

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Chapeltown**

Ref: **331**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **273**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **22/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	37	37
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	30	33
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	35	35
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	27	28
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	15	17
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	59	59
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	30	31
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	31	33
TOTAL MARK	450	264	273

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Chapeltown is very welcome to the SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition 2017 and thank you for your multi annual Tidy Towns plan, we wish you every success in its implementation, especially the short stretch of footpath which will enhance safety and comfort for pedestrians of all ages. The map provided would have been more helpful if projects achieved for this year's adjudication had been colour-coded, cross referenced to details in the entry form and located on the map; consult the Tidy Towns Handbook for more information if necessary. The committee is a reasonably good size and it is good to note the availability of the three FAS workers; links with Kerry County Council and other bodies are invaluable in achieving the goals of your plan. Perhaps a Facebook page could be considered to help attract more volunteers and to circulate Tidy Towns events and news. It has been a pleasure to have Chapeltown participating in the competition for the past 21 years, we anticipate many more.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

The Valentia Sports Gym and Community Centre looks a bit weather-stained in sections together with its roadside boundary walls, we note plans to improve these. Chapeltown's church (Saints Daroca and Theresa) and the Child Care Centre are very well presented and in fact the church looks quite magnificent having been recently painted both inside and outside; it is excellent to note universal accessibility has been created alongside all the other work, congratulations to all involved in the project, it is a great example of what can be achieved when the community work together. Also looking good is the Lyne Ring premises.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Thank you for details of species of trees planted behind the church, it is good to note that expert advice was sought and given regarding the needs of wildlife. Go easy with the fuchsia as although these provide a lot of nectar for pollinators they are an invasive species and tend to take over natives if given a chance. Container flower displays and flower beds have been admired for their colour and maintenance at number of locations and those on the wall of the sports grounds looked particularly well. Don't forget to plant for colour and interest for all seasons.

Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:

Well done on interpretation panels for wildlife Birds of Prey; we note from your entry steps taken to refurbish this. The Valentia Young Islanders GAA sports grounds clubhouse and boundary walls are all nicely managed, hopefully the car park to the roadside will be resurfaced in the not too distant future. The small amenity feature at the riverside entitled 'An Caol' is charming. It is good to note the high level of awareness of the existence of invasive species along the river banks and information garnered on these; some however, like Japanese Knotweed are seriously

difficult to eradicate and should only be treated by professionals as they spread easily from attempts to treat them. A Flora and Fauna Nature Trail should be created in the future and a leaflet produced for the benefit of walkers.

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:

Well done on the installation of LED lighting in the church, this will save a lot of energy and reduce costs. We note rainwater harvesting in the school; the committee should now expand this community wide and use the water harvested for plants and landscaped areas around Chapelstown. Eventually all of the projects undertaken by the school should be taken up by the committee for the village and savings quantified. Log onto localprevention.ie for ideas on how to go about this and to see what other committees are doing.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control was very good throughout Chapelstown due no doubt to the combined efforts of the school children, householders, Youth Club and more who undertake regular litter picks. Participation in the National Spring Clean is commendable and we note that litter is segregated for recycling. The problem of cigarette ends outside of the pub is shared by many communities throughout the country; it can help if sand containers are placed here and a polite notice both inside and outside of the premises reminding smokers to use the containers for their cigarette ends are installed. Well done on the treatment of the vacant building to its window and door apertures. There are many untidy side areas, incidental areas, curtilage areas and old buildings all of which need remedial action to improve their appearance. Hopefully overhead service cables will be ducted in the near future and timber service poles eliminated from the streetscape.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:

Stonework marking the entrance to Ceol na hAbhann is a handsome feature, the development itself looks well also. Geokaun View is another attractive development, a few roadside boundary walls however need attention. A roadside area to the boundary wall of a dwelling near the sports centre needs refurbishment. The blue gates across from the name stone at the Portmaee entrance was admired. We wish you success in the treatment or redevelopment (reoccupation) of the six vacant premises in Chapelstown.

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:

The entrance to Chapelstown from Knightstown is defined by beautifully managed green verges and landscaping with trees flowers shrubs and seated amenity areas all of which gives an excellent first impression of your community; the same points can be made in respect of the entrance at the Portmagee end of the village. The finger post sign at the river wall needs refurbishment with others and we note your request to Kerry County Council regarding the refurbishment / replacement of signage as necessary. Kerbing along some stretches of footpath are well painted; hopefully by next year's adjudication the 80m stretch of footpath to the school will have been installed.

Concluding Remarks:

Well done on a good start to implementing Chapelstown's three year plan and on work achieved for the church by the community.