

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **JOHNSTOWNBRIDGE**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	23	22
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	28	29
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>195</b>

## **Johnstownbridge, Co. Kildare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

There are praiseworthy examples of community and individual effort throughout the village. However a lot of work needs to be done to show the village off to best advantage. A planned approach is recommended. The preparation of a simple achievable Development Plan which would concentrate on the basics e.g. litter, tidiness and which would set the village in an overall development framework should be a priority.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Church and its grounds are a credit to the community. The Citreon Garage is well presented. The school is satisfactory as are most of the other business premises.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The well maintained grass verges on either side of the main street, several with attractive plantings, are an attractive feature of the village. A lot of work has also gone into planting and maintaining a large number of flower beds throughout Johnstownbridge. However, several of these on the Edenderry and Enfield ends of the village are too small to have a real impact. Instead of having two smaller different shaped flower beds at the village name sign on the Enfield approach, a larger flower bed would be more appropriate. Too many flower beds are unnecessary and for a variety of reasons undesirable. This is not intended as a criticism but should be regarded as a pointer for the future.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This is a heading which is still to be addressed. The Blackwater river is an important habitat for a wide variety of aquatic flora and fauna. Mature trees and shrubs, especially of the berried variety, hedgerows, gardens and farmland are also very important. All these elements could be incorporated into a development programme which would help you forge links with the surrounding countryside.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control seems to have disimproved since last year. On the day of inspection a scattering of litter was present in many parts of the village e.g. Local Authority housing scheme, the Hamlet car park and behind the wall on the Donadea road junction. Many of the litter bins need painting.

### **TIDINESS**

The village is reasonably tidy; however greater attention to detail would considerably enhance the tidy appearance of the village, e.g. weeding gravelled and open areas. More regular sweeping of footpaths and gutters would also help.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most of the houses throughout the village are well cared for. Many have attractive and colourful gardens. A number require painting. Others should maintain to a higher standard boundary areas.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The main approaches especially the Edenderry road are well tended. The hedges are well cut and grass margins are satisfactory, e.g. the Donadea road. Long weeds are unsightly at the bridge and on the Enfield approach. Poor surfaces were noted at the entrance to the Local Authority housing scheme and on the Longwood road. The condition of footpaths and kerbing is generally satisfactory.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

A village that is working hard to improve. A planned approach and greater attention to basics will pay dividends.