

Tidy Towns 1997

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CONNA**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	29
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	24	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	19
Litter Control	40	26	25
Tidiness	20	11	12
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	27
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	192	188

Conna, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for submitting your development plan. It is very encouraging to note that you are working very closely with the county council and other statutory bodies. Now that the priority areas have been identified, you can approach further development in a more co-ordinated manner. A number of your initiatives deserve praise. The Keep Conna Beautiful competition is having the desired effect. Awareness of litter control has been heightened by the many programmes you organise. It is important to maintain this momentum as the results are very evident.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

A number of recommendations in your development plan are noted with enthusiasm. The decision to liaise with the county council architects on further construction or renovation in the village is very welcome. The consideration of a paint scheme will enhance the village substantially. There are a number of well presented buildings in the village. The Muintir na Tire hall and the church were greatly admired. The village is fortunate to have such an impressive focal point at its centre. Every effort should be made to counteract the problems of derelict sites in the village.

LANDSCAPING

The main street looked very well and the colours of the well maintained trees contributed significantly to this. The use of window boxes and hanging baskets throughout the village added great colour to the area. The flower planting at the base of trees is an area that should be reviewed as some tree bases looked untidy. The use of street furniture and flower tubs looks well in certain areas. However, too many tubs in an area can give a very congested look. This problem is very evident on the main street around the post office.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is an area of tremendous potential for a village like Conna. The riverside offers an excellent opportunity to provide a waterside amenity. The wooded area on the approach to the castle is a good example of developing a wildlife area. The proposal to develop a wildlife trail by the local school children is commended. It should eventually incorporate both of these natural resources. Consultation should take place with a local wildlife expert. Their suggestions should be incorporated in your development plans.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter is not a major problem throughout the village. The awareness programmes you have undertaken are obviously working. However, it was disappointing to note a lot of litter around the wooded area near the castle. There was also evidence of litter dumping by the derelict handball alley. There

was a very high standard of litter control on the main street.

TIDINESS

Overall the village is reasonably tidy. The church car park and the grounds of the community hall and sports complex are very well presented. The business premises in the village and its environs are all maintained. Shop owners should be encouraged not to clutter up the footpaths with excess signs, fuel stock and bins. Outside one shop there were three bins within a two metre distance of each other. The handball alley on the Ballyduff road is badly run down. It was also disappointing to note an abandoned car by the bridge.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Keep Conna Beautiful competition is certainly improving the standards of presentation of residences in the village. There are many excellent examples of beautifully presented houses and gardens. These are a credit to the community. Many areas were greatly admired, among them the houses on the Fermoy road, Castleview and the houses adjacent to the Muintir na Tire hall. Keep up the good work.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In general the approach roads looked well. The Fermoy road was admired and the boundary wall on the Tallow road looked impressive. You must continue to be vigilant with regard to weed control and maintaining the appearance of some of the walls on the approach roads. The exit road at Englishs shop was untidy, particularly the footpath. A number of speed limit signs and directional signs need to be repainted or cleaned. Please note previous comments regarding the cluttering up of footpaths.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Conna is a pleasant rural village and the enormous efforts you are making for the competition are benefiting the community. Now that a development plan is in place, you can approach the competition in a co-ordinated manner. This will help you progress further. You are complimented for your efforts and wished continued success.