

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILLEIGH**
County : **OFFALY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 27-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	31
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	218	214

Killeigh, County Offaly

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The work in hand has further enhanced the appearance of the village with fine stretches of new stone wall, new pavements and new street lights, etc. This, together with the good standard of maintenance of the greens and other areas of the village, is a good indication of your on-going effort to show the village off to its best advantage. Overall, Killeigh has reached a good standard and you must now pay increasing attention to the finer points of presentation. A development plan setting out your objectives over the years ahead would set priorities and focus attention on what needs to be done. The adjudicator much appreciated your clear sketch map and your comments were noted.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings throughout the village are generally satisfactory. The school is well kept, the shrubbery at the car park is an attractive feature. Your comments about the Macra Hall and the Abbey were noted. Shed roofs on buildings approaching, village centre from Portlaoise need painting and plaster work on out-buildings need attention. The surrounds and car-parking area at the G.A.A. grounds need upgrading.

LANDSCAPING

The trees around the Abbey and in the green and indeed in other parts of the village have a big impact and add greatly to the attractiveness of the village. The well-kept green is another noteworthy feature of the village. Some judicious planting might be considered in the church grounds and the boundary wall of the G.A.A. grounds would be suitable for planting climbers. The neatly trimmed hedge looks well at the boundary wall of the cemetery.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The large number of mature trees in and around the village provide an important habitat particularly for wild birds. Even though Killeigh is on a busy road the value of the habitat was seen on the day of inspection when a variety of birds were seen and heard singing around the green. You could do more to encourage the wild bird population by providing bird boxes in suitable locations. The seven blessed wells is an interesting feature and add another dimension to the village.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control continues to be good, the exception again is the surrounds to the G.A.A. grounds where significant amounts of litter were present. Your plans to provide new litter bins with lids was noted.

TIDINESS

The village has a tidy and well cared for appearance which is assisted by well maintained grass verges, footpaths, kerbing and swept street gutters etc. The absence of overhead wires also helps. However poor road surfaces in a number of locations and several weedy gravelled margins are negative factors.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the private houses are well presented and several have attractive gardens and other landscaped features, e.g. ivy, flower tubs, etc. Long grass at Hill View Crescent needs cutting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

New pavements, stone walls and street lighting are already greatly benefiting the village. Grass verges on the approach roads are maintained the neatly trimmed grass at the speed limit sign on the Geashill Road stand out. However several stretches of road requires upgrading, in particular the parking area at Church and G.A.A. ground. The cemetery boundary wall on the Portlaoise Road is drab and weeds at the base of the wall should be removed. Several road signs throughout the village need cleaning.

GENERAL

Killeigh continues to improve. A planned approach is the best way forward. Well done.