

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **STEPASIDE**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	27
The Built Environment	40	30	28
Landscaping	40	34	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	16
Litter Control	40	27	25
Tidiness	20	13	11
Residential Areas	30	21	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	26
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	208	190

Stepaside, County Dublin

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

We were delighted to see the many improvements carried out throughout Stepaside over the past year. The village is looking wonderful and it is a credit to all the community. Thank you for the detailed information submitted, highlighting the great involvement from all sectors of the community, both public and private in making Stepaside a lovely place to live and visit. So many good things have resulted from your development plan and we are looking forward to seeing the revised and updated action plan for the coming years.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The village looked splendid on the day of adjudication. The brightly painted buildings such as The Step Inn and The Post Office were greatly enhanced by the many lovely flower boxes. The lovely landscaping around The Mountain View Pub also greatly enhanced this building. Once again the Garda Station was nicely painted with many beautiful flower boxes. We note the improvements to the Post Office wall following on from our comments last year. Signage throughout the village was excellent and the new granite information panel at the Celtic Cross makes note of the importance of this national monument. We commend your work with Dúchas in this area.

LANDSCAPING

We commend your many initiatives in improving the landscaping of the village. The entrance to Stepaside Park was truly impressive and we look forward to seeing the construction in this estate completed. The landscaping at the street entrance to St. Patrick's Park looked very well for people passing through the village to Enniskerry. The work carried out in the Pound is deserving of particular praise in transforming what was previously an almost derelict area. The flowers planted at the base of Stepaside Hill were in full bloom and added great colour of the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The work carried out around the stream to make it more visible, coupled with the abundance of beautiful wildflowers growing there, are great enhancements to this natural amenity. We would suggest placing a bin discreetly in this area to curb the incidental litter that tends to gather there. The new trees planted last year in this wildlife area are coming along nicely.

LITTER CONTROL

Overall, we noted very little litter in the village and the car parks were also free of rubbish. The litter picking events organised in conjunction with the young community groups is obviously working very well but ensure these efforts are extended to include the approach roads to

Stepaside where some rubbish was to be seen on the day of adjudication. Ensure that the bin in Kilgobbin Burial ground is emptied regularly as it was close to overflowing on the day of adjudication.

TIDINESS

Stepaside is a tidy village throughout but some attention needs to be paid to kerb maintenance, particularly in St. Patrick's Park where the entrance is in need of some work. We would ask for your particular care here as it is clearly visible to passers by. The kerbs at the entrance to Jamestown cottages are also in need of some attention. However the kerbs along the Kilgobbin Road could not be faulted. A good recycling plan also seems to be in operation in your village by Kiltarnan School.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Houses along Stepside Lane looked very well and we commend their efforts. The houses opposite the stream also looked very well. We noted the special landscaping efforts made by the developers in Stepside Park and this residential area blends in well to its environment. Killgobbin Heights was a beautifully presented estate throughout with lovely trees and very good kerb management. We noted the excellent efforts of the keen gardeners in Stepside.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

We noted the reparations to the footpaths along Kilgobbin Road which are welcome. However, the path to Celtic Cross along Kilgobbin Lane needs some maintenance and as this is the access route to an archaeological and historical feature of your village. Flowers at the junction of Burrow Road and the Enniskerry Road look well, as did the flowers at the entrance to Kilgobbin Lane. Signage was very good throughout the village but again be vigilant with litter control along approaching roads.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Overall we found Stepside to be a lovely village which was a pleasure to visit. You obviously have excellent community spirit, which manifests itself in a colourful and tidy village. Well done.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (09/08/99)

Stepaside looked very well on second adjudication also. There is an opportunity for landscaping on the roadside banks to the golf club at the Dundrum end of the village. The roadside wall to Jamestown cottages could be improved by cleaning or painting as could a number of boundary walls at this entrance to the village. The new stone wall to the new residential development looks especially well (Stepaside Park). Roadside landscaping here is tastefully completed also. The small 'Pitch and Putt' structure in the carpark could be cleaned or painted. The new incidental amenity area with seating across from Mountain View car park is a nice touch. Stepside Lane offers the travelling public a wonderful panoramic view of the city and its bay area. Verges

on this road including the stone walls are not well presented. A lot more could be achieved in presentation in this important area of the town. The Step Inn is presented to its usual high standard. Kilgobbin Lawns is quite magnificent in its presentation. Well done on the presentation of the Celtic Cross. This is an important part of the heritage of Stepside and one which should rightly be celebrated. The old burial ground looks well also. Has the committee considered developing a Slí na Sláinte walk? The Burrow road, Stepside Lane, Kilgobbin road and walk would be an excellent route for such a walk. The Council/residential development is also neatly presented, especially in terms of its green areas, however a few boundary walls could be improved. Trees are maturing nicely at the Mountain View House, however the flower display here was a little weak. The Mountain View House itself was well presented.