

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILKEA**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	29
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	187	187

Kilkea, Co. Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Kilkea is a small attractive village that has the potential to do much better in the competition. However, in order to achieve better results you must try and generate a greater sense of community enterprise particularly in maintaining grass verges. A simple development plan which would set out your priorities and which the community could take ownership of would be a good first step.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The castle is a most impressive structure and is what everyone imagines a castle should look like. The small stone church is a fine building in good condition. Kilkea Stores and the gate lodge are stone buildings of character. There are also several attractive stone cottages on the side road leading to the river. The National School is acceptable.

LANDSCAPING

The castle and its grounds, the golf course, etc. are most attractive and is a tourist attraction of major importance. Many of the houses have colourful gardens. The church grounds are satisfactory; however, much more needs to be done to improve the grass verges on the two main approaches to the village. The planting of screening trees is again recommended around the sewage treatment plant. Several flower tubs were noted and these added colour.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As has been mentioned in last years report there is plenty of scope to develop this heading. The mature woods in the vicinity of the village and the trout stream are all excellent habitats and should be incorporated into future plans.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control seems to have improved since last year as on the day of inspection little or no litter was visible. However this may have been due to the fact that few stretches of grass verges had been cut and litter would not be visible in the long grass.

TIDINESS

The village would look much tidier if grass verges were cut and a number of gravelled margins weeded. Most of the buildings look well.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

As has already been said most of the houses are in good condition. The village has a number of fine houses, e.g. behind the Church and on the Castledermot road. There are also several attractive cottages on the side road.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

A priority should be to step up the maintenance of grass verges. Cutting the lengthy grass verges on a regular basis is a big undertaking for a small community. You should perhaps consider only cutting the outside metre, this would also benefit wildlife. However, grass should be cut around the trees planted on the Athy road. Street furniture, e.g. seats in the village, need repair and painting. The village name sign on the Castledermot road should be cleaned. There are also several gravelled open and parking areas that need weeding.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Try and generate a greater sense of community spirit.