

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CELBRIDGE**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **F**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	39
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	25	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	204	200

Celbridge, County Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your application and for your very good and achievable development plan. It shows a great deal of community spirit. Celbridge is similar to many towns on the outskirts of Dublin. It is trying to retain its individuality and village atmosphere while trying to cater for an increasing number of residential estates and commuters. The traffic is another problem and management of this is essential. The adjudicator looks forward to the completion of the urban renewal plan next year. Many thanks for the newspaper cuttings and the extensive coverage that you got for the Tidy estates and the 'new machine' which looks very efficient (and great fun observed by the photos) particularly for dry periods during the summer.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There was variety in the standard of presentation of buildings throughout Celbridge. The trees beside St. Wolstans are maturing well. The graveyard was also well kept. The grotto at the corner of the Timahoe road was wonderfully floriferous. Scoil na Maintreach was untidy though and required weeding. The barriers also required attention though here was some nice planting beside it. The Abbey and the carpark were presented to a very high standard. This is a wonderful amenity to have in the town. It was noted that a number of exterior walls did require painting though due to the high numbers of vehicles passing they must be difficult to keep clean. The Shopping Centre on the Maynooth road could be tidied up – there was quite an amount of litter here. The Celbridge Inn had some nice baskets. Tesco Shopping Centre was reasonable. The Garda Station looked well and General Paints is a fine stone building. It is good to see such buildings in use rather than abandoned for a modern place. Some red plants in boxes or baskets would set the stone off well. The Church on the Main Street had made fine use of climbing plants – well done. A number of shops/ outlets were well presented and these included Celbridge Carpet and Flooring Centre, Michaelangelos, Celbridge District Credit Union, Walsh's Pharmacy, O' Connors bar with its fine baskets, The Mucky Duck, Stuarts, Londis with fine baskets and The Abbey Lodge. The Funeral Home in the former church is a nice touch. Beaufort Medical Centre was well presented and well painted. A nice feature of the Main Street was the Tidy Towns Noticeboard that had a wealth of information on it – well done.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping was most noticeable in the residential estates,

on the approach roads and also the use of baskets throughout the main street. Estates have really made an effort and in many cases the planting was permanent hence giving year round structure and presentation. There was a nice stand of poppies on the Straffan road. Celbridge Abbey and the grotto closeby certainly made an impact in their landscaping.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The setting of the town on the Liffey as well as the numerous habitats in Celbridge Abbey allow a great variety for the purposes of awareness and education. The nature trail in Celbridge Abbey is an excellent idea and the other events which also occur in the Abbey help to bring people closer to their natural surroundings.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was generally good on the day of adjudication and the bins in the centre of the village looked well. However, bins are still needed in many of the residential estates. They are an essential part of a housing estate particularly if there are shops in the vicinity. Bins should be located at the location in the time it takes to buy a chocolate/sweetbar/icecream, walk slowly and unwrap it - so about 100 metres from the shop itself would suffice. There was quite an amount of litter at small shopping centre further out the Maynooth road.

TIDINESS

The town was reasonably tidy though it varied according to whether grass had been kept well or not. Residential estates were quite good under this section though there were some (such as Crodan Forest) that were weedy particularly in the centre /back of the estate.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many of the residential estates were well presented and presented. These include Killadoon, Abbey Farm, Celbridge Abbey and Simmonstown (who seemed to be host to some type of an event). Oldtown Mill which is a very new estate had new road and bicycle lane leading out from it. Crodan Forest was good at the entrance though deteriorated at one went into the centre of it. Castletown Village was quite weedy along the boundary hedge, there was some litter and trees needed to be replaced in some places as they seemed to be dying/dead. Thornhill had some nice beds at its entrance and Beatty Grove used climbers most effectively. The estate accessed through Castletown estate was overall good in presentation and well kept – well done to all residents involved in keeping up the estates. Weeds around the bases of trees should be removed in some cases. There were some fine cottage gardens on the Timahoe road and well kept houses too.

Houses along the Hazelhatch and Dublin road were more private and looked well from the road in most cases with well-kept gardens and entrances.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The sign for Celbridge on the Straffan approach road was marginally obscured by grass. Further into the town the margins are well cut back and the stands of wild daisies looked very well. The Hazelhatch road was fine. Each house has a responsibility to keep its grass outside neat and tidy and this did vary from place to place. It was weedy along the pavement in places on this road. The Ardclough road has a short lead in though there was some nice planting. The Maynooth and Dublin road were fine – the trees on the Dublin road will look well as they mature.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Celbridge is succeeding in its efforts to provide a town with the original village atmosphere. A consistent drive is required to eradicate litter totally. A co-ordinated planting scheme for the central part of the town would also help to link it together. Well done on the work completed in the past year and good luck with your future work.