

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LEIXLIP**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **F**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	29
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	23	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	17
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	178	174

Leixlip, Co. Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the completed questionnaire and the maps indicating the wildlife areas. They were very useful. Well done ON the work maintaining the town.. It must be difficult to keep the area tidy with such a large number of residents. The plan for 1997-2002 was set out in points and referred to the County Kildare Development Plan where necessary. The Ryevale Lawns Improvement Scheme is most commendable and the adjudicators look forward to its implementation. For your own sake, it might be easier to set out the plan on a year by year basis, setting out tasks that can be achieved and ticked off each year. Liaison with the Local Authority on developments and plans is most important. Good luck.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Intel Estate looks very well and was well planted. The Hitchin post was well painted although there was litter in the carpark and some of the lamps were broken. The Station had some lovely dark purple Buddleia . The house looked well though there were a lot of weeds at the base of the trees in the carpark. The two schools on Green Lane had quite a bit of litter and weedy areas. The hedges needed cutting back in Scoil Mhuire. The Church had some lovely roses and, Ryevale Tavern looks well. The main street had some lovely shop fronts including Da Vinci's and a Solicitor's Office. More hanging baskets could be considered. Ralph Square looks well. There is nice stonework on the main street. There was a lot of litter in the courtyard outside the church. The Salmon Leap Inn is well painted and has some nice hanging baskets. The pharmacy on Old Hill is well presented though the road requires resurfacing. The school at River Forest had a lot of weedy areas. Some of the shop fronts need to consider more traditional signage. Debris should be removed at the Power Transformer station on the Dublin road. The Springfield Hotel sign needs to be replaced. The derelict building on this road is an eyesore. The Firestation is well presented.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping was varied around the town. The estates fared well with some fantastic displays of flowers and shrub planting - well done to all those involved. The shops on the main street and Captains Hill would benefit from a little more colour - one colour /complementary colours make a greater impact than mixed baskets or tubs. Some of the seating needed painting. The use of tagetes/marigolds was prevalent. More permanent or indigenous planting would be better and would benefit the community on a year round basis.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The amenity/green areas are important to the increasing population of Leixlip. Squirrel Wood is highly commendable.

There is huge potential in Leixlip for wildlife. The river valley and canal, and the many green and wooded areas are havens for wildlife. It is essential that these be maintained to balance the increasing amount of new development in Leixlip. St. Catherine's Park beside the Liffey Valley House Hotel is another fine amenity. Identify areas where plants that attract butterflies and insects could be located. Bird Tables could also suitably be included in some of the wooded areas and even bat boxes again in suitable areas.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter bins on Green Lane were full. The shopping area on Green Lane had quite an amount of litter but there was a scattering of litter throughout the whole town which was a pity. More litter bins are required in the housing estates and continued effort is required to educate the townspeople and children about litter.

TIDINESS

It is difficult to keep the centre of the town tidy when there were roadworks going on and delays. The weeds in gutters and the lack of cutting back on the approach roads did not create a tidy appearance. Housing areas were generally the tidiest parts of the town.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Rockingham Park was well kept though some pallet boards and some struggling trees need to be removed. Ryevale Lawns is a large estate and was generally well presented. There are a large number of grassy areas - these need constant cutting back in the summer. Some of the "Slow Drive with Care" signposts need replacing. Cedar Park had some weedy areas. Glendale was well kept and had some nice planting at the front of it. River Forest had a scattering of litter throughout. There were no litterbins in view. Large green expanses are under utilised and dead trees should be removed where required. Avondale had some nice planting up against walls. The two houses beside the Firestation must be congratulated on their floriferous displays.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Grassy areas need to be cut back, hedging should be cut, and weeds must be removed on the Maynooth approach road. Captain's Hill was quite well cut back at the bridge end. Further towards the Parking area seems a bit of a nightmare with long delays and cars parked in non-parking areas. The bridge over the Liffey on the Dublin road requires repainting. The Dublin road required cutting back in areas - however, the gutters appeared quite tidy. The general impression of approach roads was an inconsistency of cutting back.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The town will require more amenities to cope with the increased housing. There was also quite a bit of litter. The estates were generally well kept - well done to those involved.

