

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Chapeltown** Ref: **331**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **203**
Category: **A** Date(s): **15/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	27
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	24
Litter Control	50	28
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	203

Overall Development Approach:

Chapeltown is welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission. It is great to hear the positive impact Tidy Towns has as a call to action for your town. It is well noted that you are involved in the school and Fas as part of the Tidy Towns process.

The Built Environment:

The school was well painted and maintained except for a front fence that had been pulled down. It was good to see the bicycle racks encouraging children and teachers to ride to school. The landscaping around the oil tank looks well and it might be a good idea to hide the oil tank behind further plantings or in a natural coloured fence. The new black and white developments are quite stark in appearance but once landscaped this would look softer and blend into the surroundings better.

Landscaping:

The usage of stone walls along some of the road is very appealing. The flowers on display at the entry sign and by the GAA were bright and colourful. It would be good to plant some native shrubbery along the external wall of the GAA to cover some of the uneven road surface here. The GAA grounds themselves have some rubbish around including old latrines. It is presumed that this is left over from renovations but it needs to be removed to keep the area looking tidy. There is also some weeding that could take place on the stone areas here.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is good to hear that a community member is educating children on local wildlife. Perhaps some bird boxes could be erected or the creation of signage explaining what birds are to be found in the region.

Litter Control:

There is an area next to the public phone booth with a hole that has partially been patched up. However, it is still quite unsafe and it would be good if this could be addressed. The town was generally litter free except for the public area beside the river. There were several cans in the river and wrappings on the grassland. However, these all looked recent and as it was the height of tourist season it must be noted that Chapeltown is dealing well with its litter control.

Waste Minimisation:

It is noted that you are trying to encourage the GAA to segregate waste. Although the school has not yet entered the Green Flag award it would be a good undertaking for them to ensure they are recycling and perhaps composting. This could also be encouraged with residents. Actively working towards reducing waste collection is also preferred. Encouraging children to bring lunches in lunchboxes rather than wrappings or disposable bags would help reduce waste collection.

Tidiness:

The church was very well maintained as was the childcare centre. It is recognised that the two derelict buildings are on the market and hopefully new owners will be found to revitalise them. The weeds have been kept under control very well this year so well done on this improvement. The houses in the main street were generally well painted and maintained.

Residential Areas:

The stone sign and surrounding plantings for the Geokaun estate is done well and the estate itself is neat and tidy. New developments underway have been kept in a tidy state. Most residents have taken pride in keeping their houses and gardens in good condition.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The brown wall on the skellig road turnoff would benefit from some painting touch ups as the concrete is being revealed. A long term strategy might be to replace this with stones to complement the other stone walls in this area. The stone wall in the new estate helps it fit in with some of the more traditional aspects of the village.

General Impression:

Chapeltown is located in a lovely location. More might be done to bring its features to the forefront such as maintaining the river area on the public side. It is good to see that footpaths have been created to new residential areas in the village.