

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEWMARKET-CORK**
County : **CORK**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	27
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	12
Litter Control	40	20	20
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	172	170

Newmarket, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your application form and map, which were very helpful on the day of adjudication. As mentioned in 1998 and 1999 the Committee should consider preparing a brief 3/5 year plan, this would be a useful checklist at the end of each year. Keep up your co-ordination with Cork County Council and FÁS. The involvement of youth and GAA groups is very desirable. An even-handed approach is the best over all the categories of the Tidy Towns Committee. Inform the adjudicator via the Action Plan or Tidy Towns Application form of all your works completed and planned.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Credit Union Building looks well as does Linehans Fashions, which has a nice traditional frontage. The Library looks bright and fresh given the constraints of the building design. Some buildings have made good use of floral decoration, namely An Post (post office) O'C Garage and AIB. There is scope for many other buildings to follow this lead. The O'Keeffe Memorial Institute building is very impressive. The comments relating to the Church of Ireland in last year's report would apply again. The Catholic Church looks well. The CYMS Hall building will look well when the FÁS restoration work is complete. The New School building has some weed growth on its roof (flat roof). The Fascia of the Garda Station needs painting. There is a danger of unused buildings falling into a more unsightly derelict state. The Committee should consult the Derelict Sites and Buildings Section of the Tidy Towns Handbook as it gives some useful information on the Derelict Sites Act 1990, which is a very useful tool to deal with this problem. Newmarket has some nice traditional frontages on commercial premises, but some are detracted from by plastic signs (particularly drinks signs on pubs) and posters in windows of commercial shops.

LANDSCAPING

There are nice pockets of landscaping throughout Newmarket. There is a nice effort outside Keanes farm machinery. The hanging baskets on the black cast iron poles on the Rockchapel approach are very eye catching. The traffic islands at the junction of Main Street and Church Street are well maintained and were being weeded on the day of adjudication. The grounds of Newmarket Co-op and O'Connor's Group Ltd are nice. The Pitch and Putt Course looks very well. The landscaped area between Barry's Place and Paddy Guiney Terrace needs to be weeded but it

is a very impressive effort. The Grotto continues to look well as does the Lime Kiln, whose car park needs weeding. The new playground equipment looks bright and fresh. The West End play area was occupied by the amusements at the time of adjudication so it was not possible to comment on this area.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Island Wood Area would need clearer directional signposting from Newmarket. Please include more information on this with future applications. The Primary School have made a nice effort with the provision of a bird table. The wooded area below the road on the Kanturk exit opposite O'Connor's Group Ltd would appear to be an ideal area for development, but perhaps it is in private ownership, which may make it a non-viable proposition. The senior children in the primary school may relish tackling the Wildlife Category – see sheet 6 of the Tidy Towns Handbook, 'Wildlife and Natural Amenities'

LITTER CONTROL

Litter seems to be a problem, but more so on the fringe of Newmarket than in the town centre. There was quite a lot of litter on the Kanturk road and lesser amounts on the Charleville and Rockchapel approaches. There was litter also in the vicinity of Barry's Place. The adjudicator would suggest that when bins are due for replacement that one uniform colour/design is used. The Juvenile GAA Cleanup is applauded as young people often lead the way on environmental issues.

TIDINESS

The recycling facilities in the County Council Car Park are an excellent initiative and are very well sign-posted. The recycling containers themselves would need to be washed. There was some sporadic weed growth in a number of areas, namely outside the R.C. Church Wall, on the kerbside leading to the O'Keeffe Institute and around the timber fence opposite Top Garage on the Charleville road.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The overall standard of private housing is very high with some areas showing a high degree of building maintenance, plant, shrub and hedge tending. The houses on the approach to O'Keeffe Memorial Institute, Verling Place, Paddy Guiney Terrace and Barry's Place were good. Some open areas near the newly built houses at Barry's Place need to be cut. Both the Charleville and Kanturk approach had nice private housing. Some housing terraces lacked proper name identification.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Boherbue approach is nice with very nice trees on one side. The hedgerows on Rockchapel and Kanturk approach need to be trimmed. The Charleville approach looks well. The stone rubble area along the road on the right side of the Kanturk exit has a lot of unsightly weed growth around it. The Cork County Council Car Park looks well lined and clean. The street paving stones are nice, particularly the newly paved area near Verling Terrace.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Newmarket is a very nice compact town, with a vibrant atmosphere. Many good efforts have been made to enhance its appearance to the benefit of the inhabitants and visitors alike.