

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Chapeltown**

Ref: **240**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **192**

Category: **A**

Date: **09/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	24
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	192	192

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your entry and details of work on hand. Chapeltown has an appropriate name in Irish: Caol describes it well as being narrow. This linear village has numerous advantages for doing well in the Tidy Towns Competition, being compact and not burdened with too many approach roads. However, you do urgently need a phased plan that will chart the way forward for success. You need to get the community behind you and seek advice on how to progress. There was some evidence of sporadic community effort from a previous period but there is no coordinated effort in evidence. We suggest you contact your local engineer and get the backing of the Kerry Co. Council and other agencies also. You could hardly do better than contact your neighbours at Portmagee for advice.

The Built Environment:

The church and environs looked well but needed grass cutting. This is your most important building on the landscape and it is good to see it presented to such a high standard. The Ring Lyne Bar is an interesting building but the signage should be reduced. This building has some attractive features worthy of highlighting to a higher standard. The Lúb Bar sign needs refurbishment. The national school is excellent and provides a standard to be pursued by other buildings. It also has an attractive car park and playing area with good layout. In general buildings could do with improvement and the Resource Centre is disappointing; you should start your new efforts and have this building and in particular its surrounds a showpiece for the rest of the village.

Landscaping:

You have numerous open spaces ideal for landscaping and you should list the areas available for development. The village needs colour and a community painting blitz would have a very beneficial effect. Landscaping is a long term requirement so you need to plan and plant. Tree planting for the next generation should be your aim. Ideally, get the school children involved and encourage each family to sponsor a tree in a dedicated area, and do so with ceremony. The two principal approaches are ideal for two good colourful flower beds or a shrubbery with village identity. The erection of two illustrated Fáilte signs would give the village a designation. Well done on the treatment of the GAA pitch. The screening is very effective, though the area between the wall and the roadside should be improved. The area around the Caol River at the bridge is really lovely. However, its maintenance is poor despite the fresh painting on the little house. This is an important amenity area.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your rural setting and close proximity to the sea affords you every opportunity to gain valuable marks in this section. Get the pupils to do a survey of the popular sea and land birds of the area. This might then lead to the erection of an illustrated display board which in turn would stimulate further interest.

Litter Control:

You have scored well here and your policy of involving the school children is commendable. There was very little litter in evidence and the village does not seem to have a litter problem.

Tidiness:

Your problems in this section relate to a good deal of dereliction and poorly presented open spaces. Murphy's Marine Services is very untidy and would benefit from a clean up. The vista from this location is really magnificent.

Residential Areas:

Many houses are well presented but more coordination is needed for a better impact. The houses at Geokaun View are well presented but the grass needs cutting. This is an ideal opportunity for the residents of this estate to get involved, despite the distance from the village core. Boundary walls in some cases are a letdown and could be improved with fresh painting. This adjudicator made the 3km journey up to the Grotto and Quarry. What a dramatic view of the area from here. You should get the authorities to erect brown and white signs in the village and promote this attraction to greater effect.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

In general, road structure is good and no pot holes in evidence. Side and back entrances are now an integral part of Tidy Towns so we urge owners of properties to pay attention to these areas. As mentioned you should concentrate on the approach roads.

General Impression:

The village has potential for much improvement and we urge you to formulate a plan that will have the backing of the community. If applied on a phased basis it will only take about three years to achieve a major improvement. We wish you well in your endeavours.

