

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **GREYSTONES**  
County : **WICKLOW**  
Category : **F**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 18-06-2002

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2002 | Mark Awarded 2001 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 34                | 33                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 33                | 32                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 28                | 28                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 16                | 16                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 29                | 30                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 14                | 13                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 26                | 25                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 27                | 27                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 6                 | 6                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>213</b>        | <b>210</b>        |

## **Greystones, County Wicklow**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH**

Thank you for the information supplied with the application form. The objectives set out in the plan are very reasonable and will keep Greystones developing in the right direction. While the objectives are clear there is a need to identify exactly how these aims can be achieved and the steps needed to make progress. The advantage of the sea aspect with the two beaches, harbour and sea fronted roads is tremendous. The committee number of 15 is sizable and will allow good progress with projects.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Greystones has an interesting array of building types with the old Greystones retaining its character despite the increase in newer developments over the years. The schools and churches look well. The main street has developed with the inclusion of many business premises being incorporated with the original street buildings. Attention to colour, signboards and shop front style will help to merge the styles together. The post office would benefit from painting. Underground cabling of service cables would be welcome as has been done now in so many towns and villages. The harbour and parking areas nearby are a significant part of the built environment. Helena cottage is an unique little property The public Library is attractive and the current painting decoration looks very well.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The grassed areas by the harbour and along the sea road are attractive giving a calm and non fussy atmosphere to the areas. A little more attention to the grass maintenance by the harbour areas would be helpful. Looking around the plantings in both public and private property one can see that certain plants perform particularly well in the wind and salt - typical of a seaside area - Hebes, Olearias, Fushia, Phormium, Escallonia these could be used well in any future plantings. The park is nicely placed with easy access from the street. While the initial planting was good, at this stage there is a considerable amount of weed and the results of overgrown and badly pruned shrubs in places. The grass cuttings would be better removed from the lawns. An assessment of the maintenance of the park is needed now. The tree lined Church Road is attractive. The Health centre landscaping has been allowed deteriorate after the initial landscaping. The Fire station landscape is well tended and attractive. Attention is needed at the Wicklow scout group premises. Perhaps a landscape initiative could be considered at the parking areas and triangle at the harbour seafront area.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The seashore offers great potential for projects under this heading. The beach walks and the adjoining roadway sea frontage forms a great viewing and observation point for sea birds and the plant life associated with coast line. Initiatives to allow for wider appreciation and information in this regard would be helpful.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

While overall the litter situation is good, on closer observance unfortunately there is a constant amount of small litter present. The park and main street were noted in this regard.

## **TIDINESS**

The structure of the streets and roads is such that there is a tidy arrangement in Greystones. The Parking allowed on both sides of the streets causes obstruction and is not helpful to the tidiness of the street. More attention to grass growth at kerbsides throughout Greystones would help greatly.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Residential buildings are very varied in style thereby adding interest and allowing for greater appreciation. The older buildings form the fabric of Greystones. Newer developments are fitting in well and do not compete with the older residences. Traffic resulting from nearby residential development is noticeable.

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

Approach roads are attractive and well cared for, except for some attention needed to kerbside weeds and grasses. Tree lined Church road is very attractive. The surfaces by the carpark at the harbour and the road around to the south beach are good. As mentioned above, underground cabling would be welcome.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Greystones is a very attractive place to visit with its seaside walks and tightly organised shopping street with lots of interesting shops and there is a great sense of continuity with the age structure of buildings and facilities.