

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	28	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	24	25
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	202	201

Kilmessan, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Kilmessan has several attractive features, e.g. the layout of the village with its framework of mature trees as well as the type and scale of buildings. The clear and well laid out map was helpful to the adjudicator. The preparation of a development plan setting out your objectives would help focus community attention on areas requiring attention. A plan would also be of assistance in your discussions with State agencies regarding future developments.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The stone walls and buildings add greatly to the charm of the village. Many of the premises are well presented including the Credit Union and the Village B & B, Maguires is colourfully painted. The Churches are attractive buildings, however, the Presbytery house is drab. Several buildings need attention especially the disused garage, the factory and the Kilmessan House Pub.

LANDSCAPING

The many mature trees add enormously to the appeal of the village. Shrubberies and planted containers in the village, at the Credit Union near the Church of Ireland and on the Dunshaughlin road etc. also contribute significantly. The new tall stone planter in the village is an interesting feature.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Skane river is an important habitat for a wide variety of flora and fauna and should be a significant feature in any development plan you prepare. Planted gardens, mature trees especially native species and berried shrubs etc. all help support birds and insects.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control continues to be a problem and must be improved. Litter was present on the Main Street, the car-park at Church and School and at the amenity area at the bridge on the Trim Road.

TIDINESS

The appearance of the village would be considerably improved with better litter control. More regular sweeping of street gutters would help as would better weed control in gravelled margins.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many of the houses throughout the village are well presented. The standard of presentation at Bridge View Estate again stands out. The amenity area at the houses on the Trim side of the Bridge needs upgrading, the walls should be painted and the gravelled area need weeding. Several boundary walls require painting and landscaping has to be completed at the new housing development.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Verges on all the approach roads are well tended with attractive planting e.g. Dunshaughlin road. The neatly trimmed grass and maturing trees are a praiseworthy feature especially on the approach to the bridge, at the Station House Hotel. The car-parking at the Church/School has been landscaped. However several weedy gravelled margins need attention, e.g. on the approaches to the Church of Ireland and disused Factory.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Kilmessan can do even better - prepare a plan. Pay more attention to the basics, e.g. litter and weeding.