

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **MITCHELSTOWN**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **D**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 04-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	26
The Built Environment	40	28	25
Landscaping	40	28	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	13
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	25	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	26
General Impression	10	7	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>179</b>

## **Mitchelstown, Co. Cork.**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

As mentioned in last year's report, it is essential at this stage in the competition to formulate a three to five year work programme for the town. This document need only be one or two pages long outlining your plans for Mitchelstown's future development and setting a time frame against achievement of these ideas. This will give yourselves, as well as the judges, a clearly picture of the goals and objectives that you are endeavouring to reach and whether these targets have been achieved. Perhaps for next year's competition you could include a map which more clearly indicates the areas to which you wish to draw the judge's attention.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Most of the buildings along the main streets and squares were maintained to a reasonable standard on adjudication day. However, one or two empty buildings such as The Glens B&B had a rather tatty appearance on Main Street. Do discourage the practice of curved plastic canopies and plastic projecting signs. These should be replaced by more traditional timber signs and fabric awnings. The Post Office and, in particular, its signage will need repainting before next year's competition. The Fire Station was fine, although it will also need painting before next year and the Catholic Church looked well. The County Library was also maintained to a high standard. The ongoing work to the magnificent Kingston College Square with its stone cottages with brick surrounds to opes will be a fine asset to the town when completed. The Castle Park Hotel was very fresh in yellow. The limestone entry way to the road to the Catholic Church was quite unusual and charming. Georges Street is an attractive tree lined street terminated at one end by the magnificent St. Georges Church of Ireland church and Kingston Square at the bottom.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The standard in this category was quite good although somewhat inconsistent. The magnificently maintained King Square with its mature beech trees overhanging the roadside leading to the wide Georges Street with trees marching along either side up to the Church of Ireland is quite imposing and dramatic. The attractive silver birches on the Mallow Road are coming along well. The statue outside the Garda Station was admired.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This is an aspect of the competition which will need to be addressed more fully by the committee. Perhaps get local school children involved in drawing up a catalogue of the wildlife habitats in your locality. This could be incorporated with a nature trail and map. As mentioned by last year's

adjudicator the ideas developing this aspect of the competition are contained in your Tidy Towns Handbook.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The standard of litter control on the day was not good, but this appeared to be due to a festival which had been taking place over the bank holiday weekend and therefore marks were not deducted in this regard. The litter bins along the main streets were in bad condition and should be repainted or replaced for next year.

### **TIDINESS**

The alleyways and archways that are typical of Mitchelstown need to be taken into consideration when presenting the town. The Hanover Tyre yard area and sheds in its prominent location at the junction of the Dublin and Clonmel Roads could have been more successfully screened from the public view. Tin roofs to sheds that are beginning to look shabby should be painted in their traditional red or green colours.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Both houses along approach roads and in the town center were maintained to a high standard. The houses and gardens on the Mallow Road were admired. Of particular note, were the attractive cottages of James Street especially that at the corner of Georges Street, which had been freshly painted and sported the street nameplate sign. The magnificent wide tree lined Georges Street has been mentioned elsewhere in this report.

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

Do try to strike a balance between a wild and unkempt appearance and over manicured approach roads in order to achieve a natural appearance. The Mallow Road appeared quite overgrown. The main streets of the town frame magnificent views to the mountains beyond both on Main Street leading to Dublin and along the Clonmel Road. Signage was quite grubby in places and advertising hoardings should be discouraged. New signage in the town was noted and is to be commended. Pavements on Main Street were in bad condition.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The busy town of Mitchelstown contains some magnificent architectural and spatial gems. It looked well on a busy bank holiday adjudication day.