

Tidy Towns 1997

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CAPPAGH**  
County : **LIMERICK**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 17-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	--
The Built Environment	40	24	--
Landscaping	40	24	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	--
Litter Control	40	23	--
Tidiness	20	10	--
Residential Areas	30	21	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	--
General Impression	10	6	--
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>--</b>

## **Cappagh, Co. Limerick**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Cappagh is welcome to the 1997 Tidy Towns competition. Thank you for submitting a detailed questionnaire complete with map. The village which is quite small looked very well on adjudication day. It is noticeable that the committee is large in number which suggests that all sections of the community are involved in the Tidy Towns effort. A 3 year plan should be put in place prior to next year's competition, this gives a structured approach to planning for the future.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The standard in this category was very high on adjudication day. The Church, which was in a lovely rural setting, was very well maintained with a nice bright colour although the gate was a little rusty and needs to be repainted. The school which was an old style building was painted in a bright blushstone colour and looked very attractive. The newly constructed wall opposite the church will add greatly to the appeal of what is a very nice and peaceful village. The Muintir na Tire Hall was in the process of being renovated or refurbished; when this is complete this building will be an attractive feature.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The committee should initiate a planting scheme for the village which can be added to as the years progress. At present the village is lacking in greenery and colour, although the flower baskets on poles are a novel idea. It is important to select varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers that are most suitable to the village. Advice should be sought from Limerick County Council in advance of undertaking any developments in this sector.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

There is potential for greater nature conservation in the village and its immediate surroundings. Cappagh is situated near a number of natural wildlife habitats most notably the swamp area and Dohyle Lake. In this respect, it has an advantage over many villages of similar size. I would suggest getting help from a local wildlife expert to get a project up and running.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control in general was quite good. It is important that this be maintained and built upon in the future. The involvement of students in a clean up campaign is welcome as this will give the youth of the parish a meaningful role in the tidy towns effort.

### **TIDINESS**

The overall standard was quite good. The area around the Church, School and Community Hall was very tidy except for some weeds at the base of school gate. There were no unsightly open areas or unnecessary fly posting to be seen on adjudication.

A good start is half the battle so keep up the good work in this category

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are very few private residences in what could be termed as the core of the village. The existing residences were very well presented and it would be unfair to single out anyone for special mention as this would only demean the efforts of others. The committee should consider approaching the County Council to consider the possibility of providing more footpaths in the centre of the village.

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

The approach roads were reasonably well presented, but a little more thought should be given to the treatment of hedgerows. The Adare Road which is quite narrow had its verges cut back but needed to be a little tidier. Similarly, both the approaches from Pallaskerry and Dohyle Lake had their verges cut to an acceptable standard but needed to be tidied up. For next year's competition ensure that cut verges and trimmed hedgerows are presented in a tidy fashion i.e. that there is no loose grass spilling onto the roadway.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Cappagh is a very small village; indeed, on first inspection it is difficult to identify the core area. This makes it difficult to hide away any imperfections as any blackspot is easy identifiable. The Committee are to be commended, in this the first year of entry to the competition, for the concerted effort they have put in. It is important to strengthen the links with both the Local Authority and other public sector agencies. This kind of linkage will result in practical benefits for the village in the years to come.