

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CASTLEKNOCK**  
County : **DUBLIN**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	26
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>183</b>

## **Adjudicator's Comments**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

We thank the committee for the completed entry form and map which was helpful on the day of adjudication. It is clear that there is a good level of attention and community involvement throughout the village which has resulted in an obvious effort to develop a Tidy Towns area.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The committee should look towards developing wildlife projects for the future in conjunction with local groups, schools etc. Some project suggestions include encouraging wildlife, developing amenity walks and nature trails and signposting natural features. Appropriate management of access (including access for persons with disabilities) to natural amenities and wildlife areas is also important. Perhaps a wildlife garden could be considered for next year.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The entrance stone to the village is attractive and could be enhanced further by planting some flowers. A lot of the local shops and businesses have made an important effort by installing flower beds and hanging baskets which have helped to brighten up the village. The footpath area opposite Myos which was developed by the FAS Environment Project 1990 is to be commended. The seat and old style lanterns give a nice effect. The old green water pump on College Road should be restored and brightened up with some flowers. The maintenance of planted areas is important as well as the appropriate selection and siting of trees, shrubs and flowers for a year round effect.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Many of the buildings and streetscapes are well presented in the village. The grounds of the catholic church and St Brigids National School were clean. However, there were some weeds and long grass present at the boundary walls in the main church car park. We welcome the renovation of the Parish Centre on Castleknock Road. However, the grounds and facades of the two disused houses opposite the Parish Centre desperately need to be tidied up or camouflaged. The Castle Court Centre signs need to be upgraded but each of the shop fronts are well presented particularly the Unicare Chemist. The cottages opposite the centre are to be commended on their gardens. The hanging baskets in the Castleknock Village Centre are very attractive as are the flower beds in the Statoil forecourt and outside Myos Public House. The Church of Ireland grounds are clean and tidy as are those of the EHB Child and Family Centre.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control in general was very good. The sponsored litter bins look well and it is obvious that the regular clean-ups are effective. However, some residential areas do suffer from incidental litter e.g. Deerpark Road.

### **TIDINESS**

The growth of weeds at kerbs and at the base of buildings and flowers is not a major problem but at the same time should be controlled. Recycling facilities are appropriately located and signposted in the local shopping centre.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The residential areas of Castleknock are very well presented e.g. Hawthorn, Park Drive, Beechpark, Park Avenue, the Heathers, etc. The open spaces are generally well landscaped and maintained, however, it is important to watch out for some incidental litter. The majority of housing estates have developed

attractive entrance areas by planting flowers and shrubs. In the Deerpark housing area there is a need to clean some of the street name signs which have been sprayed with red paint. e.g. Hadleigh Court. Once again each residential area should be encouraged to keep a continual check on weed and grass growth at kerbs. Some houses in the Georgian Village and a few houses opposite the Phoenix Park entrance tend to suffer from this weed problem.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The village approach roads were presented to a good standard. The entrance to the Deerpark Riding Centre just off the main road needs to improve its presentation. The Deerpark Road could be improved by cleaning up the post box, removing incidental litter and grass at the kerbs. The back road which leads to St Brigids GAA grounds is very overgrown. The pedestrian walkway off the main road into Castleknock Lodge suffers at present from graffiti on the walls which needs to be cleaned. The shopping centre car parks and access thereto were well presented on the day of adjudication.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

The efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee are to be commended in the presentation of Castleknock. The continued involvement of community groups, businesses and organisations will help to achieve an even better standard of presentation in the future.