

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CASTLETOWN**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	25
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	24	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	162	159

Castletown, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thanks for the completed application and accompanying sketch map which was appreciated, as this was the adjudicator's first visit to the village. The committee of seven is very manageable and is in the process of building up a good relationship with the local authority, FAS and other State agencies. I would suggest that you put together a work-plan for a three-year period, as it will give objectives to work to.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The standard in this category was quite good with the exception of a few which are in need of immediate attention. The public buildings such as the Garda Station and Mid-West Health Board premises, as was the case last year are still in need of attention. The Garage and its immediate area on the Kilmallock road could do with tidying. The Post Office and O'Briens were is in good condition as were the Community Centre and a number of private residences. It is up to the committee to keep encouraging residents to keep their properties in presentable condition.

LANDSCAPING

The efforts in this category are to be commended. There were a number of colourful flower and shrub displays and it is good to see that plans are in the pipeline for further improvements. The landscaping feature at Castletown Cross is eye-catching with its lovely stone base.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Some suggestions were made in last year's report that could be explored and I was a little surprised that there was no mention of any proposed plans under the Wildlife heading in Section B. You have so many natural habitats in and around the environs of the village that it would be a pity if some plan could not be drawn up under this heading. I would suggest that you involve the local school children with the help of a local wildlife expert to develop a wildlife programme.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little litter to be seen on adjudication day except for a few wrappers in the vicinity of the Corner. Keep passing on the message of litter control to all residents especially the youth as they will be the adults of the future. Good habits learned at a young age are usually there for life.

TIDINESS

The Village is quite tidy except for the previously mentioned garage and immediate surrounds. As the area is primarily a farming area it is important to ensure that any farm activity residue is cleaned up. Keep promoting the need for tidiness as part of the Tidy Towns ethos, eventually the message will get through to those people that are not pulling their weight at present.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Village is small and compact and for the most part all residential properties are kept very well. Improvements have been made since last year, so keep up the effort.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Entrances to the village are well presented, with mature trees, appropriately trimmed verges and some very impressive stonework to be seen. Reference was made last year to the condition of the verges on the Kilmallock Road. These were well maintained on this occasion

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Castletown, made famous in the song "The Limerick Rake" as well as producing a few useful hurlers over the years, is an extremely attractive village with lots of potential to do well in the competition. The effort of the residents is to be commended and while there are few negatives these will be solved in time with encouragement and patience. Keep up the good work and hopefully Castletown will make progress in the competition over the coming years.