

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CHURCHTOWN**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	29	27
Landscaping	40	30	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	13
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	31
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	213	207

Churchtown, Co. Cork.

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator would like to thank the Tidy Towns Committee for the excellent quality of the documentation submitted with the entry Application Form. The village map was most useful. Your Tidy Towns Plan is an excellent document and it identifies realistic targets for the future. Very significant work has been achieved in Churchtown during the past five years and the achievements here should be an example to similar communities throughout the country. The excellent work carried out to date by the community and the Churchtown Village Trust has been recognised by the many awards won by the village. The plan for signage is excellent and the new street name and bronze information plaques look well. The photographic archive submitted with the entry is most interesting and demonstrates so clearly what has been achieved. The proposed creche is an excellent project and the adjudicator looks forward to progress on that.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Under this category so much excellent work has been achieved. It is most satisfactory to see so many buildings that have been restored to new modern uses. It is also encouraging to see the restoration of the building now used as the food market, and the adjudicator wishes this new development well. Stone walls form a very important aspect of the character of Churchtown and good work has been done here also for this year's competition. The new wall opposite the Church is a good example of this as is the new wall and plaque at the old creamery site. However a small derelict building was noted at the creamery site and the adjudicator wonders if this is to be removed also. Many of the houses in the village have been freshly painted with a good colour choice and the end effect is very good. Work in progress was noted at the Sports Ground and the Stand and associated facilities will be an excellent addition to community life when finished. The Conference Centre should attract new economic activity for the village and is most welcome. Good work has also been done in regard to footpath restoration.

LANDSCAPING

The hanging baskets, flower tubs and window boxes looked well on the day of adjudication but do make sure that this aspect of your work is not overdone. The Horse Sculpture is a really excellent focal point for the village and works were incomplete on adjudication day. The landscaped area on the Burton road is an attractive feature on this approach to the village. However the damage in the old stone wall opposite needs urgent attention.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The new brochure "Ecology of Churchtown Parish in North Cork" is most interesting and has been prepared following a proper ecological survey. The information panels in the village back up this brochure most successfully. The restored Graveyard area is an excellent habitat for wildlife. Here some minor stone wall restoration work is needed and the gates might be painted matt black. The walking trails are an excellent development an add to the enjoyment of visitors to your village.

LITTER CONTROL

Some litter was noted in the landscaped area with the local Marble display; otherwise litter control on adjudication day was quite good. The Litter Free Zone signs though unusual in a village are an excellent way of keeping the litter control issue clearly in the minds of everyone.

TIDINESS

The long grass at the large green building on the Buttevant approach road needs attention, as does the small car park area near the School. Weed growth, a pile of sand and some blocks were noted in this area. One or two incidental open spaces were noted in the village where presentation could be improved. On Chapel Lane an untidy area to the side of the Church was noted, and perhaps the gateway to this area can be painted. The Nursing Home building is well presented but just below this building on the village side, there is a very untidy area with a small derelict building. Eventually the under-grounding of all cables in the village is highly desirable. In some cases weed growth at the base of road boundary walls needs to be removed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Brughenny development of up to 72 houses was underway on adjudication day and this is a most welcome development. It is hoped that a high level of landscaping will be incorporated into this development. The plans for a new village green here are noted and the adjudicator looks forward to the completion of this development. Private houses and gardens are being well maintained and many private houses have been recently painted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Work is still required on approach roads to the village. Speed limit poles need to be painted, and the grass at the narrow verges should be cut on a regular basis. On the Black Road the stone walls here would be much improved is some small repairs were carried out. When the present phase of development works is completed some of the streets will need to be re-resurfaced, and hopefully this is on the Local Authority work programme for the village.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Churchtown is a village that knows where it is going in the future and you have realistic plans to achieve your goals.

Churchtown is an excellent example of what can be done in many similar villages in Ireland given the commitment of the local people and the appropriate Agencies. The adjudicator wishes your community and the Trust every possible success in the year ahead.