

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILCULLEN**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41	40
The Built Environment	40	28	26
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	22
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	28
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>209</b>

## **Kilcullen, Co. Kildare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Kilcullen is welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. Kilcullen is a lovely old town built on both sides of the River Liffey and is blessed with the river banks and associated flora and fauna which this great river has to offer. It is good to note that the committee is aware of the challenge to the town by its unprecedented growth. You note in your submission that one thousand new houses are now being planned or under actual construction in a village of about five hundred houses. You are right in your conclusions that this is an important issue of concern and establishing a sub-committee dealing with this issue is a good strategic move to deal with traffic, parking, footpaths, improvements to the bridge and other facilities such as greens, etc. We admire your proactive response and in your efforts to establish good working relationship with officials of Kildare County Council and with each developer to look at the impact of each development under various headings. It is good to note that there is a street plan for Kilcullen, even if it has not yet been implemented. Your plans under various headings such as landscaping, wildlife, recycling, litter control and heritage have been noted as well as other activities and we wish you well in their implementation. The re-naming of the committee to Kilcullen Community Action is another strategic move. It is regrettable that you are dissatisfied with the adjudicator's report for last year, particularly on the work that had been accomplished for the riverside area. You will be pleased to note that the Riverside Park together with its Heritage feature (the four hundred year old spout), and the Nature Walk are being considered and nominated by the adjudicator for awards. It was too soon last year, as work was still in progress, to give them their due recognition and hopefully the committee will feel that your achievements have been acknowledged, if not actually rewarded. We hope you will be happy with the additional marks that have been awarded this year for the work that has been achieved to date in the riverside area. Development work in progress on the Curragh road and the Naas road have been noted and allowances made. Kilcullen is situated in a valley and features a gentle rise to its streetscape which give it some interest and affords scenic views.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

There are many well presented buildings and some are being considered for the Best Shopfront Award. The Peter Moloney Betting Office together with the P.A. Moloney Tailoring and Boors Store is in a relatively bad condition but it is an important focal point of the streetscape and has many fine traditional architectural features which should be retained and refurbished. You should encourage business

owners to remove plastic signs and awnings. The church looks magnificent, however its boundary walls and those across from it, together with the boundary walls of the Boys National School all need to be cleaned. The roadside boundary walls of the Leinster Marts are a bit of an eyesore. This could be treated with simple cleaning and, if preferred, planted with some climbing plants.

## **LANDSCAPING**

The flower display at the nameplate on the Naas entrance is beautiful. Landscaped areas in Logstown is complemented by the well kept play area, tennis courts, etc. Well done on landscaping throughout the town. You are creating a valuable heritage for future generations.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The river banks of the Liffey are beautifully presented and the mature trees overhanging the river look wonderful. No marks were lost for the plastic bag floating down the centre. The remains of the seat on the north bank of the river should be taken away or the seat refurbished. Well done on the riverside walk and on the illustrated wildlife interpretative panel, riverside walk and mass path.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was good but not excellent. A litter survey over a period of two to four weeks would be a good idea so that the problem might be dealt with at source. Keep us informed.

## **TIDINESS**

There are no major problems under this heading that are not of an ephemeral nature and that will be resolved at the completion of construction work. A number of buildings do look untidy, however with developmental pressures and the redevelopment of these buildings, this problem will pass also.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The new Esker Lea residential development is a fine development and appears to be nicely finished to its roadside edge. Moanbane Park features excellent roadside boundary treatment and the line of semi-mature trees leading into Bishop Rogan Park look quite stately, their elegance is emphasised by the nicely managed grassed area. The terrace of single storey residential dwellings on entering the town from the Naas road (beside the Hillside shop are charming). Landscaping to the roadside of the Castlemartin Lodge development is superb.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Approach roads to the town are neatly presented and feature a variety of trees of all ages and species, grass margins are nicely featured also. Where the cutting of the

grass margins becomes too onerous it is acceptable to cut the outside edge alone and leave the inner edge to feature wildflower displays, you have done this on the Naas road. There are some excellent scenic views out the Ballymore Eustace road which are complemented by well maintained grass verges and stands of mature, semi-mature and new trees, well done! The entrance back into the town from this road, however, is spoiled somewhat by the poorly presented walls noted above. The stone walls out the Curragh Road is a handsome feature set against neatly managed grass verges and backed by stands of mature trees.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The overall impression of Kilcullen is one of a neatly presented old town in a beautiful setting.