

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CHURCHILL**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	165

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Another good effort this year by the Tidy Towns Committee in Churchill. It is noted that the Committee this year have involved the local Youth Club in their efforts to improve the appearance and presentation of this very pleasant village. The more community involvement the better. Thanks are due to the Committee for returning the questionnaire and the map which was much appreciated.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Gartan Estate is situated near Churchill and also a forestry plantation. The information given in the 1996 Tidy Towns booklet Caring for the Environment in relation to Wildlife should be adhered to e.g. a good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats of your catchment area and see what species of animals, birds and fish these attract. If you need help in identifying local wildlife habitats why not invite your local environmental expert and groups to get involved and advise you with the specialist information you require.

LANDSCAPING

The lovely gardens beside McClaffertys Bar is still outstanding. Lovely wooden fence, shrubs, seating, bird boxes and flower garden. Most of the commercial buildings including McCafferty Wilkins and O'Callaghan's have lovely hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs. As last year an extremely high standard of presentation. Wilkins garden was also well presented. The graveyard at the Church of Ireland is well maintained. The stone walls and building on the left of the Gartan approach have improved considerably and are now a feature (well done!)

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The commercial premises in Churchill are all brightly painted and present a lovely aspect to the village. The Church of Ireland and Garda Station are also well presented. As already mentioned the open space at Callaghans Bar has already got some nice garden furniture and when work is completed here it will enhance its appearance. A large portion of the Courthouse has been renovated and when the remaining section is repaired it will be a fine building and another addition to the Tidy Towns effort. The remarks regarding the house opposite the Church of Ireland with its shed completely full to the brim of bric-a-brac is still unsightly. Derelict building on the Letterkenny approach still needs attention. A number of poles and signs erected by the County Council are in poor condition and could be improved. The "Welcome to Churchill" signs when they arrive will undoubtedly receive a warm welcome from the Committee.

LITTER CONTROL

There was virtually no litter to be seen on adjudication day and two litter bins were spotted near McClaffertys Bar. One must compliment the Committee on being so diligent in keeping Churchill litter free. The local Youth Club are also to be complimented.

TIDINESS

The overall appearance of the village was one of neatness and tidiness with litter well under control. The verges in the village had all been cut, however, it is essential that the grass cuttings be removed immediately, otherwise the verges are unsightly. There is an untidy green area beside the derelict building. There was some litter to be seen in the field beside the graveyard. There is a neat new fence opposite Callaghans however the lane beside it needs attention.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The presentation of houses and buildings both in the village and on the outskirts is to a high standard.

The small estate on the Kilmacrennan Road needs more uniformity. There are some excellent examples of presentation on the Glenveagh approach in terms of houses and gardens, some nice tree planting, boundary fences and floral displays.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The two main approaches both from Letterkenny and Glenvagh have verges trimmed and hedgerows cut. However, the grass cuttings should be removed (as already mentioned). The Kilmacrennan approach is still marred by the unsightly sheds and green areas on the left. Most of the gardens at the cottages looked well. The gate to the sports field needs attention and an abandoned bath and dumping were visible in a field near the Garda Station. As suggested last year a proper footpath in the centre of the village opposite the commercial buildings, would be an advantage.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Further improvements have taken place this year, although some problems still exist. Good community effort. Keep up the good work.