

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CHARLEVILLE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 15-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	22
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	24	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	12
Litter Control	40	26	27
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	168	164

Charleville, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for submitting your five year development plan and maps, which proved very useful on the day of adjudication. Your development plan is commended and provides you with an opportunity to approach the competition in a more co-ordinated manner. You must now prioritise the key areas in your plan and set targets for their implementation over the course of the five year plan. It is essential for the success of your plans that you co-operate with the county council and other statutory bodies. There are a number of key issues which have been omitted from the plans and should be considered. These include temporary dwelling problems and liasing with Iarnrod Eireann. Resolving such problems should be of paramount importance to the committee in order to progress in the competition.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The work carried out on improving the appearance of many derelict buildings is complimented. There are still a number of sites on the approach roads which require attention. The Main Street possesses some fine buildings of great character and the overall standard of presentation of premises was high. A number of business premises were greatly admired, among them the Charleville Credit Union, Petits Pharmacy, the Four Winds Pub, A.I.B., O'Farrells and the Pinewood Inn. Your proposals for developing a co-ordinated colour scheme will further enhance the area. The Roman Catholic church looked well as did the library and Mannix College. The Golden Vale premises are also well presented.

LANDSCAPING

The addition of more window boxes and hanging baskets throughout the town added great colour. A more co-ordinated effort should be made especially in some of the residential areas. The town park will benefit greatly from your plans. It is certainly a fine amenity with great potential, although it did look sparse on the day of adjudication. The 1916 Remembrance Garden looked well as did the Pitch and Putt Club. There is a potential for effective landscaping near the community sports complex and the Telecom Eireann premises. The IDA should also consider some planting preferably with shrubs that give year round colour. The planting outside the Campus Filling Station is commended.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your plans for the town park are noted and will be a valuable asset to the local community when completed. This would be a good project for some of the local schools to become involved with. They could work in consultation with a local wildlife expert, who could highlight the species of the area. The river is another natural resource with potential for development. It is surprising to

note that this is not incorporated into your plans. It should definitely be considered.

LITTER CONTROL

Overall your approach to litter control is good. There was not much litter in evidence on the Main Street. The environmental awareness area in the car park behind the L & N is a good initiative. You are commended on the recruitment of a full time litter warden. It is hoped that their brief extends to maintaining the council estates as litter was a problem in some estates around the town. Perhaps you might consider providing more litter bins on the estates to complement the litter awareness programmes in the schools. There was also litter on some of the approach roads and at the bridge on the Newmarket road.

TIDINESS

In general the town looked tidy. However some problem areas were noted. There is an alarming number of abandoned cars and trailers to be found around the town. The fencing on the right hand side of the Mallow/Newcastlewest junction is a good example of screening such untidy areas. The ongoing situation with temporary dwellings is noted and you are encouraged to persevere with the council in this regard. The grounds of the local schools all looked tidy as did the Association for the Handicapped grounds. Cavanaghs, Luceys and the Campus Filling Station were also admired.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There were some excellent examples of well presented houses and gardens in the town. This is an important category as it enables more people to become involved. You might consider competitions among residential areas to further heighten awareness. The houses on the Kanturk road were greatly admired and the efforts of the residences in Kennedy Place, Plunkett Drive and De Valera Place are complimented. The old houses opposite the Old Pavilion looked very well.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads to the town should be improved. On the day of adjudication the verges on the Kanturk and Newmarket roads needed to be trimmed. In particular the verges on the Newmarket Road had overgrown onto the footpath and obviously had not been attended to for some time. The appearance of the approach roads could be enhanced greatly by some landscaping. You should consider this as part of implementing your development plan. The boundary wall on the Limerick road should be tidied and a number of signs on this road also need to be cleaned. Some consideration should also be given to increasing the number of place names around the town especially in the estates.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The submission of the development plan and recruitment of a full time litter warden signal your intent to progress further in this competition. The town itself has great character and the surrounding areas offer a great deal of potential for development.

It is important to maintain your commitment to your development plan and also to increase local awareness of your efforts. You are complimented on your efforts to date and wished continued success.