

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CHURCHTOWN**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	27	24
Landscaping	40	29	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	8	6
TOTAL MARK	300	207	199

Churchtown, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Congratulations on your Super Valu Endeavour Award last year, this was very much deserved. The 'Objectives 2005' plan supplied last year was an excellent document, which should be followed. The working relationship with FÁS, the Local Community and Schools should be continued. Keep an eye to categories such as Wildlife and Natural amenities, which may need a little more focus.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The main public buildings continue to hold their high levels of maintenance, namely the Church and the School. Padre Pio's nursing home and O'Keefe's, Cunningham's and Flaherty's look very good. The works on Boss Murphy's, the Community Hall and Market House is complete and this section of the village is very strong and those responsible are to be commended. The plan to restore the old creamery will greatly enhance the Charleville approach as will the restoration of the buildings on Kerry Lane and Chapel Lane.

LANDSCAPING

The new cut stone flower beds on the Charleville approval look very well and brighten this approach considerably. The 'Endeavour Award Plaque' looks very well in the flowerbed area near the marblestone. All the planted areas mentioned last year are being well maintained as are the hanging baskets. The Church grounds are very well tended. The informative plaques at the 'red marble' monument and opposite give new visitors an excellent insight into the history of the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Committee should consider conducting an 'Environmental Programme'. This could be the focus of youth or school groups. There are five headings Habitat Survey, Developing a Management Plan, Access and Community Involvement, Interpretations, Carrying out the work. More detailed information is contained in sheet 6 'Wildlife and Natural Amenities' in the Tidy Towns Handbook.

LITTER CONTROL

Congratulations again this year, your diligence in relation to litter control is really paying dividends. The help of local school children is obviously a major aspect of this work and the children are to be highly commended for their role.

Please supply any information on anti-litter campaigns you may be running in the village with the Tidy Town Application Form.

TIDINESS

Kerbside weed and other problems seem to be under control in Churchtown. There is obviously a lot of effort being put in to keep the village looking so well. Fly posting should be removed, when advertised events are over. Fly posting should be avoided if possible.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The private houses in the village are well kept. The occupied houses opposite the Church have made a great effort, with one in particular (left corner house) making a very good display. The grass behind the new houses being built here should be cut. These houses should have a name to help identify them. The planned renovation of the house in Chapel Lane Kerry Lane will improve things also.

It is nice to see the new housing development using the old name of Churchtown 'Brugh Thinne' for its name. More floral decorations could be used on private houses to enhance them further.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The advance signage for Churchtown on the Charleville approach is very clear and indicates very clearly the facilities in the village by the use of symbols. The Banner Signs in the village are very good and the use of the old name Brugh Thinne is nice. The repair of lettering in the blue signs is commended. The wall opposite the bedding plants on the Charleville approach needs to be repaired. The Lis Carroll approach has a lovely new landscaped area with a seating bench. The hedgerows on this approach may need a trim and the village signs needs cleaning (in the long- term it would be nice to co-ordinate this sign with other new banner village signs). The approach near the Padre Pio Nursing Home would need to be cut and the growth around the 30 mile speed limit sign on the approach by O'Flaherty's Shop would need to be cut. The speed limit sign on the Charleville approach would need to be cleaned and capping stones replaced on the wall opposite Burton Park. The new footpath into the village from Burton Park is a great addition and should improve safety for pedestrians. The co-ordinated street furniture continues to impress.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Churchtown is still making great strides in the Tidy Towns Competition. There is a good feeling of a village in touch with its past, present and future by virtue of the history plaques and the Internet address.