

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILCOCK**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17
Landscaping	40	22
The Built Environment	40	23
Litter Control	40	23
Tidiness	20	11
Residential Areas	30	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	165

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your questionnaire was very helpful detailing all the work you have completed to date. There was no map enclosed with the questionnaire which made it difficult in locating the different areas and also in identifying some of the residential areas which had no names visible. As part of the new format for the competition you will need to submit a 3-5 year work programme/plan. This plan should set out clearly your objectives for each year covered. Do not adopt unrealistic objectives; a limited number of targets which are achievable each year is far more likely to yield results.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your work on the clearing up of the canal area is to be commended as this will encourage the wildlife to return to the area. You may like to involve your local environmental experts or groups to assist you in identifying other wildlife habitats in the area and providing you with the specialist information you will require. It was also noted what looked like bee hives in the grounds of Scoil Dara.

LANDSCAPING

The canal amenity area was extremely well presented with the benches clean and the grass areas well cut. Some additional planting of shrubs or flowers would definitely enhance this focal point. The grounds of Scoil Dara and Leaf Ltd., were also well presented. The green amenity area on the opposite side of the bridge to OKeefes Pub did need to have its grass cut and generally tidied. The adjudicator agrees that the town square is badly in need of development and pressure should be continued to be put on the Council to have this done.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Kilcock is slowly regaining its own identity since the by-pass was opened. There are some lovely small business premises in the town such as OKeefes Pub with its old stone frontage. The block containing Gildeas Pharmacy, Denis Enrights/David Powderly and the Blackforest Coffee shop was very well presented. Michaels Barber shop had conveniently utilised an old lamp post and painted it the traditional white and red spiral barbers colour. Hair Craft and the dental surgery had a lovely old stone frontage and was well presented. Kilcock Post Office is neatly tucked into a side area and well presented. There is a small problem in and around the town and this is the number of derelict buildings which take away from the overall appearance.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control in general was okay on the day of inspection. There was quite a lot of cans and litter, however, in the lock gate. Litter bins were well located and well maintained. More emphasis on litter control will reap rewards.

TIDINESS

The centre of Kilcock was relatively tidy but as I stated earlier the derelict buildings do take away from the overall appearance. Weed control on the new road over the motorway was a problem and more spraying by the council would eliminate this problem.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The new housing estate at Courtown Park was nearing completion and residents should be commended for the appearance of their premises. A new stone wall was also under construction at the entrance. Highfield Park was also well presented, however, the estate before it had a lovely green amenity area well kept. Other housing estates including the Sycamores, Pinewoods and Abbeyfields were also well

presented and congratulations to the residents.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads in general were kept well. The problems were with weeds on the approach from Naas at the kerbside and the approach signs needed attention in the approach from Summerhill. The sign on the approach on the opposite side of the canal to the Dublin approach was completely hidden by overgrown bushes. The Dublin approach was by far the best; you might consider to continue to cut the grass verge area for another 100 metres approximately to enhance further this approach. The streets and back areas were all clean and tidy.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Kilcock is developing nicely and you have certainly latched on to your main asset - the canal. Your Committee should be congratulated on all the effort put in this year. Well done and best wishes for the future.