

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **COILL DUBH**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	21	24
The Built Environment	40	24	20
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	13
Litter Control	40	22	23
Tidiness	20	13	11
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	16	16
General Impression	10	6	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>160</b>

## **Coill Dubh, County Kildare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for the completed entry form. It is a bit light on information and needs better communication for the potential of this village. In particular with this village, there is evidence of some change to the buildings. There is also a need for a strategy to maintain the open landscape areas within the main village courtyard. The marks in this category reflect a drop as there is no three to five year plan but this is easily regained, if not significantly improved, through the provision of such a plan.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The built environment of this village is very cohesive as most of it has been built during a single period of time. The standard of the various terraces reflect an excellent level of care and the choice selection of colours is very sympathetic to the overall space. The colours are appropriate and the quality of the original buildings is of exceptional design value. There is a need for more litter bins to be placed strategically particularly near the entrances to the large space. Some of the litter bins were full and need cleaning out more often. Perhaps the park benches could be repaired. The Credit Union is a simple and very pleasant design with very good finishes. It would be a good idea to see better connection between this facility and the major village and perhaps this can be achieved through landscaping. The entry signs into the town carved with the name Coill Dubh are very pleasant. The Committee must be congratulated on the great pride that all the residents take in being part of this single unified space.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Grass management in the central space is excellent and the plantings of flowers and other ornamental shrubs around the entry points to the houses and some of the side gardens is very good. The landscape spaces along the main road are very well cared for and there is a very good display of various shrubs and heathers opposite the Credit Union. This approach to mass planting is very successfully handled and should be considered in more places along the main road. Perhaps the planting of flowers at the bases of trees in some of the open spaces could be reconsidered as they are more a maintenance issue and though not detractive, they don't add to the overall character.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This is an easy category to consider and should be integrated into both the overall image of the village and events with the school. Perhaps there is a need for more trees replicating the original types or reflecting the species found in the surrounding landscape. This category is best developed and explained under the development

plan.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Essentially this aspect is quite poor and detractive in detail. Though there are no significant amounts of litter they do tell a story. There is a need for a higher level of maintenance.

### **TIDINESS**

The overall space is quite tidy and the large expanses of grass and very attractive side gardens very much describe the care and importance that the village lay out has for all living here.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There is very good restraint in not altering the original designs and not effecting the general layout of the main space. There is some exceptions with small scale plantings in some of the side streets. The individual houses along the main road have very good gardens and match with the high standard of presentation within the village centre.

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

In general all roads are presented to a high standard within the village proper however, the public roads will need more attendance. This is in particular reference to the kerbs. It is understood that there is a cost shared set of improvement works about to commence in the back lanes to the village and this will be of benefit to these areas.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Given the high standard of hurling associated with Coill Dubh, the village also matches a high standard in both design and attendance by the Tidy Town Committee and it is hoped that with the development of a three to five year strategy plan, that it can assist in preserving some of the many charming aspects associated with the original design and allow for the important aspects of this village to be maintained on a long term basis.