

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILWORTH**
County : **CORK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	36
The Built Environment	40	30	28
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	18
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	227	218

Kilworth, Co.Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your extremely thorough work programme and very clear map, both of which were of interest and a great help on the day. There is obviously great interest in the village in its local heritage and history – a factor in which Kilworth is obviously extremely rich. Your plans in the work programme in relation to renewal of footpaths, reduced rate paint to encourage participation in the painting scheme for the village, and the restoration of old historic paths along St. Anthony's Road and the Coach Road to create Slí na Sláinte routes are all highly commendable. Kilworth's Muintir Community Council is obviously a hard working and extremely interested one.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Garda Station is a charming building but should be painted up before next year's competition as indeed should the quaint Catholic Church. The national school and grounds were quite well maintained although the gates to the GAA grounds should be painted up as they appeared quite rusty. In terms of commercial premises Spar was quite fresh as was Ger O'Sullivan's Hairdressers and the adjacent M. O'Brien's. The charming 1930's garage looks quite quaint and should be painted up and restored to its former glory. The early Georgian house with the fanlight, which you mentioned in your application, is in bad condition, as are the adjacent railings both of which should be restored. The restoration of the old church on the village green to Kilworth Art Centre, was a marvelous achievement, particularly in relation to the restoration of its spire. The adjacent Market House was also admired. Do resist the temptation to remove plasterwork from buildings to reveal the stone below, as this is not recommended by Dúchas. Vernacular buildings were designed to be rendered and removal of plasterwork, as well as being conservationally incorrect can lead to problems with water penetration.

LANDSCAPING

This is an area in which Kilworth obviously excels. The picnic area on the Glanworth Road with its lay-by and planted bed filled with roses, looked as well maintained, as ever as did the green space closer to the village at the crossroads. An attractive green space by the milestone near the village center was also admired, although its bench was in need of some attention.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The owl and hawk sanctuary behind the village square should be a fine asset for the village. The restoration of the Slí na Sláinte routes in the village environs will be of great benefit to

both local and visitor alike. Your plans for tree planting this year and next, along Main Street leading from the square will be of great benefit in terms of wildlife for future generations.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day was quite good, although some litter on the Ballyporeen Road was apparent and had obviously been there for some while.

TIDINESS

You have identified in your application form, problems in relation to dereliction. Some derelict cottages towards the center of the village, which had obviously been painted in years gone by, looked quite neglected and were quite overgrown. In the village center some more dereliction was apparent. An old cottage on the Lismore Road and a two-storey house on the Ballyporeen Road were also in need of a great deal of attention. Weed control was a problem on the day. Some weeds were apparent to the base of the stone wall and curb opposite on the Glanworth Road. Weeds were also apparent on the Lismore Road where they had been sprayed but not removed. Weeds were also apparent to the gravel courtyard area of the sports complex.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Houses in both the village center and along approach roads were well maintained, with residents showing obvious pride in their properties! The attractive houses on the Lismore Road were admired, in particular one sporting a magnificent garden filled with poppies, valerian, white irises and topiary! Estates such as that at Brennan Place were well maintained and terraced houses in the village center were well maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The standard in this category of the competition was quite good. The Mitchelstown Road is an attractive approach, with its stone walling to one side and recently planted hedging to the other. Stone walling was also admired on the Lismore Road, presumably the wealth of stone walling in the village is due to the famine wall you mentioned in your application. The standard on the Ballyporeen Road could have been better – the grass verges were fine but a lot of litter was apparent. In terms of signage, village name plates should be painted up before next year's competition. In relation to street furniture, benches in some locations were in need of attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Kilworth is an attractive village with a wealth of history and heritage. Residents show obvious pride in its ongoing maintenance.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/01)

The approach from the N8 was particularly admired for its stone walls, hedging and neat grass verges, also the picnic

area despite the rusty gate. The good road surfacing and clearly painted markings created a consistent surface throughout the village which unfortunately is lacking in so many centres. The numerous well presented properties, both commercial and private as well as the public buildings strongly contrast with the neglected and derelict areas of which you are well aware. Commendably, virtually no litter was to be seen. Once again your submission accompanying the application was extremely useful during adjudication. We wish you well with your future endeavours.