

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **COURTMACSHERRY**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	27	25
Landscaping	40	24	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	20
Litter Control	40	30	30
Tidiness	20	11	10
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	203	195

Courtmacsherry, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Courtmacsherry is a very elongated village with housing , open spaces and buildings spread out over a considerable distance. This makes the upkeep and maintenance all the more difficult and good credit is due for the achievements to date of the committee. The small committee number is surprising. Co-operation with Fas and the Cork County Council is essential in achieving your targets and evidence of this is noted. The development plan needs to be monitored carefully to accommodate changing situations and timescale.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church of Ireland with its very attractive walls and gate piers is a gem. The Catholic Church is well maintained and the freshly painted gates and railings are most welcome. The Coastguards cottages are a very interesting set of buildings and are neatly tucked away out of sight. The Lifeboat station looks very attractive with its stone composition. Business premises are well maintained and attractively painted. The building opposite the toilets with green and white colouring is in need of attention to decoration. The Post office deserves particular mention for its attractive style. Community centre and Pier areas are also important in the overall building context and these are well presented.

LANDSCAPING

There is a considerable amount of landscaping throughout the village. The several areas of parks by the waterside give lovely walking areas and are very pleasant. The area around the anchor is nicely treated . The area at the boathouse is well treated. The landscaping of private gardens is a major contributor to the overall landscape of the village and great credit is due to every individual who cares for his garden and so silently contributes to the overall appearance of the village. Landscaping in

the Caravan Park is helpful in separating the groups of caravans and preventing this site from being a mere mass of caravans. A little attention to the area surrounding the tennis court would be welcome. The forest of Myrtle trees within the grounds of the Courtmacsherry Hotel are a marvellous asset and the attractive bark gives a lovely effect. More tree planting could be done in the spaces available in the town. While the effects of salt and wind may be off-putting for tree growth one has only to look at the enormous Sycamore tree in the village to see what is possible with the correct choices.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Courtmacsherry is fortunate to have both the lovely woodlands behind with its associated mosses and fern as on the Barryroe Road and also the wonderful estuary where bird life is so interesting and the walkway enables this asset to be fully appreciated. The signboard in the village is helpful.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter is well taken care of and there is a very clean appearance within the village. Litter control in a seaside town or village can be very difficult due to the influx of visitors in summer and on fine days and provisions need to be in place to cope with these situations.

TIDINESS

The level of tidiness is good. On looking around one does find some deviations from this that could be resolved. For example – the derelict caravans in the field as on approaching the new housing estate beyond the caravan site, the need for replacement of the wire around the tennis courts . It would be wise to go through the entire village making an inventory of incidents of untidiness.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The two new housing estate - one at the start of the village with attractive walls to the entrance and along the road and the other by the caravan site.-

both are well treated . The one by the caravan site is presently being seeded and hopefully tree planting will follow in the huge green spaces present. The colourful terrace of houses along the seafront are attractively treated as are those in St. Joseph's Place. The Anchor Bay development is attractive and very well landscaped. The colourful painting pattern could be extended with good effect.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The roads appear in a presentable state. The entrance to the village is attractive by the estuary with the walkway and seating areas. The Ballyroe Road is a lovely picture and care is needed lest any over enthusiastic approach to side clearances of the lovely mosses and ferns occurs.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A village that is utilising the assets available well and continuing to upgrade its built environment. Some caution is needed to ensure that all new developments are properly finished and landscaped.