

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Johnstown - Co. Kildare**

Ref: **464**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **233**

Category: **A**

Date: **29/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	
The Built Environment	40	31	
Landscaping	40	35	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	
Litter Control	40	34	
Tidiness	20	16	
Residential Areas	30	26	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	
General Impression	10	7	
TOTAL MARK	300	233	

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your submission, including a sketch map of the village. Your submission should really have also included a brief long-term plan and a schedule of work completed during the year which would help you (and the adjudicator) identify the progress made and the work to be done over the next few years. Perhaps this would ready for next year? It was noted, in any event, that the Johnstown Residents Association is strong in number and has been working in co-operation with the local authority.

The Built Environment:

Johnstown consists of an attractive estate type village laid out in a linear form. The fabric consists of a range of 18th, 19th and 20th century houses and cottages: mostly excellently presented. The derelict house in the main street could benefit from tidying up.

Landscaping:

The landscape of the village is extremely attractive and offers the visitor a vista of colorful flower arrangements, tubs, seating, background tree-scape and the village pump.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The idea of creating a wildlife area along the stream is excellent. This area offers the opportunity of initiating a small nature project – perhaps involving the local children.

Litter Control:

Litter control in the village was very good and only a few isolated instances of litter were noticed.

Tidiness:

The village generally looks neat and tidy and is a credit to the community. The village could, however, benefit from better weed management in the case of the paving and walls. The road surface of the village could benefit from upgrading.

Residential Areas:

The housing and residential areas are well managed and maintained, with neat houses, attractive gardens, attractive open spaces, flowers, shrubs trees and entrance signs.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Naas approach road to the village is very impressive, with managed grass margins, shrubs, neat hedges, trees and stone walling. However, the Blessington road could benefit from more attention, particularly in regard to weed management.

General Impression:

Johnstown is a very attractive village - so near to the dual-carriageway and yet a pleasure to visit.

Second Round Adjudication:

Johnstown Garden Centre provides an attractive entrance to the village from the dual-carriageway. Quite a lot of litter was in evidence along the main street, unfortunately. The cottages, with their attractively maintained gardens in the centre of the village, were greatly admired. The semi-derelict property adjacent to the Johnstown Inn is most charming, with its original sash windows and unusual detailing. It is to be hoped that its new owners appreciate its unique charm and sensitively restore it to its former glory as it is in a very prominent location in the village. Another cottage showed evidence of being restored in village on the day. Weed control was, unfortunately, still a problem on Second Adjudication Day. The Village Pump area to the front of the cottages was simply presented. Johnstown continues to perform well in the competition.