

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CHEEKPOINT**  
County : **WATERFORD**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	25
The Built Environment	40	21
Litter Control	40	21
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21
General Impression	10	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>152</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

In only its second year of entry - Cheekpoint has coped well with the new-look Tidy Towns Competition with its different emphasis on long-term planning and a heightened attention to wildlife and environmental matters. Of necessity, because of the spread of the centre - and in the village itself, the old Church area and Minaun Hill - the Committee have found it necessary to spread its resources over quite a large area. The adjudication commenced at the established start point - the junction of the Passage/Waterford road at Faithlegg.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The new category of wildlife encouragement will call for some thought and long-term planning by the Committee. Certainly the forest at Minaun Hill and the River itself offer opportunities in this regard. The development of amenity walks and nature trails might be considered. With the aid of local enthusiasts the Children or Youth Group might be encouraged to undertake a wildlife survey in the various habitats with which your centre is blessed. Please refer to the detail notes provided by the Department of the Environment (page 12) in this regard. Directional signage is needed for the forest at Minaun Hill.

### LANDSCAPING

This is a critical element in the correct projection of Cheekpoint. The natural focal point is the Harbour and the grassed area to the east of it. The Committee might see this as a priority and develop suitable plans for it over a period. The repair of seating and the tables is seen as a priority item. In general grass was well cut in many places throughout the village and we liked the extent of hedge and verge cutting so evident on the day of adjudication. Individual houses also contributed substantially to an overall sense of order. Notable Faithlegg Cottage, Mothe House and Grants Hill House. The viewing point providing open views of the River requires additional attention to its presentation. The significant early Church grounds was delightful but the Cemetery itself left room for improvement. In particular the weeds and spoil at the roadside jarred.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Many aspects contributed to the built environment and especially to a sense of cohesion for the settlement as a whole. Particularly applauded is the process of exposing and refurbishing the dry-fill of random rubble stone walls which are a delightful feature. Small surprising elements also are of note - the Gothic-windowed look out tower for example. The small antique seat arch by the Riverside deserves attention, repair and replacement and along this important stretch in some places the wall has been damaged by vigorous growing trees. The row of houses on the east of the approach road to the Harbour are a delight and all involved are complemented on their splendid presentation. The houses and especially grassed area to the west of this road deserve similarly energetic treatment. The village School on the approach road was pleasantly painted but some small amounts of weeds were noted at the front wall. The Suir Inn was very well presented with excellent flower displays. Maggie Butler's was also very pleasant and we applaud the presentation of the grassed area opposite. Pride of place is awarded to the superb early Church and its presentation.

### LITTER CONTROL

Litter management broadly speaking was of a high order throughout the village but there were some surprising lapses. The provision of additional and well maintained litter bins is recommended particularly in areas like the Harbour, Lay-by and at the crossroads on the approach road, where it can be presumed people will congregate. The litter bin at the crossroads itself needed refurbishment.

### TIDINESS

The broader issue of landscaping and presentation have been referred to elsewhere. In this category one can identify some element which detract from the generally pleasant sense of good presentation. A disappointing amount of spoil was noted in the imposing entrance area to Faithlegg Golf Club. A apparently abandoned motor car was noted in the otherwise delightful cul-de-sac. Where flagpoles have been provided it is very desirable that well maintained flags be flown for example at the Faithlegg Garden Centre.

#### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The change in emphasis in the Tidy Towns Competition has made the examination of residential areas more critical and pronounced. The houses in Snow Hill View featured many good individual gardens and in general presented a very fine image. This was not reflected or maintained in the entrance area which needs attention. The River View Cottage Terrace was very well presented but, individual houses did not maintain the high standard achieved by most.

We cannot refrain applauding again the superb houses which are a delight to the east of the Harbour road.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In a small community inevitably the approach roads will have an important duty to project a good impression for the centre generally. The grass verges and hedges were agreeably presented and the village nameplate, often neglected, in this case was very well presented. We are aware of slight cluttering effect by the signs at the Post Office crossroads and the seat and litter bin at this point need some attention. The dry-fill walls and their enhanced presentation on the back road was extremely pleasant. A cul-de-sac area featured many splendid gardens and pleasantly painted houses. The Three Rivers Guesthouse had very pleasant gardens, the building itself would be enhanced further by painting.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Marks under this category are reserved to acknowledge the Committee's success in overcoming particularly difficult problems where they may exist. The Committee is invited to assess further the strengths and weaknesses of the centre and to develop a scheme with the involvement and support of the Community at large to further project those elements which contribute positively to the presentation of what is a delightful riverside settlement of character and charm.