

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILCOCK**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	26	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	19
Litter Control	40	27	25
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	193	180

Kilcock, Co. Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Kilcock is welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. The quality of life is so much better in the village now that the by-pass is in existence. It is good to note that the Tidy Towns committee is working with the canal harbour committee, this is now a pleasant amenity area of a high standard. Is there a development plan for Kilcock? We have not received one this year. It is difficult to progress in the competition without one. It does not have to be prepared by a professional, a simple one or two page plan will suffice.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The village centre, particularly around the Square should have a greater pedestrian focus. The area is congested with car parking and is not visually pleasing. The Square itself is underdeveloped. We wish you success in your discussions with the County Council on redeveloping the Square. The Upper Deck is a fine new development facing onto the canal. Buildings in Kilcock are well presented in general. Dara Scoil looks particularly well.

LANDSCAPING

The mature trees marking the entrance to the convent are stately and gracious in appearance. The one hundred or more trees planted this year will eventually make a comparable visual impact at maturity. Landscaping at the green at the canal harbour is beautiful. The 'Fair Green' initiative is admirable.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The canal is of course an important wildlife habitat. Mature trees also fulfil this function (amongst others). It is good to note your replenishing of stocks of wildlife on the canal. Do you undertake any activities to promote a greater awareness of wildlife and threats/dangers due to development and litter? Is there a wildlife/nature trail?

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is very good. Your frequent street sweeping together with the activities of the litter warden is showing results. Visits to the school by the litter warden is a good idea.

TIDINESS

Well done on your activities to date to deal with the problem of derelict buildings. Do not lose heart the problem is still with you, it will be resolved. Untidy underdeveloped yards to commercial premises should be screened

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Promoting the ideals and objectives of the Tidy Towns Competition/Committee to developers before and during the construction stage is such a good idea, congratulations. Infill development sits nicely with its neighbours. Mill Lane and Church Lane were admired, as was the stand of mature trees at Abbeyfield. Pine Wood is nicely presented also.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The stonework of the bridge over the motorway is a handsome feature of this entrance to Kilcock and the roundabout is beautifully presented also. Some road signs need refurbishing. Car parking is neat and orderly along the main street but less so at the village square. Hopefully the County Council will be in a position soon to have service cables ducted to give a wirescape free aspect to the centre of Kilcock.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Whilst the village has an overall tidy appearance, congestion at the Square and a lack of a pedestrian focus takes from an otherwise good presentation.