

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KELLS**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 04-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	28
Litter Control	40	27
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	191

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator would like to thank the Committee for a very helpful questionnaire and map. You should be commended on all your hard work over the last 12 months. As part of the new format for the competition you will be required 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. Please remember next year if you are nominating individual premises for awards that photographs must be enclosed.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is potential for greater nature conservation in and around Kells. A good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats of your catchment area and see what species of animal, bird and fish these attract. Why not invite your local environmental experts or groups to get involved and provide you with the specialist information you will require. You may even like to involve the school children on this project.

LANDSCAPING

Your choice of trees, shrubs and flowers and where they have been sited are to be commended. The triangle area in front of St. Colmcilles Villas was very well presented as was the colourful floral bed at the junction with Circular Road spilling out the town name. The junction of Suffolk and Farrell Street was very well presented with a nice selection of shrubs and flowers. The green area at the junction of the Drogheda and Dublin Road was neatly presented with the park benches recently painted. Perhaps some flower tubs might add to the area.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Kells has some very impressive business premises with a fine collection of traditional old frontages. Businesses in and around the town should be congratulated for the presentation of their premises. There was a lovely selection of colourful window and hanging floral baskets dispersed around the town. There is still a problem in relation to old plastic signage and this is centred around the junction at the cross. Your Committee should continue the good work in encouraging premises to have these removed. There are one or two derelict properties in and around the town namely on the Oldcastle approach road which take away from the area. The Kells Bedding Co. building also requires considerable attention, particularly in relation to the debris and rubbish dumped at the front.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control in Kells was quite good on the day of inspection; however it could be better. More attention to this area will be rewarding. Litter bins are plentiful and well located. One area that was very untidy was the area around the recycling bins in the swimming pool car park where bottles, paper and clothes were dumped as the bins appeared full.

TIDINESS

In general Kells appeared tidy on the day of inspection. Weed control on a lot of the approach roads was a problem - more spraying would help to eliminate this problem.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The adjudicator visited all of the residential estates and found the majority to be very well kept. Estates such as Fr. Cullen Park, St Colmcilles Terrace, Rockfield Road and Gardenrath were all well presented. The estate beyond Fr. Cullen Park and beside the bedding company could be improved as the green areas were overgrown. Residents on the approach roads should be congratulated for the presentation of

their premises.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

It is clear that more effort has been put into the presentation of the approach roads. Some of the approach signs are still hidden, the sign on the Dundalk road has graffiti on it. The Drogheda approach road is by far the best. The Dublin approach road is also well kept, the old sign could possibly be removed. The welcome barriers were all clean and tidy and extremely well presented. One problem is in relation to weeds along kerbsides which should be attended to.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Kells is a very historic town and has great potential within the competition. You certainly have made steady progress and will do very well in the future. Well done and good luck.