

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CASTLETOWNROCHE**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	38
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	30	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	31	30
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>216</b>

## **Castletownroche, Co. Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

It is noted that no development plan or outline of same was submitted with the application. However, it is very evident that the community is working in very close partnership with many of the statutory bodies. This is reaping substantial rewards locally. It is always encouraging to see such a co-ordinated effort being made. In particular the old mill and the riverbank once completed will become an excellent local amenity.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

A number of buildings in the community are extremely well presented. The appearance of the Roman Catholic church and the school grounds are to be complimented. The imposing Church of Ireland building was also admired. The presentation of business premises was also of good standard, most notably The Spinning Wheel and the Old Rustic Bridge Bar and Restaurant. The works carried out on restoring the derelict buildings throughout the town is highly commended. They make a strong visual impact on the town. The use of colours in these works also deserves praise.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There are many fine examples of landscaping open spaces to be found in Castletownroche. The grotto is very well maintained and the landscaping of the forecourt in the Rustic Bridge filling station also deserves mention. The green in front of Hunter Park is commended. Another fine example of landscaping is the area opposite the creamery. The use of flower boxes throughout the town adds great colour to the village and complements the brightly coloured houses.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Castletownroche is fortunate to possess some wonderful natural resources and these have been developed to their potential within this category. The wildlife sanctuary behind the mill was noted as was the waterside development. This will be a notable addition to the local community. You are encouraged to maintain the momentum you have created in this area and by so doing develop the towns full potential.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There is good control of litter in the village. The area by the riverbank had evidence of litter. Undoubtedly, this is a popular public amenity and a litter bin should be provided.

### **TIDINESS**

The approach to restoring and maintaining derelict buildings deserves highest praise. As was noted before, attention should be paid to some of the roofs which detract from efforts made to date. A section of the walkway opposite the premises with the

windmill mural looked untidy. The galvanised fences adjacent to this premises looked unsightly. In general the streets had a very tidy appearance. The works being carried out on the Riverbank were noted.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The presentation of houses and gardens throughout the village was extremely high. There is great community pride and this is reflected in the efforts of householders. Areas that deserve special commendation are Hunter Park and the new local authority houses. There is a wonderful use of colour in the village and this gives a vibrant feel to the area.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

All approach roads to the town are well maintained. The Mallow approach deserves special mention for the green area and the good use of shrubs at Hunter Park. The stone wall on this route is also a good example of how to preserve boundary walls. The Fermoy Road was greatly admired, particularly the shrubbery area after the Old Mill. The committee is encouraged to incorporate the landscaping of the Fermoy Road into any future development plan.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Castletownroche is a very pleasant rural town. There is a very high standard of presentation and the community effort in developing the area is worthy of high praise. There are many towns and villages that could follow the example of Castletownroche in overcoming problems that they constantly face e.g. derelict buildings. The committee is wished continued success in its efforts.

Castletownroche, Cork

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (6/8/97)**

Castletownroche is a charming hilltop village which was a pleasure to re-visit on an August day. The standard of presentation had been improved upon this adjudicator's last visit and the comments made by the first adjudicator in relation to the bold use of colour are very relevant. Dereliction throughout the village is a definite problem and, although it is being tackled, there are still problem areas. Notably those buildings towards the centre of the village on the Doneraile approach which would greatly benefit from a fresh coat of whitewash and repainting of the tin roofs in a bright traditional red or green. A two storey derelict cottage on the Doneraile Road, another very prominent derelict building on the corner coming to the crossroads and one on the bend of Main Street heading down towards the bridge could have been freshened up. However, the extremely colourful derelict buildings were admired for their efforts at camouflage. Road signage could have been improved upon; the village nameplate sign on the Doneraile Road was rather rusty as were the road directional signs at the crossroads at the centre of the village. The village generally looked neat, tidy, ordered and fresh on adjudication day and the Old Mill should be a marvellous historical asset to Castletownroche when restored to its former

glory. In terms of neatness, posters to metal gates and fly posting should be discouraged as they can give a very messy appearance to the village.