

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **JOHNSTOWN**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	33	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	25	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	230	230

Johnstown, Co. Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Johnstown is very welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for the additional note regarding the planning of new projects for the immediate future. The difficulties are very well appreciated by the adjudicator; with so much construction work on-going it is difficult to hold onto existing standards and if you can do this for the next year or two whilst building work is in process, then you will have achieved something very worthwhile. Don't lose heart with things as they are at the moment and continue to enter the competition each year, until you are in a position again to plan for the future.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both the Peacock premises and the adjoining Kildare Kitchen Ltd. are exceptionally well presented. The Peacock itself is being considered for the Best Shopfront Award. As noted, in previous reports, some buildings near the Johnstown Inn are in need of refurbishment. However this hardly needs to be reiterated. The property adjacent to the Johnstown Inn with the attractive window features is much admired and it is hoped that these features will be retained upon refurbishment. The majority of buildings within the village are, of course, residential properties and these are discussed below. The Garden Centre, as usual, is presented to a high standard and is a great attraction.

LANDSCAPING

Flower displays were coming into their own on the day of adjudication and looked colourful. Stands of mature trees are quite magnificent and younger trees have established themselves well as have shrubberies.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Thank you for the information regarding the banks of the river being left uncut to encourage insect life due to this being a trout spawning river. The small riverside amenity area beside the Garden Centre is delightful.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was quite good. It was a little weak around the Garden Centre, probably because of the number of people visiting here. Keep us informed of your litter control activities as you can gain marks for this information also. Well done with the two extra bins being provided this year.

TIDINESS

The derelict cottage at the end of the cul-de-sac is a problem under this heading. Are there plans for its future development that you are aware of? If so, include the

information in next year's submission.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The charming terraces of single storey dwellings are a visual treat and are complemented beautifully by other residential properties, (both single storey and two storey in the village centre). We note the development of new housing estates in the village and, as noted above, we commiserate with you on the difficulties posed by this whilst work is in progress. We look forward to their completion as much as you do and sincerely hope that these developments will add a new dimension, not only to the built environment, but to the social life of the community also. The presentation of Johnstown Manor is excellent in all respects and young trees recently planted here seem to be establishing themselves well. It also seems to be a safe play area for children. The older housing estate looks well. The Furness Manor development is equally well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Many stretches of roads are either badly potholed or roadside edges are in very bad condition. Allowances have of course been made for work in progress due to the amount of construction work. The small traffic island at the junction of the Punchestown and Westown Farm roads should be landscaped eventually. Some of the older litter bins could be refurbished together with some roadsigns.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Johnstown is a lovely village which is always enjoyable to visit for pleasure or for work. Well done on maintaining standards under such conditions.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (03/08/01)

Johnstown has managed to retain a true village style despite the huge increase in housing and the proximity to the busy road. The major construction work continues to cause disruption, this will be completed and is only a temporary situation. The road surfaces and ill-defined footpaths hopefully will be remedied soon and the underground ducting of cables would be welcome. The village looks very colourful in late summer. Litter accumulation between the garden centre and the bus shelter is disappointing, particularly the litter by the access point to the river. Some cleaning is required on the signs indicating the "Furness" Church and the other signs with this.