

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KNOCKCROGHERY**
County : **ROSCOMMON**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	30
The Built Environment	40	18	16
Landscaping	40	26	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	11
Litter Control	40	25	21
Tidiness	20	12	9
Residential Areas	30	12	10
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	21
General Impression	10	7	4
TOTAL MARK	300	170	142

Knockcroghery, County Roscommon

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Knockcroghery is welcome to the 1997 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for the completed entry form with map and three year plan. All were helpful for adjudication. The historical and geographical information provided is fascinating; your objectives are clear and well stated and of course realistic. It is good to note the initiatives being taken regarding the rural development course, schools competition and so on. Your outline plan dividing the village into three sections is a good approach to the management of the village. Knockcroghery looks absolutely beautiful; this adjudicator always enjoys visiting your village. We look forward to observing your progress over the coming years.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Situated on a busy thoroughfare the village offers the travelling public an opportunity to stop, enjoy the natural environment and visit the Clay Pipe Visitor Centre, enjoy a drink and generally browse. The built environment is attractive enough to encourage people to spend time in the village. There are very few underdeveloped areas and none of these are in public view. Some buildings are in need of some attention of which the committee is very well aware and the adjudicator feels confident that representations are being made to property owners. The lack of wirescape in the village centre and the attractive lampstandards are much admired. The carpark of the Clay Pipe Public House could be improved. The school is presented to the highest standards as is the church.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping at all areas of the village is certainly admirable. The problem of the 'third' section of the village and its landscaping is appreciated and it is felt that no suggestions are necessary by the adjudicator because the committee is well aware of the difficulties and are, as stated, working with the County Council on resolving this problem. It only remains for the adjudicator to look forward to developments in this area. Landscaping at the Roscommon entrance to the village and indeed in the village centre is superb.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The committee is obviously well aware of the richness and variety of wildlife in the hinterland. Reference has been made to the bird life of Lough Fuinnsenach and to St. John's Wood noted as being one of the oldest virgin oak woods in Ireland. Other aspects of wildlife including bogland and water meadows are noted. Some of this information should be made accessible to both visitors and of course residents with suggestions perhaps on how they can be experienced. Your thoughts on restocking the river which runs through the village are interesting and worth exploring, keep us posted on the progress made in this area.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is excellent, well done. Try to maintain this high

standard throughout the year.

TIDINESS

The overall appearance of the village is one of cleanness and tidiness. There are one or two side areas that could be improved a little and the roadside area to the boundary wall of a residential property located between the Fair Green and the residential property needs to be weeded. There are no really serious problems under this heading.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are some fine examples of residential properties in the village centre, both two and three storey properties; these are handsome buildings. There are very few problems of presentation under this heading; well done. Some roadside boundary walls to properties on the Roscommon entrance need to be upgraded.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads and entrances to the village from both Roscommon and Athlone are to a high standard. The approach road from Corbooley is less well presented. In time the stone walls here lining both sides of the road should be revealed and restored in the traditional way i.e. as a loose or dry stone wall. Other stone wall building in the centre of the village is extremely attractive; in particular, the carpark is a nice feature of the village centre. Street furniture looks well also. Reference has already been made to the attractive lampstandards. Don't forget to clean the nameplates and other signs regularly.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of Knockcroghery is very good. The village obviously has a community dedicated to its growth, development and general well being. It is also a village with an interesting past and a village with a strong awareness of its location in both time and place. Thank you for your continued participation. We look forward to our next visit.