

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cheekpoint** Ref: **951**
County: **Waterford** Mark: **199**
Category: **A** Date(s): **13/07/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	26
The Built Environment	50	27
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	13
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	24
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	199

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the concise application form outlining the work ongoing and that proposed for the future. The attached google map of the village was very helpful in finding relevant areas within this coastal Waterford village.

In all my traversing of County Waterford over the years this was my first visit to Cheekpoint, one had to be impressed with the beautiful coastal scenery on view, especially from elevated areas.

The committee has certainly embraced the competition in this your second year of entry since the late nineties.

The support of the local community is vital and you are harnessing this with good effect.

Involvement with the local school is also a key element of your future work as children will engage in activities with enthusiasm.

Your positive comments on the competition were noted and one certainly hopes that the Village will make good strides in Tidy Towns in the years ahead.

Your submission for this year alone under this section deserves an increase in marks.

The Built Environment:

Cheekpoint is undergoing a little bit of a revival under the built environment category.

A number of refurbishment projects on existing premises and the completion of another in the core area were taking place on adjudication day.

When these will be completed the village centre will be enhanced even more.

The Three Rivers Guest House, which was the only place known to the adjudicator, is up for sale - one wonders if it is a sign of the times to come in the tourism industry.

The restoration of the summer house, which has a historical association with the village, is a major

achievement for the community.

Cheekpoint's biggest problems from an infrastructural perspective is that the proliferation of overhead wires coupled with some poor road surfaces, these take away from the overall appearance of the streetscape. The committee is urged to approach the County Council to see if there are plans to include Cheekpoint in future village renewal programmes.

One does realise that the road surface problem may be related to the fact that there is work ongoing or about to commence in installing essential sewage services for the village cottages.

This may be an opportune time to lobby local councillors to fight your cause for the complete package of underground ducting of wires and the re surfacing of the road network.

The following commercial premises were admired for presentation McAlpins Pub and The Bistro up the road. Powers Shop on the outskirts of the village, the staff of which were extremely courteous, also deserves mention.

Some fine individual properties were noted in the village as well and a few were up for sale.

The pier area was a little untidy with poor enough access surface again one should consult with the Council to see if it can be upgraded in the next few years.

Landscaping:

Cheekpoint's village green is unusual in that it is rather expansive for a village of its size.

It would benefit from a mini planting scheme of its own and it's something that you could incorporate into your plans for the next few years ahead.

The Grotto and Cross are the focal points of the green and one felt that they could be enhanced a little by the placing of appropriate containers of flowers.

Overall the standard in this category was quite good and the idea to have year round rotation is something other villages could take on board, so well done on this initiative.

The maritime association is to the fore with the boat being used as a planter for colourful begonias and other annuals.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Nice to observe an action under this category that other centres often miss out on, that of the negative impact that litter has on wildlife.

So well done on taking steps to ensure that this does not happen.

There are many other ideas that can be worked on the future such as the provision of a wildlife information board.

It is recommended that you include the school children in any of these projects as they will embrace this work with gusto.

Consult the local wildlife ranger for ideas and do remember the creatures of the sea and their link with the village

Litter Control:

Litter control was acceptable but there are a few black spots one particular one as you enter the village at the road edge where broken glass was observed.

The committee is taking the right steps to ensure that all points, of what is a rather expansive area, are covered during the regular litter collections.

The plans to fence around the bottle bank are noted as this area is too open at the moment.

Promotion and awareness programmes with the school will in time have the desired effect, that of making people aware that Cheekpoint is anti litter.

Waste Minimisation:

The initiatives undertaken on foot of comments in last year's report have been noted and you have been awarded an increase in marks as a result.

Do ensure that you follow through with the proposed talk in conjunction with WCC to the local school, in actual fact I would also try to hold a mini briefing for the local community as well.

Question: is the local school in Faithlegg?

As a support mechanism, the Race Against Waste booklet and the website of the same name should be consulted for project idea generation.

Tidiness:

The village is a little untidy but there seems to be an improvement since last year.

To be honest some of the contributory factors to untidiness are outside the control of any voluntary committee such as Tidy Towns.

Weed growth is one area that you have some control over and you seem to have made progress on last year in this respect.

The pier area has already been mentioned in another section, but there are loose fishing items that could be tidied rather than left scattered around the pier.

Residential Areas:

This idyllic and charming coastal fishing village has some very fine private residences that are enhanced by well maintained gardens.

The village core has a row of cottages that are unique to places like Cheekpoint; a few were in the process of refurbishment.

When all the other infrastructural work is completed they will look extremely well as a collective unit.

Hopefully the two little Yorkshire terriers will adorn the wall pier of one of the houses as they did on the day of the adjudication.

The plans for Snow Hill View will further enhance the area and Marian Terrace residents can be proud of the way that they have presented properties.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The entrance points into the village can be a little confusing and some what difficult to negotiate for a first time visitor.

Overall the standard was good and work has been undertaken this year that helps to improve the accessibility. Name signs were clean and visible, which is the basic requirement, verges were treated in accordance with recommended guidelines.

I have already mentioned the general condition of the road surface into and within the village and I now note that you have lobbied the council to improve surfaces.

General Impression:

This was my first visit to Cheekpoint and I was taken with the stunning views from the elevated parts of the village.

The new committee has taken on the job with enthusiasm and with a practical approach to planning ahead for the future.

There have been improvements since last year and this has been reflected in the fairly substantial rise in the overall mark.

You are wished well for the years ahead and let's hope that one has the opportunity to re visit and view the results of your endeavours.