

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **JOHNSTOWNBRIDGE**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 18-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	33
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	31	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	30	29
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>200</b>

## **Johnstown Bridge, County Kildare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for the completed entry form. Perhaps it could do with a bit more information in some of the sections. There is a need for a more detailed submission of the three to five year development plan as this makes the adjudication process easier and also allows specific targeting of tasks that have been carried out in a specific year. The drop in marks is a reflection of not having received such a plan and it is hoped that one will be prepared for next year as this drop is seen as only temporary.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The extent of built environment within this village is quite small and the central portion of the main street contains most of the buildings. In general there is a need for reviving the colour of the elevations facing the main street as the centre of the village is quite bare and has few features and does not match with the entry sequence or the method of planting. The Maxol station has integrated its plantings to match with other areas in the village which reinforces this desire to have a sense of unity and a strong theme running through the village. The church has a very good colour scheme and the setting is very pleasant.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There is a very strong entry sequence to the town given the good run of unified colours in the planting beds and good detail given to the painting of the planter bases. The floral displays are very effective. The efforts that the village invests into the very high maintenance plan for the landscapes is very effective. However, there are no long term benefits being gained from this approach. There should be more planting of trees as the main street really does require this type of enclosure to increase the scale of the village setting.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This aspect is not described in the entry form and is an important category within the overall competition. More consideration should be given to this aspect and how perhaps further plantings may aid in developing this category.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control is very good throughout the village. However,

there are very few sources to generate it. It is very effective management through the use of all the litter bins and in general this keeps the village very litter free.

## **TIDINESS**

Overall the village is quite tidy, particularly where the grass kerbs and floral plantings form part of the overall setting. However, the roads are quite large scale through the village and as such if there is loose gravel or undefined edges this does reduce the sense of order. Perhaps its in this issue of order that the village should examine how it should present itself and if it is possible to seek more street trees.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Residential areas at the centre of the village, are very clean and litter free and very important from the point of view of contributing to the character of the main street. Perhaps the small estate could make better efforts on the entry area into the housing area.

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

In general road surfaces are very good and entries very well demarked. Perhaps the roadside kerb beside the Hamlet Pub requires replacement at the gully as this will become quite damaged if the repair does not occur soon. The high level of maintenance given to all the roadside grassed areas is very effective in unifying the whole village and all involved must be complimented.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The main street essentially has no beginning or end except where the grass management is very thorough. The village needs to strengthen its presentation with structural planting and possibly re-examine the management plan towards landscape, which is very intensive in maintenance and provides very strong colour in the summer months. However, it is in the winter months where other issues must be dealt with. On a last note, the national school was very clean as it was only recently painted. However, the finishing of the painting job was rather poor as a lot of spray paint ended up on the stone plaques and this really should be cleaned off. It is noted that, the planting of ivies on the side wall would be an effective long term investment.