

Tidy Towns 1997

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILMESSAN**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	26	27
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	28
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	198	196

Kilmessan, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your completed application form and map. They were most useful. A 3-5 year plan is still required. It need not be long or complicated. A number of objectives and projects to be achieved each year should be included. Submissions from all the community and schools should be taken into account.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The GAA grounds were well painted and neatly cut back outside. The clubhouse looked well; however, the barrels outside should be removed or repainted. There are some fine stone houses in Kilmessan and the village should be proud of them. The Protestant Church looks well and the grounds are nicely kept - a grey squirrel was spied scurrying away here. The garage has made an effort with planting; could a barrier fence/hedge be erected to detract from the bits and pieces? The District Credit Union looked well and there were nice window boxes on the Community Hall. Sam Maguires Bar, Thorne's Pub and Fergie's Bar all looked well. The walls were being painted on the old National School on the day of adjudication. A new sign was needed at the Station House. Kilmessan House required a coat of paint and the debris beside it required to be removed.

LANDSCAPING

The village looked well landscaped on the day of adjudication. This set off the old stone work very well. Roses on the Trim road are difficult to maintain - perhaps some shrubs could be considered.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river is the main wildlife amenity in the area. This should be developed sensitively and assessed. Use local expertise to determine both the species of fauna and flora that inhabit this area. It will make a valuable amenity. Bird boxes and wooden information signs would also enhance the area. If planting is required it should be native in origin and take into account the requirements of the fauna.

LITTER CONTROL

There was a scattering of litter on the Tara road and in the estate behind the Community Hall. Litterbins were well maintained. However, there were no litterbins in the estate behind the hall.

TIDINESS

The neatly cut approaches and the main street were very tidy. The lack of cutting back at the river area did detract from how the area could look. Generally, a tidy impression though attention to detail is required.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The new beech hedging in front of one house on the Tara road looked well. Bridgeview estate on the Trim road was well maintained though some of the planted areas were weedy. The estate behind the hall was not too bad though the road needs resurfacing. The houses on the main street were exceptionally well maintained especially The Stone Cottage.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Dunsany road had some nice landscaping and there was nice planting in the triangle and at the sign. The Trim road was well cut back, although the old sign requires cleaning. The hedge on the Kiltale road requires cutting. The amenity area/tarred area could be tidied up more though the walk through area was well presented. The area seeking planning permission for houses is still undeveloped, though it was full of wildflowers and show the variety that can be let grown.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Kilmessan is a pleasant rural village that is progressing well. The river area has such potential and the adjudicators look forward to work on this commencing.