

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CASTLETOWNSHEND**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 21-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	32
The Built Environment	40	32	30
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	19
Litter Control	40	29	30
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	25	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	8	7
TOTAL MARK	300	216	210

Castletownshend, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Castletownshend Community Association is one which obviously holds a great deal of pride in its village. Your three year plan is a practical and achievable one which reflects your philosophy in relation to maintaining the village in a natural a manner as possible. This is a highly laudable aspiration, given the natural beauty that is reflected in the village.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the premises on Main Street were extremely fresh on adjudication day, including the Post Office, O'Donovan's Shop and Mary-Anne's. Collins is a charming front as is Lyle McCarthy's which will need freshening before next year's competition. St. Barrahanes Church of Ireland looked magnificent as ever with its breathtaking display of montbretia either side of the steps leading up. These will look marvelous when they come into full bloom.

LANDSCAPING

The adjudicator whole heartedly agrees with your philosophy that the town does not need to be "gilded" with window boxes. It maintains a quite natural appearance with the incidental landscaped areas that have already been created. The bank and planting at the top of the village appeared quite overgrown on adjudication day as did the grassy bank with hydrangeas at the mall with its magnificent view back down to the waterside. The adjudicator noted that work is due to be completed to this latter area next year once construction work has been completed. The tennis courts, park and new playground all looked extremely well with their magnificent view over the waterside. You would appear to be combining neatly cut grass with a more natural look to achieve an interesting combination of the same. The picnic tables and seating area around the tree were all in good condition. The village pump was simply presented and fresh.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The adjudicator noted your efforts in regard to encouraging swans to locate here. The magnificent montbretia on approach roads and leading up to St. Barrahanes look quite magnificent and should be even more so when they come into their full glory. Perhaps you could consider erecting notice boards in relation to the wildlife visible in the area at the harbour side. There are some attractive hand painted ones to be seen in surrounding villages.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control could have been better on adjudication day. This problem is all the more apparent in a

village of Castletownshend's size. Minor outbreaks were witnessed throughout the village and in particular on St. Barrahanes Avenue and at the entry to the park.

TIDINESS

Weed control was a problem in many areas – on the approach road, at the stone boundary wall and the concrete block wall, along Main Street and at the entrance of the graveled route to the park.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The adjudicator noted a number of attractive houses for sale. Sundial house with its magnificent planting to the front looked as well as ever. Houses in the main street were generally extremely fresh. The estate was also presented to a high standard – the boundary wall to the avenue and to the alley behind the houses appeared quite grey however and could be freshly painted before next year's competition. Fuchsia Cottage with its bay windows and flowers to the front looked quite charming. A hall sported an attractive landscaped area as one glances in through the gateway. The houses at the Mall area were extremely well maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The standard in this category of the competition was somewhat inconsistent. The village nameplate sign was virtually obscured by overgrowth as one entered. Signage however was quite fresh. The road to the beach was quite potholed. Generally the standard of maintenance of the main roads, pavements and side areas was to a reasonable standard.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Castletownshend is a most attractive village which maintains its natural charm.