

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CAPPOQUIN**  
County : **WATERFORD**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21
Landscaping	40	22
The Built Environment	40	20
Litter Control	40	28
Tidiness	20	11
Residential Areas	30	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23
General Impression	10	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>182</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Despite the short notice Cappoquin has responded magnificently to the new requirement for a 3 to 5 year Work Programme which would have regard to and plan to emphasise the wildlife and natural habitat of the town and immediate surrounding areas. Thank you for the detailed programme of works planned for 1996, the additional information together with the most useful maps, all of which enabled the adjudication to be fully reflected of the extensive works undertaken and planned. The Environmental Improvement Study for Cappoquin provides an excellent resource audit and can form the basis for a structured and phased approach to their solution over time.

When allied to the Cappoquin Development Plan compiled by the Cappoquin Community Development Company Limited in association with Waterford County Council the town is well supplied with good strategic planning for the future.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The major resource represented by the Glenshelane Wood has thankfully being fully recognised by the Committee and is central to the successful development of a wildlife and major amenity facility for the town. Perhaps the small pedestrian river bridge could be restored or refurbished to create a desirable circular route through the Woods.

Tree planting on the Melleray road adds substantially to the amenity value of this approach road. The Grotto positioned at the junction of the Melleray/Glenshelane road is splendid as were the planted rose bushes at the apex of the two roads.

The River is of course an important centre and we welcome the plans in respect of Twig Bog.

### LANDSCAPING

The Committee's efforts maintaining flowers and rosebeds are applauded. The Village Square was a delight on the day of adjudication. Hanging baskets at various locations, particularly at Misericordia were colourful and imaginative. Floral displays at town nameplates are particularly applauded. The Fire Station was looking well and we applaud the flagpole. The practise of flag-flying should be encouraged. The work in progress removing grass from the top of the rubble wall on the Melleray road was splendid. The planting on the GAA wall was a very positive move. The entrance area to Cappoquin House would benefit from additional attention and planting.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

In general Cappoquin extends a desirable sense of cohesion with clear-cut delineation between rural areas and the Community itself. The Church is an imposing building while it is the streetscape generally and the individual buildings within it which contribute so handsomely to an overall good impression.

Outstanding is the Tavern Bar with its excellent signage and pleasant shuttering. Barron's Bakery Shop, the Saddler's and Troy's Hardware also caught the eye. The Credit Union House featured very fine lettering. Sign and doorway would benefit from furnishing. The fine Doric doorway to Allied Irish Banks is interesting and the Post Office also has appeal. Hely's Pharmacy featured a fine shop front and lettering with disparaging treatments of the two sections of the building overhead, one only featuring fine ornate window decoration. An important element of the built landscape is the splendid dry-fill random rubble walls. It is a delight to record the positive steps being made to retain their character.

### LITTER CONTROL

In general litter management was of a very high order throughout the centre. There were occasional

lapses from this high standard, around the river bridge area and near the GAA grounds.

Well designed and suitably sited litter bins are commended. In effect some of them themselves represent fine street furnishings. Additional litter bins, could with advantage be provided, perhaps sponsored by adjacent commercial establishments.

#### TIDINESS

Cappoquin has many splendid positive attributes - all of these are applauded. They contribute to a sense of order and neatness throughout the centre. The degree of spoil at the base of wall and between the road and pathway is an element of presentation which will require more attention. Signage generally was of a good order notably Richmond House, the Tavern Bar and Hely's.

The disfiguring derelict car is still located beside the Fire Station. The area surrounding St Declan's Scout Unit was itself well presented. Perhaps the Scout Troop would assume responsibility for the flower trough in front of their Den.

#### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The residential houses of Cappoquin have many delightful features with excellent individual displays both of houses and surrounding gardens. The Terrace overlooking the Mount Melleray road was particularly striking with very well presented public area featuring plants, shrubs, trees and nicely cut grass. The Terrace opposite the National School featuring again many good individual displays. Grounds of Coisceim were very well presented. The small houses of Castle Street were full of character and well presented being freshly painted and many featuring window boxes or hanging baskets. The houses of Mass Lane were also very attractive and contributed greatly to the overall presentation of the centre.

Unhappily there are very many derelict sites and under used houses in the centre. A real effort needs to be undertaken to identify the owners so that the necessary remedial action can be taken or the buildings/sites released back into productive use.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads to Cappoquin are uniformly good and striking. Of particular note is the fine random stone walls on the approach from Waterford. Some of these are unhappily beginning to unravel and early attention is called for. On occasion there is a gap between the surfaced portion of the roadway and the enclosing wall or fence. This has, in locations become a utensil for spoil and waste which is disfiguring and distracting. In general a number of road signs require to be washed and/or painted for example the cluster of signs at the Waterford/Youghal road junction. Largely speaking 30mph signage was well maintained. The Failte to Cappoquin signs were fresh and welcoming. The grass cutting and tree planting on the Melleray approach road was particularly good. Some litter was noted on the road leading to the Glenshelane Wood.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Cappoquin is a centre which is clearly extending great imagination and energy in the Tidy Towns campaign. It is very well equipped with plans and with an energetic and progressive local community. It is blessed with a delightful and very extensive amenity in its woodlands and the Blackwater River. The extent of derelict and under-used buildings will call for imaginative preventative and corrective measures.