

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **PASSAGE EAST**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	35	34
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	19
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	18	18
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	30
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	223	219

Passage East, County Waterford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your entry form and map which was very helpful on the day of adjudication. All Tidy Towns Committees are now required to produce a plan which will guide their Tidy Towns activities. The plan should be a simple one, setting out the objectives to be attained over the period of the plan. It would include details of a work programme for each year. Much of the expertise needed will be found in your own area so do work on this plan for 1999. Your Committee numbers seventeen and this is to be welcomed. It is also noted that you work closely with the Waterford County Council and FAS. The adjudicator would also suggest that you talk to the Regional Tourism Authority, the local National Rehabilitation Board, the ESB and Telecom Eireann who will be only too glad to assist you in whatever way they can. The important thing to remember is to keep your plan short and simple. Look on it as a guide for your Committee and something which can be built on over the coming years. It is also good to see that you intend to restore the Norman Fortress which brings out the historic aspect of your village.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Passage East is situated on the water at the end of a steep incline. It is of a most interesting design with small streets and squares. The maintenance of the built environment overall is good. The Public Toilets need to be better maintained and this is something which should be tackled for the future. It was good to see a WC available for persons with disabilities but unfortunately it was poorly maintained. The red brick commercial building would need some repairs done to the windows. The Grotto and the area around it was most attractive. The open space beside the Geneva Pub would need to be screened-off. All commercial buildings were maintained very well. It is important that the built environment reflects the heritage of the area. Perhaps your Committee might encourage bilingualism in signage, shops, pubs, community halls, etc where appropriate.

LANDSCAPING

A lot of work has gone into the landscaping of the village. You have a nice mix of trees, shrubs and flowers. The stone planters by the wall going towards the Quay had a lovely mix and the roses looked particularly well. The trees are maturing nicely in this area. Again in the Square area all the flowers, shrubs and plants looked very well. The Square near the Ferry departure area really looked well and the planters there contained a delightful selection of shrubs. The picnic area would need greater care and attention. There were some weeds on the flagstones and around the furniture itself. Do not overlook in your future plans the planting of some more trees in this area.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

I note that you have a herd of goats but unfortunately on adjudication day they were not visible. This is an area which your Committee should work on over the next couple of years. You have a natural environment for wildlife to prosper in Passage East. A good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats of your area and see what species of fish, birds and insects that these might attract. Do talk to a member in your Community with experience in this area. They will only be too glad to give you whatever help they can. Properly managed natural areas and wildlife will greatly enhance the area you are presenting. Your activities ensure that nature and wildlife will continue to have a place in your Community.

LITTER CONTROL

The overall control of litter is good in your village. There were some small amounts observed at the back of the toilets and a few pieces on the Green near the picnic area. Apart from that the remainder of the village was well managed. Perhaps it might also be a good idea to involve the local school to help in making your area litter-free.

TIDINESS

The area looked tidy despite some construction work being done to houses in the village. The control of weed growth at kerbs and at the base of buildings was very good. On the road to Crooke there is an open area there facing out to sea with a sign for a dangerous strong current - this area does need to be tidied up. There is some small dumping of carpets and long grass around the planters. It is an area which should be tackled. There is also potential for wildlife there.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Some boundary walls need attention. The presentation of buildings is very good and are being maintained to a very good standard. The residents have put in a great effort in making their homes look most attractive. There are some lovely colours used on the buildings and they blend in well with the environment. Also great effort has been put into the use of window boxes, planters and hanging baskets. It is wonderful to see such good community spirit. Well Done.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Resurfacing needed on the street to the Public Toilets and on the road leading to Crooke. Some seating needs to be repaired and painted. The sign from Crooke has some graffiti on it and the grass around it needs to be tidied. Again the sign for the ramps, need repairs done to it. The approach roads were tidy and the back areas of the village again were well presented overall.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A very good community spirit prevails in Passage East. You continue to do very good work to improve the presentation of your village and you are to be congratulated on this. As already indicated, it would be important, at this stage, to prepare a 3 to 5 year work programme which should help you enormously to go from strength to strength.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (14/08/98)

It is always a pleasure to visit Passage East as the complex of little streets and squares as already mentioned is so unique. To promote the ambience further all houses and walls should be maintained to an equal high standard. Prominent buildings such as the community centre should receive frequent attention. A little litter was evident on our second visit. Weed control is generally good but some outbreaks at kerbsides at the Waterford approach and also in the vicinity of the Public Toilets were noted. It is suggested that at least selective weeding along the top of the stone walling on the Waterford approach be undertaken. We are still waiting to see the wild goats ! Do they come into the village ?