

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	31	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	29	30
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	202	201

Johnstownbridge, County Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the application, clear map and comments regarding the development plan. As the result of the planning permission will have an impact on the village the adjudicator understand your situation, however is it not better to be ready with your views and thoughts on the development of your village so that you can put these forward to those who are in state organisations and also those who intend to develop the areas concerned. A plan will clarify and focus your attention. The outcome of the planning applications can then be incorporated into the document as results evolve. In whatever way possible try and make sure that the new developments integrate well into the village and that native trees and planting is used in the landscaping. It was noted that there was no sign to Johnstownbridge at Enfield . This is surely required for such a pretty village.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Hamlet pub had been newly painted and both the church and school looked well though the church will need its front wall painted soon. The EHB Centre was reasonable. O'Neills was fine – flowers baskets would enhance it further. There was also a lot of merchandise displayed outside – would it be possible for some of this to be put around the side and out of pedestrian's way. The front sign for the VG Market looked out of place in such a pretty rural village. The building and rusty corrugated tin roof in the centre of the village required attention.

LANDSCAPING

The adjudicator would strongly advise the use of one or two colour plants when landscaping the village. At the monument there is a riot of colour and due to the variety, the planting lacks uniformity. There area lot of beds to weed and maintain. You should consider the use of more permanent planting in places that would add to the overall structure of the village on a year round basis. The pump in the main street also required a coat of paint.

The pump on the Edenderry road also required attention. The climbers on the wall of the school looked well.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is a section that is often forgotten or ignored in Tidy Towns and also a section under which valuable marks can be gained. Due to the rural nature of the village there are a

myriad of habitats that could be considered such as hedgerow, field and woodland areas. Bog is also not too far away. In conjunction with the school, a survey should be carried out to ascertain the importance of these habitats in the local area.

LITTER CONTROL

For a village of such size, litter should be eradicated totally. There was however some litter on the Edenderry road and also in the small residential estate. Litterbins need to be maintained properly.

TIDINESS

The village was reasonably tidy as the roads were neat and tidy. The litter and the missing sign in the estate did not leave a tidy appearance in this part of the village.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses on the Edenderry approach were well presented. There was a lovely white wash cottage opposite the Longwood turnoff. The small estate had its name sign missing, there was some litter too and the bin (type of) was full. However some of the residents had made a good effort and one of the houses had nice pink roses over its' gate and there were two purple coloured hanging baskets in another house.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Edenderry approach was neat and tidy. The stone wall looked well and the grass was well cut. Further out the Aubrieta must look very well when flowering earlier in the year. There is a nice old sign on the Edenderry approach - do keep it clean though.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Johnstownbridge is a lovely village and work is evident this year. The landscaping is tremendous though look at how you could provide year round structure and colour as well as reducing maintenance. This will leave additional time for other work. The adjudicator would suggest an outline plan which will set out your thoughts for the village despite the developments – best of luck with your work.