

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CHAPELTOWN**  
County : **KERRY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	25
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	15	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	21
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>169</b>

## Chapelton, County Kerry

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The adjudicator is delighted that you are reporting increased support from the community for your Tidy Towns work programme. It is hoped that increased support will be available to you through FAS programmes. Progress in the competition will be dependent on everyone working towards the same ends. With this in mind you should prepare a "3 /5 Year rolling Tidy Towns Work Programme". This programme should have the support of the community, local groups, the County Council and other agencies. It would therefore guide your Tidy Towns actions for the next three to five years. The Work Programme should detail the Tidy Towns objectives to be achieved by your committee in the years ahead. The preparation of such a Plan which is updated annually is now an important aspect of the Tidy Towns Competition. The new Tidy Towns Handbook, which has been issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government to all Tidy Towns Committees, this is a highly useful document which will be a great help to established Tidy Towns Committees. It is divided into a series of seven Action Sheets which together cover all aspects of the Competition. It might be most useful, especially for new entrants for a committee to run a series of seminar evenings based on the contents of this Tidy Towns Handbook.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The work which has been done in the painting of old buildings is effective. The Church is well presented and the nearby Post Office looks especially well with its colourful window boxes. At the School the entrance gates and railings should be painted matt black. There are still a number of projecting signs which are not all appropriate. These detract from the overall visual impression. Can you consider starting a campaign to replace some of these signs with traditional hand lettered flush mounted signs which will be much more appropriate, and which will enhance your street-scape. It is encouraging to see new buildings underway in Chapelton. The GAA premises has been painted and looks well. There is generally a good mix of colours in Chapelton which combine well.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The smallest landscaped areas near the Post Office add a bit of colour to that part of the village. The area to the side of the Church is maturing well. The boxes with flowers are another nice touch.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The work which you have done on the river is noted and it is now an attractive feature of Chapelton. This river area is important also for wildlife. Do try to develop further amenities which will encourage wildlife to your area. Your first step however is to identify the species which inhabit any such areas. Wildlife can be encouraged by the planting of native berry producing trees and shrubs. The provision of bird and bat

roosts and nesting sites in any old buildings might also be considered by your Committee. Make sure that any wildlife areas to which the public have access are properly signposted. Remember the access needs of people with disabilities. The development of these amenity walks and nature trails will add greatly to your area in the years ahead. Has your Committee considered the erection of some information plaques about the wildlife to be seen in the area ? Have you considered developing the river at the other side of the road along similar lines ?

## **LITTER CONTROL**

The four new litter bins are a good development, and the adjudicator is pleased to note that you have organised the regular emptying of these. Generally litter control in Chapelton was quite good.

## **TIDINESS**

The removal of the old car is noted. An election poster still survives and this should have been removed some time ago. At the side of the Church the small car parking areas looks somewhat bare. I wonder if you can consider some small scaled appropriate planting in this space?

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Quite a number of new houses under construction were noted. Some of the existing properties make good use of strong colours and the older properties have attractive mature gardens.

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

In general your approach roads are well presented and have been maintained with the needs of wildlife in mind - narrow grass margin with rest of margin/bank left wild for wildlife. Do make sure that you do not do any cutting work during nesting time.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

You are continuing to make progress in the Competition, and keep up the good work for 2000.