

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CHAPELTOWN**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23	26
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	21	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	21
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	16	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	177	176

Chapelton, Co. Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator is very concerned to note that a Tidy Towns Work Programme or Plan was not submitted with the entry documentation.

Progress in the competition will be dependent on everyone working towards the same ends. With this in mind you must prepare a "3 /5 Year rolling Tidy Towns Work Programme". This programme should have the support of the community, local groups other agencies and the County Council. It would therefore guide your Tidy Towns actions for the next three to five years. The Work Programme will detail the Tidy Towns objectives to be achieved by your committee in the years ahead. The preparation of such a Plan that is updated annually is now an essential aspect of the Tidy Towns Competition.

Do keep in mind that what is required is a simple Plan or document.

A Tidy Towns Handbook was issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government to all Tidy Towns Committees. This is a highly useful document which will be a great help both to established Tidy Towns Committees and to all new entrants. It is divided into a series of seven Action Sheets that together cover all aspects of the Competition. It might be most useful for a committee to run a series of seminar evenings based on the contents of this Tidy Towns Handbook.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

At the National School the gates are in need of painting, and the well-kept school grounds were noted here. Extension works were underway at the Resource and Child Centre and the area understandably was untidy (for which no marks are lost). Thady's Shop is well presented, and the presentation of the Post Office is excellent. A good choice of colours was noted here. The Church and grounds are a central building in the village and their presentation is of a high standard. At The Ring Lyne a good choice of colours was noted. However the fascia sign at the Lub Pub needs re-painting. Extensive new works are noted at the GAA property, and the adjudicator wishes them well in their major undertaking.

LANDSCAPING

Your continued good work on the river area is noted and work on the model house was well advanced on adjudication day. Some of the shrubs and trees here are getting quite large and trimming will be required in the future to allow continued good access to this attractive area. Have you considered starting

work on the river banks at the other side of the road?

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your river area is very attractive and important also for wildlife. Do try and develop further amenities that will encourage wildlife to your area. The first step however is to identify the species which inhabit any such areas. Wildlife can be encouraged by the planting of native berry producing trees and shrubs. The provision of bird and bat roosts and nesting sites in any old buildings might also be considered by your Committee. Make sure that any wildlife areas to which the public have access are properly signposted. In terms of access to remember the needs of people with disabilities. The development of these amenity walks and nature trails will add greatly to your area in the years ahead.

Has your Committee considered the erection of some information plaques about the wildlife to be seen in the area?

LITTER CONTROL

On adjudication day litter control was quite good, though a little litter was noted in the river.

TIDINESS

An untidy area was noted on the approach from the Road Bridge, near the Speed Limit signs. Perhaps the old building here can be painted, together with the gates. Screening may be an option here for consideration by the owner. A large untidy open area to the side of the Church was noted and this requires attention. Perhaps temporary screening is an option?

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Houses in the area are generally well presented and the house with the strong colour opposite the Post Office stands out well. The two new traditional houses opposite Geokaun Estate are a welcome development, and presumably these will be painted an appropriate colour. In the Geokaun Estate the grass areas are in need of cutting. Do remember that after cutting that cut grass must be taken away.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the Knightstown approach the verges have been cut, but the long bank opposite the School entrance is overgrown. The timber fencing in on this approach road should be painted. Speed limit poles on all approach roads have still to be painted. On the approach from the Road Bridge the village sign has been turned, and requires to be re-set. A pile of road kerbing was noted at the side of the Church, and presumably this is for use on this approach road where road/kerb definition is lacking at the moment.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

As a priority your Action Plan must be drafted, and your Committee should do this. The adjudicator wishes you well in

your plans for 2002.