

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Chapeltown**

Ref: **99**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **195**

Category: **A**

Date: **21/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	25
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	24
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	18	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	195	192

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for the helpful map, details of work and letter. Chapeltown has all the features of a traditional village – the cross roads, the river and bridge, the local shops, church, GAA pitch and of course the houses. To make the very best of all of these features and the roadsides it would be wise to sit down and make a list of all the aims and wishes of the local community. Then set out what is possible, how it will be done, a time scale and who will do each part. A plan of this type will focus minds and provide a yardstick to measure progress each year.

The Built Environment:

The church and surrounds look well, the stone work at the road boundary is attractive. The painting of the school and outside wall is meticulous and a lovely sight to see. The post office, Lyne premises and GAA roadside wall all look well. The Lub Bar would benefit from some attention. The little bridge has attractive stonework and makes a very nice feature when viewed from the streamside picnic area.

Landscaping:

The streamside area is well treated and good effort has gone into creating this little haven by the stream. The pathway down had not been surfaced to date but because of the recent dry weather this

did not present any problem. The school and church grounds looked well and the grass care was very good. The containers of summer bedding plants along the roadside and at the GAA grounds look very colourful and added a good sparkle to the village.. Individual gardens make an important contribution to the village appearance and credit is due to all those who make good efforts in this regard. The Geokaun View estate is disappointing – the name slate stone is surrounded by long grass and the entire estate's open space would benefit from a much-improved standard of care and attention.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

This is a category where involving the school children could do much. Projects aimed at listing what can be observed in the area, illustrating these and creating more wildlife awareness would benefit everybody.

Litter Control:

There is a very good degree of litter control in and around the village. On a walk of all the four roads of the village only small amount of litter were noted by roadsides. The attention to this aspect in the village is paying off well. Litter from passing traffic can sometimes be a problem in villages such as this where traffic uses the main village on route to Knightstown.

Tidiness:

There is a good level of tidiness in the village. The crisp painting of so many of the houses and the school all help in this regard. Some cutting back of vegetation needs to be attended to by the roadsides as the summer proceeds.

Residential Areas:

The houses along the four roads are well presented and there is a very clean and bright appearance with most of the houses. As mentioned the Geokaun estate has opportunities for improvements and this could be a project for the coming year. The best approach is if people can be encouraged to take care of their own surrounds – then they develop a pride, which benefits all.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The main road through the village is in good state. The road by the side of the church has become patchy. Where the footpath and kerbing have been worked upon – there needs to be a reinstatement of road surface close to the kerbs. The approach roads are looking well and it is wise to allow the natural vegetation develop on these roadsides and only restrain it when it encroaches on the roads. Removal of overhead wire should become part of your campaign.

General Impression:

Chapelstown is making good progress. A plan will help to develop the village further. Your discussion with County Council engineer may have good results when the building work has been completed. The community hall when built will add further impetus to the village.