

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DROICHEAD NUA**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **F**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41	40
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	34	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	22
Litter Control	40	23	24
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	226	220

NEWBRIDGE, CO. KILDARE

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition of 2002 and thank you for your application. The adjudicator compliments Newbridge Tidy Towns Committee on their well-presented and well thought out plan. Newbridge is a busy town and as pointed out a rapidly developing centre. One of the great things about adjudicating Tidy Towns entries is that it forces the adjudicator to take a closer look at the centre. On close examination of Newbridge the adjudicator acknowledges the fine attributes that the town has. It is appreciated that the Tidy Towns Committee has little finance etc. but continue on as you are and you will continue to be instrumental in future development. You have put forward a very good presentation. Well done.

THE BUILD ENVIRONMENT

The Riverside County Library and Arts Centre looks marvellous and no doubt will make a contribution to the town. Many buildings on the Main St are well kept and presented. The competition looks forward to the refurbishment of the town hall, and indeed the Liffey Bridge. The Schools and the Church are well presented as are Clarke's, The Mans Shop, Bank of Ireland, Mr Snips & The Keg Bar to name but a few. The industrial building on the way to Newbridge Cutlery is in need of attention. The entrance to Bórd na Mona was admired. Also the building behind Murphy's Furniture had a beautiful creeper along the wall visible from the Main Street. Continue to encourage businesses to make an effort.

LANDSCAPING

Your landscaping efforts have been commendable. The co-operation of Wyeth and O'Connell and Ballymany Sheds is very important. They are to be highly commended for their investment into this area of the town. Even the roundabouts looked marvellous. Well done. The effort made in the Liffey Amenity Area is excellent and the Natural Wildflower Meadow really is beautiful. Other centres could use this as an excellent example of effort. The entrance to the Keadeen hotel was nicely landscaped. The presence of a Sli Na Sláinte was commended. The green area between Woodies and Dunnes Stores needs attention. The presence of wheelchair bays was particularly commended. The lights, seating, interpretative boards, and landscaping were beautiful. This area will be put forward for the Waterside Award.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Liffey Amenity Area is no doubt, as you point out, the town's best feature. The area is beautiful and on the day of adjudication it was a pleasure to see so many people use and

enjoy the area. Pollardstown Fen is indeed unique and a variety of species were observed on the day of adjudication. The adjudicator hopes that Kildare County Council will be successful in preventing illegal dumping here. The Hill of Allen and Roseberry Bog are also important under this heading. The most significant achievement here is not only your own awareness of the areas and their species but also the familiarisation of local children through geography classes using the areas. Are there any threats to wildlife in the area? Well done for an excellent effort under this heading.

LITTER CONTROL

As in many centres throughout the country litter is a problem here in Newbridge. While efforts are being made these now need to be stepped up. As you have lead the county in initiatives under the heading of the Tidy Towns Competition the adjudicator encourages you to make a concentrated effort under this heading too. Litter was observed on Main St, Edward St, and the road by Dunnes Stores and at Tesco's, Wigoders, and the road outside the Grange & Woodies. Try to initiate something through the schools.

TIDINESS

The presence of litter and weeds takes away from the town under this heading. However considering the size of the town and the number of people using it the town did very well. It is in this area that marks can be gained. By paying attention to the basics and to detail the high standard achieved in the Liffey Amenity Area can extend to the rest of the town.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Grange and Robertstown Lawns looked very well as did most of the residential areas. The grass entrance at Raymond's Court detracted from an otherwise tidy area. College Orchard and McElwaine Terrace and the Ivy Clad house beside the Citizens Advice were also admired. Seven Springs and Kilbelin were of the highest standard. Well done. Numerous areas deserve a mention for their excellent effort under this heading. Encourage residents to weed and maintain road frontage and other areas visible from the road.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads as already mentioned are of an excellent standard. The Kilcullen Road industrial area is in need of attention. Most kerbs were weed free and maintained. Edward St needed some attention for weeds and litter. The Church was clean and well presented on the day of adjudication. Some walls and boundary areas needed work.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

On closer inspection the town of Newbridge presented the most favourable impression. The Tidy Towns Committee is very aware of local issues and appears to have good working relations with all the local and relevant organisations. It is

important now to take time to make the effort under the headings of litter and tidiness to see a real increase in marks. Get the children involved, organise pick-ups etc. Remember that the effort should not be for the Tidy Towns Competition. These are only motivators. The real objective should be to provide a clean, tidy, well cared for environment in which you and future generations can live. Well done on your efforts & keep up the good work.