny July evening.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings throughout Newtowncashel are presented to a very high standard. The National School was well landscaped and looked very well. The yellow gate , however needs a fresh coat of paint. The Heritage Centre is exceptional. The theme and use of the old cottage building restored true to form, is highly commendable. The Community Hall was freshly painted and the black and cream complemented each other well. The Church is also excellent in presentation and the new stone front entrance was admired. The Post Office was well presented. There is meant to be a sign opposite the church? The GAA Centre and carpark were neat and tidy and the Garda Station was also much admired. The simple presentation of the pumps throughout the village is to be commended and should be used as an example. Flynn's and Conways were satisfactory. The stone walls throughout and those that lead in to the village are very pleasant. Selective natural vegetation growth on the barer walls should be encouraged.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping throughout the village was pleasant. There were some magnificent hanging baskets of begonias outside the Community Hall. The water feature is simple and striking in its approach and is therefore very effective. Thought should go into the use of more permanent planting rather than the use of annual in some places eg on the wall beside the shop as this provides a framework on which to build.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The village is fortunate to be located in an area of such natural beauty. The proximity of the Shannon can play a part in the development of a wildlife programme. Walks and trails are to be commended and the adjudicators would appreciate further information on these with next years entry. The quarry area is a superb site for the management of wildflowers. The flowers use the rocky escarpments and a great number are already evident. Take care not to over landscape in this area.

LITTER CONTROL

The village was litter free except for one piece of litter outside the school. Litterbins were well maintained and looked well. - congratulations.

TIDINESS

The village was very tidy. The road had just had new tarmac and hence the presence of some traffic cones. Take care to ensure that the rapidly growing brambles do not straggle too far out of some of the hedging through the village. Some weeds were also spotted in the area in front of Conways.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses were well presented and have made huge effort. The cottage close to the Heritage Centre was particularly attractive. Back lanes and back entrances were very tidy - well done.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads are very well kept from a long way outside the village. The use of the sculpture heralds the village in a nice manner and the signage is clear and looks well. The sweep of trees on the Barley Harbour Road are maturing nicely over the years. However, should further trees be planted, try and ensure that they are of similar species and native in origin.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The adjudicators enjoy judging the village of Newtowncashel. There is a peace and tranquillity that permeates throughout the village - well done.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/98)

Newtowncashel was looking idyllic in a truly pastoral way on second adjudication day. In spite of wet weather, the floral displays were remarkable - the dahlias in particular were quite stunning! This is such a lovely village, so calm and restful, one might easily forget the immense amount of hard work which goes into the creation of such a pleasing scene. The poet Pope wrote in another context of 'nature methodised' - and this comes to mind in a most positive way when looking at Newtowncashel. Congratulations to all those who have contributed to the sensitive development of this charming village.