

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CASTLETOWNROCHE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	41
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	24	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	32
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	240	234

Castletownroche, Co Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your Matrix of Work Programme by Location and Date of Completion'. This is a very good and systematic approach, which has served you well over the last six years. The Committee must reflect with some pride on all the work that has been completed. It is now time to revisit this and chart a programme for the future 3 to 5 years. Thank you also for your very detailed and well-drawn map. The Committee should continue their liaison with the Local Authority, FÁS and Ballyhoura.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

All the main buildings in the Village look well again namely the Community Centre, Roman Catholic Church and Church of Ireland Church. The National School looks well but its railing would benefit from painting. The Creamery building looks well and the work continues on the Mill building, which is fantastic resource to have. The Garda Station has nice floral decoration, as does Reynolds Public House. The stonewalls around Nash's Petrol Station are also very distinctive. There are some derelict buildings, some of which are in strategic locations such as on the Main Street and buildings on the Doneraile approach. If these continue to be a problem the Committee should contact the Local Authority about the Derelict Sites Act, 1990, which is quite a powerful tool.

LANDSCAPING

This is a very strong category for Castletownroche. The visitor from the Mallow approach cannot fail to be impressed by the quality of display at Comdt. Tom Hunter Park. This is a fantastic achievement and congratulations to all those involved. The Shrubbery at the Doneraile – Shanballymore Junction is a beautiful blend of cut stone and floral decoration. The same applies to the area opposite the Mill and near the Grotto. The town area around Chapel Street but especially the 'short cut' to Shinnick Place displays a high degree of thought and creativity and merits a more substantial title/naming if such was possible. The area near the river and Mill is very restful and well maintained. One suggestion would be in time to put stepping-stones in the grass on a route to the footbridge to prevent footwear getting wet.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Castletownroche is fortunate to find itself in such a naturally beautiful setting. The area around the Mill and river Awbeg is really beautiful. This is a very peaceful location; the only drawback is that this area lacks car parking, this issue maybe addressed when the Mill is complete. There is

also waterfowl in this area, which adds an extra dimension. For further ideas the Committee should consult Sheet 6 'Wildlife and Natural Amenities' in the Tidy Town Handbook.

LITTER CONTROL

The litter situation seems to be well in hand. The voluntary sweeping of streets and litter picking is paying dividends. There are a good supply of litterbins, which obviously help this situation. Keep up a litter awareness campaign particularly targeting the children, as they are the adults of tomorrow.

TIDINESS

The weeding campaign is also going well with an absence of weeds at kerbsides and walls. One suggestion would be to relocate the life buoy from hanging on the black footbridge near the Mill and locate it on its own dedicated stand. The recycling facilities located at the Community Centre are a very worthwhile resource, these should be signposted (bilingual) and their use encouraged. The old petrol pumps at Chapel Street should be removed if possible.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There is a high degree of pride being displayed by all residents. The houses and common area at the front of Comdt. Tom Hunter Park is exemplary. The five new houses for the elderly on the Doneraile approach have lovely floral decorations. Shinnick Place also looks well with mature trees, nice grass margins, and a picnic table, this area would benefit from a bilingual name sign. There is also a high degree of residential housing in the main village, many of whom have floral decorations.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Mallow approach looks well as mentioned previously; it is greatly enhanced by the contribution by Comdt. Tom Hunter Park. The speed limit sign on the left as you approach Castletownroche needs to be straightened. The Castletownroche wall on the Fermoy approach near the Grotto is in need of repair. The Glanworth and Ballyhooley approach are good. The road signs, markings and footpaths are in good condition. The Grotto is a beautiful feature as are the poles bearing hanging baskets in the Village. The trees planted along the footpath in the main Village soften the streetscape.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The visitor to Castletownroche certainly gets the impression that the Village is an integrated Centre with a high degree of pride and creativity being displayed by its residents.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (05/08/01)

The contrast between the stone buildings and walls, and

luxuriant planting and well kept grass is always admired in Castletownroche and this year was no exception. The river is clearly a valuable asset. The standard of paintwork was for the most part excellent but tended to show up shabby, neglected buildings here and there. Virtually no litter was to be seen, a commendable achievement. The good road surfacing and clear road marking is most effective. There is scope to improve the roadsides on the initial Mallow approach, particularly the stone walls. We wish you well with your future endeavours.