

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILLESHANDRA**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	27
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	22	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	172	168

Killeshandra, Co.Cavan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The Tidy Towns Committee has prepared a very detailed list of works carried out during the past year. Great strides have been made. The co-operation you have received from the various statutory bodies and local voluntary groups within the town is producing some very fine results. It is recommended that you produce a three to five year plan phased on an annual programme of work each year. This will provide a better sense of progression and continuity of accomplishment.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Killeshandra has a certain difficulty with its layout on either side of the crest of a hill. The sky line is broken by heavy public lighting and its streetscape somewhat disjointed. Road traffic creates a problem in both heavy goods vehicles and disorganised road side parking. The ESB and telegraph poles dominate and there are no tree plantations along the street to provide screening.

The main street is a mixture of refurbished and traditional frontages. Most of these are in scale and reflect a healthy level of renewal which is taking place. The Garda Station, located at the Arva road junction, is attractively presented with a fine display of roses and flowers. The Church and grounds are clean and tidy with well kept lawns dressed with shrubs. On the opposite side, the car park is litter free but there is a little hard surface debris piled in one corner. In adjacent Old Killeshandra National school the lawns, and playgrounds are well presented.

The graveyard is very tastefully presented with a fine feature of colourful roses climbing a ruin at its centre. The GAA grounds is fronted by a good cut stone wall which runs from the 30 mph sign to the ground entrance. The tree lined car park in front of the grounds is well presented although the temporary structure beside the grassed children's play area should be screened. Fire station is cleanly presented but with no floral display. The Statoil Station is cleanly presented with a wall of flowers to its forecourt back wall. Within the Church of Ireland property are the interesting looking Arthur Martin Memorial Hall and the Church building, both cleanly presented with good walls surrounding the gardens. The Killeshandra National School (1978) is cleanly presented with car park to front and renovated walls surrounding grass play area to rear. Jo Stuart's has a wonderful old shop front which is showing some signs of timber stress and should be refurbished including the addition of a traditional fascia. The Killeshandra Resource Centre is very nicely presented with cobbled car park fronted by colourful planters and seats. The modern grey stone building is set back from the road and has a small amount of construction work ongoing. The seats to front and at car park entrance need painting. The Belturbet and Ballyconnell junction marks the end of the shopping area which gives way to the large and generally unattractive creamery buildings. Good to see the redevelopment of the old premises on the corner as

an electrical shop. The use of plastic shop front signs should be discouraged.

Restoration work is ongoing at old burial ground and Jacobean church. This promises to be a superb restoration.

LANDSCAPING

There is a concentration of hanging baskets and footpath floral displays along a section of the main street from the very well presented Post Office up to the Fragrant Flowers premises. The main street floral displays tend to be incidental outbreaks and not continuous which hinders their impact. The colourful hanging basket flower display at the Arva/Cavan corner is quite attractive. At the right side of the Cavan road at the bottom of the main street is a very fine floral display in front of two old gates. To the left are mature gardens and houses with hanging baskets. Marennella House has a riot of colourful floral display with shrubs extending over its road side wall. The entrance to Killeshandra from the Belturbet side could be improved. The town is introduced by a sign set in overgrown weed. Some of the houses at the town entrance have colourful gardens and on the roadway flower planters and hanging flowers. The yard railing and metal gates should be screened. On the Ballyconnell entrance the ESB transformer station has cut hedges, grass areas and planters of flowers. The little Presbyterian Church looked neat and tidy with its new wall and car park surfacing. The 30mph sign on right is completely overgrown.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The local interpretative map is well displayed in panels standing above flower planter at the Resource Centre complex. The entrance to the Strand is nicely presented with plant beds on either side. The approach from the town is marred by the dry filling site redevelopment etc. It appears plans for additional plant beds are in hand as there were untidy deposits of rock and stone awaiting placement etc. The fishing stands are suitable for disabled use as is the hard surfaced walk from the lake front to the Coilte. The entrance to Coilte has been completed with a new timber stile which it is presumed is disabled friendly. Generally the Strand looked a little untidy which presumably is due to the on-going building works.

LITTER CONTROL

There is a good supply of litter bins and generally very little litter was evident on day of adjudication.

TIDINESS

Killeshandra has some dilapidation problems which must be addressed. The house to the left side of the Garda Station is falling into disrepair and has boarded windows. The Old 1870 Killeshandra National School is also suffering while the old post office, potentially a priceless contributor to the streetscape seems to be lost as does the building between Gilsenan's and Hayes's Lounge. The premises adjacent to Dickie's pub has also gone into dereliction. The open areas to the left of the school building and above the Statoil garage are overgrown but due for development. The entrance from the Ballyconnell Road is somewhat industrialised and is subject to the effects of building demolition works.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The residential housing around Killeshandra is generally of good quality. Mostly bungalows and two storey detached houses. Lawns and gardens are well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Cavan approach has the Killeshandra town sign set in an attractive rockery with a small plant beneath. The grass margin has been cut and on the bank above, a series of hedgerows and trees. To the right is a cut grass amenity with seats which connects to a small car park overlooking the lake. This amenity is cleanly presented. At the right hand bend there is a white fence which gives good definition to the entrance road. Verge to left is trimmed. There is no town sign on the Arva entrance. The car park in front of the community hall and library houses the recycling units. This area could be improved with suitable screening. There is a phone box outside the old post office nicely flanked with a flower box. Footpaths are of various finish but with little concession for disabled use. The footpath along the Arva Road which links the school to the town is in good condition although the road surface is not of good standard. The cut area of margin to the right is suffering an amount of traffic damage. Opposite the GAA entrance is the new replacement wall and stile now completed by FAS. The Carrigallen approach is pleasant with well developed footpath running along the road which overlooks Town Lake.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Much has been accomplished by your committee during a time of considerable change. Killeshandra holds excellent potential. Keep up the good work!