

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KNOCKANANNA**
County : **WICKLOW**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	22
Litter Control	40	28
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	185

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the new format of the Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your detailed questionnaire and map which was very helpful during the course of adjudication. The adjudicators look forward to the presentation of your detailed five year work programme. Overall, there is evidence of very strong community effort in the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It is nice to see planting of trees and flowers throughout the village coming on well this year. There is potential for greater nature conservation in the village. Perhaps a good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats in your catchment and see what type of birds, animals and plants etc. these attract. Why not invite your local environmental experts and groups to get involved to advise you and provide you with the specialist information you require. Perhaps one or two developments could be encouraged in this area.

LANDSCAPING

There was a very good presentation noted this year in the area of landscaping throughout the village. Planting was quite good. A nice stone wall with flower bed was noted from the Hacketstown approach road. The rockery was coming on well, it was nice to see a line of trees also. Seats were freshly painted, well done! Could the pumps be upgraded as one of the long term projects? A nice new stone wall was noted adjacent to the site of the Old Forge and a nicely maintained triangle was noted near the Wagon Wheel. There was a good variety of flowers in planted areas, perhaps try to look at options in formalising them into groups, rather than a variety - just a suggestion, some garden experts may be able to advise you on this.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Overall, there are some improvements that could have been carried out this year under this section. It was nice to see that the health centre was freshly painted with trees noted. The new shop was tidy and made a good effort with the flowers outside. The signage at Jacobs could be painted. At the Community Hall, allowances were made for the long term project to develop a swimming pool here, the adjudicator wishes you the best with this. More attention is needed to weeds on the pathway in the Church grounds otherwise the grounds were quite good. The Church and the former Church next to it would have benefited from painting at time of adjudication. Also, it would be nice if the shop/B&B was painted, as well the National School. There is room for improvement under this category.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control in general was very good and there was an excellent impression left with the adjudicator. It was not a problem throughout the village this year.

TIDINESS

Tidiness was also quite good. Lack of litter complimented by nice stone walls, cutting of grass, attention to planting and provision of trees left a very good impression. Corrugated sheeting at the farm opposite terrace of houses, should be painted. Surfacing of footpaths were quite good, as were the approach roads.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Generally, residential areas were well maintained with a number of good efforts noted with flowers. Congratulations on your efforts with the development of the four thatched cottages. This is a very

welcomed development, Try to landscape the front of these houses for next years adjudication and replace the fencing. At the terrace of houses, good efforts were also noted, particularly at Number 4. Why not have a nameplate for this terrace of houses. Overall, quite a good performance here.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads were very well presented this year, grassed verges had been well maintained. Approaching from Hacketstown, the verges were quite good, the trees were coming on well, small sprinklings of litter were noted but not too bad. On the right hand side, grass had been cut, while further along a nice stone wall with flower beds left a good impression. The Knockananna sign would benefit from painting. A nice stone wall was noted at a house. Watch the weeds at the entrance to the house by the name sign. On the approach road from Rathdangan and Ballygobbin Road, trees were noted, well done. The Junction sign needs to be replaced on the Ballybobbin Road.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There was a very good continuing effort in Knockananna this year. Overall, the village was very tidy. There is good evidence of work in terms of planting of flowers etc. and the presentation of the approach roads. This is complimented by the fact that the community are developing thatched cottages - this is to be commended. The adjudicators wish you every success and look forward to continued visits over the coming years.