

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **FRESHFORD**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	28	26
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	8	7
TOTAL MARK	300	207	198

Freshford, County Kilkenny

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

This is a delightful town to visit with the splendid tree lined green in a very unusual format. There are lots of interesting proposals in your submission and hopefully all of these will come to fruition. Time is moving on and the millennium park would need to set underway at this stage.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Again the greens support a very fine square of buildings and the standard of presentation is very high. The cobble stone guttering on part of the green is very attractively done. The two churches are well presented and their positions enhance the overall structure of the square. The lighting is most effective and the underground cabling is so welcome. Derelict buildings must be tackled promptly. Shops and business premise are making good strides to feature well. The fire station and the old cinema look a little tired. The site close to the fire station is less than satisfactory. The many bridges are a good asset. The stone bridge on the main street is rather high and difficult to see over. By lowering the level of this bridge a lovely view of the river would be possible and in doing so some stone would be provided for another project. Perhaps this could form a FAS project. The nicely named hospital and Princes Bridges are nicely set.

LANDSCAPING

The outstanding landscape feature of Freshford is the green. This is such a valuable asset. No embellishment is needed and this confirms the beauty of the simple formula of trees and well maintained grass. As stated the landscaping feature around the hospital bridge is attractive . The stream by the church also has possibilities as well as the planned water features, making maximum use of the river should be a priority. The landscaping at Woodview is very attractive especially at the entrance. The premises opposite this estate are well-painted but at one end some attention to the buildings is needed to alleviate the rundown appearance. Individual gardens contribute significantly to the overall landscape of the town. The gardens and well painted walls and railings out the Honey Clover road are particularly well cared for. Many homes and business premises display very well planted containers and these are adding a welcome seasonal colour.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river offers interesting opportunities in this regard and it is understood there is a project which will improve this section. This is looked forward to eagerly.

LITTER CONTROL

There is a very good litter control system in place. Some litter was noticed but this is inevitable as it is in every place in Ireland until people's attitudes change in relation to litter.

TIDINESS

A very tidy appearance especially at the greens. Some dereliction as already stated needs attention.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There is a good standard in Freshford of residential properties. These have been mentioned in various respects above. The Woodview especially is well cared for. ArdLackin is also well tended. And the house with the wooden gates makes a nice feature

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Generally the roads are in good condition. At the road edges some attention is needed in places.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Freshford is a town with many assets. The green has been used to perfection. Now it is time to bring the other attributes especially the river up to standard. With the proposals planned, the future is bright for Freshford