

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILDAVIN**
County : **CARLOW**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	34
The Built Environment	40	26	24
Landscaping	40	25	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	18	16
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	183	177

Kildavin, County Carlow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning your application form, photographs and map. It is good to see that you have established links with the local authority, ESB, Eircom and the local school. They have valuable advice and expertise to give in your ongoing work. There is a good strong committee and this helps the community to come on board with you in carrying out the various tasks. The new by-pass road is a positive development for the village as it frees it from the daily grind of heavy traffic.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As indicated in last year's report, the presentation of the buildings in a small village is very important. The school was presented very well as were the churches. One of the churches needs painting, as there is evidence of staining on the walls. The pub looks very attractive and all areas of it are well presented. The Community Hall has been painted but the grounds need attention. The weeds have been sprayed but would need to be removed and the relevant areas resurfaced. Perhaps the committee also might look at some suitable tree planting for here. The pump is a very nice feature and had some lovely plant containers. What about the possibility of sowing some creepers on the ball alley walls. There is ivy growing on one wall and it should improve its appearance. The committee did an excellent job in taking on the restoration of the weighbridge and you must be congratulated on tackling this. It was not an easy task but it will be of benefit to the whole community when completed. No doubt you have plans to put back the slates and paint the doors. You also indicated that a picnic area will be included which will be a delight for the community and visitors to your village.

LANDSCAPING

The trees at the graveyard area are maturing nicely and it is kept very neat and tidy. Some landscaping is needed at the base of the wall at one side. The open green spaces on both sides near the flyover are areas of great scope for the planting of more trees and perhaps creating a park area. The committee could consider developing this over the next couple of years. Talk to the local authority who will be glad to give any help and advice with these two areas. The trees planted already are doing well, with the exception of one or two. There is some very nice planting of shrubs by the ball alley and also by the school and both are weed free. Again, the corner across from the shop has a very nice selection of plants and shrubs under the information board on the South Leinster Way.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Perhaps the open green spaces, as already mentioned, near the flyover, would be ideal for the development of a wildlife amenity. As a Tidy Towns Committee you have an important role to play in enhancing and increasing the wildlife value of your community and this should be included in your plans over the next few years. With some careful planning even the smallest areas can be improved and it can be surprising to see the array of birds, insects and vegetation which can be found in these areas. Try and source someone in your community who has an expertise in this area. They will be glad to give whatever help and advice they can. Also, additional advice is available from the Conservation Volunteers of Ireland who have a very useful leaflet.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control, overall, is very good. The anti-litter measures undertaken appear to be working. The new litter bins are welcomed and it is also noted that you have a Litter Action Plan in place. Very small amounts were observed in the open green spaces by the flyover and an odd piece near the Hall. Well done to all concerned for bringing about an improvement in this area.

TIDINESS

There was an absence of fly-posting and graffiti throughout. The control of weeds at kerbs needs more careful attention. Individual householders should be encouraged to control weed growth at kerbs, and at the base of buildings on a co-ordinated basis. As indicated already, the open green spaces need to be tidied up, as does the area near the graveyard.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The overall presentation of houses is very good. All householders play a very important part in helping to present the village at its best. Some entrance gates need to be painted. The area around the shed had some nettles and weeds growing there and it does need to be cleaned up. The housing estate properties were presented very well overall. The open green space was neat and tidy.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads were well maintained but some of the signs need to be cleaned and painted, especially the 30mph signs. Other signs were in very good condition. Perhaps the stone wall opposite the hall could be cleaned and the weeds removed at the base. There is a large pole left lying

there and the owners should be asked to remove it.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your village has the potential to do well in this competition. You have a hardworking, enthusiastic committee and the support of the community. This will no doubt help you to carry out all the tasks identified and which need to be done to make further progress in the competition. You are moving in the right direction and do keep up the good work. Well done to all.