

Tidy Towns 1997

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **STRAFFAN**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	24	25
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	26
General Impression	10	6	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>192</b>

## **Straffan, Co. Kildare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

There is a good sense of community in Straffan. The village has many assets particularly its proximity to the River Liffey as well as the K-Club who maintain their approach extremely well. Work in conjunction with all people in the community to draw up a 3-5 year development plan. The village can progress if this is implemented.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The church looks well. McLoughlins is nicely done. A lot of grass, leaves and debris was noted on the pavement beside the Protestant church. Walshe's shop was well kept as is the graveyard. Cobb is very nicely presented.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Some flowers look very bedraggled and require maintenance. One colour, e.g. Lavatera on Barberstown road, or complementary colours make better impact than a variety of colours. The flowers around the centre of the village look well and the tubs are to be commended. The new trees on the new School road look well. Trees must be maintained better and side shoots taken off. Dead/dying trees should be replaced

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The Liffey is a fine amenity and wildlife habitat to have so close. Work should be carried out to ascertain the scope of wildlife that inhabits this area. The K-Club and Lodge Park (Steam Museum and Garden) may consider a joint wildlife project if approached.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was disappointingly a scatter of litter throughout the village on the day of adjudication. There are several well maintained litterbins. A banish litter campaign needs to be initiated. An election poster needed to be taken down

### **TIDINESS**

The lack of grass cutting on the approach roads and the weeds in gutters detracted from the tidiness of Straffan. More attention to detail is required in this area.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The houses are generally of a high standard. Outside areas though do vary with some taking great care and others not. The grass in Coarse Moor Estate needed cutting back. The houses at Lodge Park are well presented.

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

On the Lodge Park road, the 30mph has been repainted but is almost covered up. The grass needs to be cut back. The road is

badly potholed and needs repair. The K-Club road was well kept on one side but the other side needs maintenance. Further out at the river which is an amenity/wildlife area could have been looked after a lot better. The sign for the river Liffey should have been cleaned up more. The pump on the new road to the school is silver - should it not be green? There was also a scattering of litter. There was a very variable approach on the new school road with a lot of weeds in the gutter in some places. The Barberstown road had hedges cut back though grass had not been cut back.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Straffan is a very picturesque village with some lovely stone architecture and a village atmosphere. It has the potential to do well in the competition. Certain elements need to be prioritised if further progression is to be made.