

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KNOCK**  
County : **MAYO**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	12
The Built Environment	40	22	20
Landscaping	40	15	9
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	28
Litter Control	40	31	31
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	15	14
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	26
General Impression	10	6	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>156</b>

## **Knock, County Mayo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Knock is very welcome to the 1999 Tidy Towns Competition. The maintenance of your work achieved to date is no doubt a substantial undertaking, considering the influx of visitors to Knock throughout the year. You do not refer to a planned work programme for your lovely village. Has one been prepared? The new Tidy Towns Handbook contains excellent advice on preparing a plan. We look forward to receiving one from you next year.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Keep up your efforts to have all unsightly plastic signage removed. The community centre is beginning to look a little weatherstained and may need to be repainted shortly. The Spar Post Office is beautifully painted. The view of the rear façade of the 'Wally's Restaurant and Takeaway' and the 'Developing the West' premises from the Ballyhaunis road on entering the village is most unsightly and unfortunate. Can this problem be redressed? Some white walls and white outbuilding adjacent to 'Paul's Craft Shop' are in need of attention. The school entrance gates could be refurbished. Well done on work accomplished for this year's competition under this heading.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Landscaping has established itself very well around the village and looks beautiful during adjudication. Some of the trees in containers had weed growth around their base and some of the containers themselves needed to be freshened. When choosing trees and shrubs remember to choose native species. Refer to the new Tidy Towns Handbook for ideas and guidelines.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

In further landscaping, i.e. planting of trees, ensure that a variety is chosen that will attract wildlife. You also might like to consider conducting a wildlife survey of the area or some other awareness enhancing wildlife project. Again you are reminded of the new Tidy Towns Handbook which you would have received this year for ideas and advice.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was good during adjudication given the large number of visitors to your village each year. Ensure that litter bins are well maintained (in a good state of repair etc.) and emptied frequently. Do give us details of your litter management strategies.

## **TIDINESS**

No doubt buildings will not be allowed to remain derelict given the value of property these days. Could the open storage to the rear of the wonderfully presented Spar premises be relocated from public view? Can anything be done about the petrol pumps on the top of the Kiltimagh road. Could these be 'masked' attractively if they are not to be removed?

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Several residential properties were being constructed during adjudication. These will, of course, be finished to the same high standard as is evidence throughout the village. The new 'Rosemary Court' residential development on the Kiltimagh Road looks well. However weed growth along kerbs is beginning to take hold here. This must be eliminated before it becomes a serious problem. Several roadside boundary walls to residential properties along the main street of the village need cleaning and/or painting.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

It is good to note the absence of unsightly wirescape in the village centre together with attractive street lighting and well surfaced roads and footpaths. The older nameplate on the Claremorris Road needs to be repainted and the grass around it cut back to allow it to be more visible. Two long stretches of white wall leading to the village on both sides of the road needs to be whitewashed or repainted. Carparks are being nicely maintained and are, as usual, well landscaped. Some stretches of wall near the roundabout at the Sligo end of the village needs to have its capping replaced. The plethora of signs both in the village and on approach roads is visually unappealing. The nameplate on the Kiltimagh road needs to be cleaned. An old waterpump could be refurbished and many signs cleaned.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Knock is a beautiful village with many fine buildings. There has been some excellent work accomplished by Mayo County Council also.