

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CHARLEVILLE**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **D**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 04-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	29
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	29	28
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	23	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>185</b>

## **Charleville, County Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Your Tidy Towns Committee's Five Year Plan is comprehensive and many of the problems, and the community's environmental position are outlined in it. It will take a very determined and coordinated effort to bring about improvement but in working with the Local Authority, Fas etc, the community is on the right lines. It is hoped that the observations in this report will be of assistance.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Firstly it must be said that there are several fine buildings, business and otherwise throughout the town. It is surprising however that there are so many derelict and semi-derelict buildings in the town particularly in areas like Chapel St. and Broad St. In Main St. there are a number of premises, which are in need of repainting and some in need of refurbishing. The latter is an impressive street and would be enormously enhanced by a general face-lift. In other areas of the town also, there are too many derelict buildings and perhaps some coordinated effort should be made to deal with this problem though many or all of them are probably privately owned. But on the positive side the town does have some fine impressive buildings, for example the Convent, The Catholic church, several fine business premises and of course the Library. The use to which this fine church building was utilised for, i.e. a library is an example for other communities – it is now a focal point in the town and is an asset to the community.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The Town Park is an important area for the town and the whole community however it is not being presented to full effect. The tree planting, which has been carried out there is a good development and the picnic tables, which are in place there are well maintained. It is probably a matter of resources but many areas of the Park would need to have more regular grass trimming etc. The landscaping in the vicinity of the Charleville Pitch and Putt Club is also good but the immediate area is extremely disappointing with high grass and weed growth in this vicinity. This is a valuable amenity in any community and should be well maintained. The use of window boxes can be effective and are used successfully in many towns and villages but it was quite disappointing to see window premises of main St. containing the wilted remains of last season's growth. The tree planting at Kennedy Place looked well. The landscaping at the entrance to Browns court is excellently maintained as was that area of shrubbery across from the Catholic church. The tree planting at Meanscoil na mBrathaire looks well.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your idea of developing a wildlife zone in a designated area of the Town Park is an excellent idea. There is sufficient area there for such a project and as is suggested, it could prove to be a valuable education project also. By planting appropriate plant/tree species, a very attractive wildlife habitat could be created in this area of the town.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

In some instances, efforts at litter control are succeeding since many areas of the town are relatively litter free but this is the responsibility of the entire community and with more general support, greater progress could be made. The Town Park area had no litter at the time of adjudication but unfortunately there were other instances of large amounts of litter, for example across from O' Malley's Funeral Home, there was a large amount of litter. There was also a considerable amount of litter inside the otherwise well maintained entrance/gate of Dr. Manning Gaelic Sports Field. The Main St. area was free of litter.

### **TIDINESS**

There is both scope and need for a much better level of tidiness throughout the town generally. The area in the vicinity of the Bridge Garage was very untidy. Also that area in the vicinity of Charleville Home improvements would need to be tidied up. The area around the Sports Centre premises was quite untidy. Also the disused garage/filling station across from the Garda Station was very untidy. However the area in the vicinity of the Post Office was very tidy and the entrance to and general area of SuperValu was very tidy and attractively presented with colourful, well maintained flower tubs. The area in the vicinity of the Garden of Remembrance was tidy and well maintained.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

In this area, residents do make a good effort and there are many examples of this throughout the town. Houses and gardens at the Haven were attractively presented. Also residents of Lovelane have their house and gardens looking well. Also residents at Bishop Brown's Terrace and Kennedy place present their areas well.

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

Good presentation of approach roads is important and in the case of the approach road from Cork, this could be improved. There has been a good programme of tree planting here but all along where this planting has been carried out, there is extremely high grass growth and weed growth and this would need to be attended to. The Newcastlewest approach road was reasonably tidy. The approach road from Limerick was very well presented. Some traffic signs and poles within the town area were very much in need of repainting. The entrance to the cemetery was tidy and the road to the Railway Station was quite tidy.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

This is town with many fine buildings and set in a legendary, prosperous countryside. The town has the potential a major and impressive one in this area of Cork County. If the plan set out in your five year programme is pursued and acted upon, then it would go a long way towards giving the town the uplift it merits. This however, can only be brought about with the support of the entire community and the relevant public bodies.