

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CASTLETOWN GEOGHEGAN**  
County : **WESTMEATH**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	30
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	17	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>178</b>

## **Castletown Geoghegan, Co. Westmeath**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Castletown Geoghegan is an attractive village with a number of interesting features. The fine church establishes its strongest physical profile but there are a number of further developmental opportunities to be taken. It is recommended that a more detailed plan be put in place to help focus on an evolving improvements in its presentation.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Like a number of similar communities, the built environment is strong at both ends, but weak along the middle area of the main street. At one end the church (which unfortunately was having its roof replaced at the time of the visit), Ned Claffey's Lounge, and the square with its raised flower bed is particularly attractive, and matched at the other end, by the Garda Station, adjoining buildings, and nicely presented triangular area. In between are a number of disappointingly fronted shops and pubs and a high and rather drab garden wall. St. Micils School was very well presented as was the health centre and the community hall. There is a derelict but attractive farmhouse off the school road .

### **LANDSCAPING**

Considerable efforts have been made to place floral displays at different points within the village. The entrances to the village and in particular the new flower bed on the Mullingar Road are to be commended. Some attention is required to weeding and a seat is missing from its uprights in the very pleasant amenity on the Kilbeggan Road. The new wall has been completed along the school road. The magnificent iron gates at the church should be restored. The flower pots at Ned Claffeys are attractive, but the bollards along the roadside need a touch of paint. Verges cut and look well.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Grass had been cut, but not removed in the old graveyard. Nevertheless, this amenity has excellent potential with old headstones, and church buildings (one with a commemorative plaque dating to 1671). Already one church structure has been lost to commercial use which seems a pity. As a group they could offer an historical evidence of religious activity over a period of considerable years. There is no amenity access to the river but there is little doubt there is a thriving wildlife in the surrounding area and much could be done to exploit its value.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was good with little evidence of a problem in this area. There was however, some left over litter on the bridge opposite where the new stone wall had been built. Due to the roof restoration at the church there was an amount of builder's debris in the church grounds.

## **TIDINESS**

Apart from the area surrounding the telephone kiosk and water pump, there were good levels of tidiness noted. Attention is needed in telephone kiosk area as it is central to village presentation.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The residential district along the Tyrrellspass road is very attractively presented with mature gardens and roadside plants. The Kilbeggan road estate was neat and tidy, as for the most part were residences on the Mullingar side.

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

Village entrances and exits were well presented with the Mullingar road being particularly attractive. Within the village the roads and paths were in good condition. Work was ongoing at the car park with new trees in place and bedding work being done for plants. Bedding work for flower pots in triangular area was also ongoing. Work was also ongoing at the furniture store car park

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Castletown Geoghegan is a village with excellent potential and presents as a tidy, litter free village. It needs to recognise how its amenities and facilities can be made to work for the village. There is a shortfall in information which should be addressed through sign posting and other forms of interpretation.