

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **TAGHMON**  
County : **WEXFORD**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	30	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	15	14
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18	25
General Impression	10	5	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>179</b>

## **Taghmon, Wexford**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Taghmon Community and Tidy Towns Committee have made great strides in the areas of landscape and have retained a high degree of litter control. The town has a major difficulty in the manner in which the road surface has been allowed to deteriorate. It is constantly intrusive and distracting from the splendid, voluntary efforts of the Committee. It is strongly recommended that, at least initially, the entire road surface be swept and every effort made to secure appropriate re-surfacing where necessary. We know that a major water and sewerage pipe-laying will be commencing and on its completion the question of road surface should receive high priority treatment.

Note: As streets are not named your adjudicator would welcome a map as provided in 1999 to assist on the day of adjudication.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Many premises and individual houses have been presented in an exemplary way. O'Donnell, Mernach Limited Pharmacy is particularly well-presented, as was the Health Centre, Pearsetown and District Credit Union and the delightfully refurbished Male and Female schools (1894). The large-scale Irish Pride bakery entrance and surrounding walls were well presented. The significant crack in the castle wall is disquieting and a number of derelict houses and other buildings will call for resolute action.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping efforts are particularly meritorious and all involved are applauded for their on-going efforts. The Millennium Park will be a fitting centrepiece when completed. The sustained and substantial planting at the school grounds is a joy. The tree planting between the roads, opposite Irish Pride, provide a particularly worthwhile centrepiece for the town. Roadside planting, notably on the Wexford Road, and Bridgetown Road, was of a very high order and well maintained. The cemetery and area was well presented but do beware of weeds at the base of the front-facing wall. The small-scale Batt Memorial area might be better presented. There is a need for additional large-scale planting in front of the Waterford Co-op railing. Generally, where possible, provide a clear division between the roadway as such and unpaved parking areas, particularly at, (but just by way of example), the Taghmon Community Centre.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The remarks in last year's adjudication, as to the desirability of creating habitats with the aid of the local wildlife ranger, are reiterated. Small, incidental locations may be important in this regard, notably, for example, the Batt Memorial corner. The extensive school grounds and part of the ground in the Monastery Avenue area are also suggested as suitable locations.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

The centre has maintained an acceptably high standard in the area of litter control, although there were occasional fallings-from-grace in different areas. Very few litterbins were noted throughout the centre and the provision of them, perhaps aided by commercial sponsorship, is worth exploring. It is important that appropriate provision for the servicing of litterbins be also put in train.

## **TIDINESS**

The Recycle For Life installation in the foreground of the County Kitchen restaurant is welcomed and it is hoped, will be, increasingly, well-used by the community. The impact of the road surface, see below, has implications for tidiness as well. The fencing at Waterford Co-operative is getting a little slack and needs attention. A few of the items referred to last year have been dealt with most appropriately and we applaud the on-going efforts in this regard.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The developments at Newcastle Court are welcome, as is the splendid, new retaining wall and related planting on the road leading to Monastery Avenue. In the estates themselves and along the street, the standard varied considerably in the presentation of individual houses. It is suggested that a gardens competition and also a window box competition be examined as these have been found, in other centres, to have had a material, beneficial effect on overall presentation standards.

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

The presentation of signage, 30 mph and similar on the approach roads together with their verges is of a very high order. It is noted that substantial, robust stone pieces have been installed on the entrance roads to the centre. Only some, to date, have been engraved with the name of the town. Planting on the Enniscorthy Road was excellent with well-presented verges and tree planting. The planting and topiary on the Bridgetown Road also caught the eye. Sadly, the road surface within the town itself is of a very poor and deteriorating order. In the light of the voluntary efforts of the

community, it is hoped that the local authority and others involved will increase their efforts to ameliorate the current unsatisfactory level of road surface presentation.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The town has made considerable strides in the area of landscaping, enhanced presentation of verges and communal grassed areas. A number of houses and commercial buildings are presented in an exemplary fashion. Urgent attention is required in respect of the road surface and long-term strategy for the treatment of derelict houses.

It is emphasised that as part of the Tidy Towns programme, the preparation of a simple two to three year programme is a most beneficial and worthwhile exercise and is recommended to the committee.

Thank you again for your efforts which are making a beneficial impact on the better presentation of this important, historic settlement.