

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KELLS**  
County : **MEATH**  
Category : **D**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	--
The Built Environment	40	32	--
Landscaping	40	29	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	--
Litter Control	40	26	--
Tidiness	20	14	--
Residential Areas	30	20	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	--
General Impression	10	5	--
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>--</b>

## **Kells, County Meath**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thanks for your submission. During the year, the Committee have actively co-operated with local community, business interest groups and with the local authority. The committee enclosed a brochure with their submission. The submission should include a brief long-term plan and a schedule of completed works. This plan will be of considerable benefit to the group in formulating a long term plan for the village. It will also help the group monitor their progress on a yearly basis.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Kells has been designated a heritage town and consists essentially of a network of eighteenth and nineteenth century streets, at the core of which lie a remarkable Early Christian ecclesiastical site. Within the site are a group of highly significant medieval buildings and monuments. Elsewhere, the town streetscape is made up of a range of eighteenth and nineteenth terraced houses, augmented by a series of vernacular shop fronts, attractive public buildings and facilities.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping of the town is particularly successful. This consists of landscaped greens, trees, flower baskets, window boxes and co-ordinated street furniture - the latter in some areas only.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The development of the town could benefit from some reference to the surrounding wildlife, habitat and natural environment - perhaps a nature trail to the river.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The litter control in the town centre is very good and little litter was noticed in the main streets. Outside of this, litter still remains a problem in some areas of the secondary streets and the residential areas.

### **TIDINESS**

The town centre was neat and tidy, but the unsympathetic street signs detract from the excellence of the historic streetscape and the landscaping.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are a number of residential areas around the town and, like the approach roads, they vary in their presentation. Some are neat and tidy with attractive greens, while others are poorly mentioned with patches of weeds and litter.

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

The approach roads to the town offer a mixed presentation. All are lined with a range of houses and attractive gardens. Some are well managed and maintained, with stone walling, good hedges, trees, managed margins and pleasant grassed area - for example the Moynalty and the Navan Roads. In contrast others, such as the Oldcastle Road, are unmanaged with areas of uncontrolled weeds. The approach roads to the town are very important as they generate first impressions. The secondary streets of the town are particularly interesting and contain wonderful terraces of vernacular architecture. Many of these streets are dull looking and could benefit from local landscaping features.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Kells is a wonderful town to visit and very conducive to walking around. The ecclesiastical site and the main streets are particularly very well presented. It would be interesting if visitors could be encouraged to experience the richness of the quieter secondary streets.