

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Knockvicar**

Ref: **531**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **160**

Category: **A**

Date: **09/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	19	18
The Built Environment	40	18	17
Landscaping	40	20	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	11	10
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>156</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Knockvicar is welcome to the 2003 Tidy Towns Competition. The village enjoys an enviable location on the river Boyle and is within walking distance of Finn lake. Woodland areas and a hill are also on your doorstep, this gives the village tremendous potential for amenity development. Congratulations on your fund raising activities and also on your partnership with FAS and other agencies. We note with interest your monthly newsletter to raise awareness of the Tidy Towns initiative. However, we also note that you have not forwarded a plan of work to be implemented over the next three to five years. Its difficult to progress very far in the competition without, such a plan so do submit one for next years competition. We wish you well regarding the problem of illegal dumping and disposal of plastic.

### The Built Environment:

Well done on tarmacading and fencing to the Community Hall. Some further tidying within the curtilage area is necessary and landscaping here would be a nice touch also. There are far to many posters in the Post Office window, these should be removed in order not to detract the eye from the architectural features of the building.

### Landscaping:

The small green traffic island in the centre of the village is an important visual focal point and should be landscaped to a high standard because of its significance in the village scape. The landscaped corner at the bridge looks well. The site at the junction of Keadue entrance which features many finger posts could also be landscaped to good effect and the number of finger posts reduced and accommodated on one post. Well done on tree planting at Finn lake. The stands of semi mature trees out the road towards Ardcarne Sports Grounds were admired. Verges in many cases were overgrown and need greater maintenance. Well done on tree planting at Finn Lake.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The area is heavily wooded and so host to many woodland animals. Similarly the river banks would be an important wildlife habitat also. A wildlife survey should be undertaken and protective measures taken in the face of future developments within the village or its environs. Well done on work accomplished for Finn Lake. Details of work undertaken should be submitted with your application.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter control was good and we note your application for recycling bins, we trust you will be successful in this initiative. Well done on maintaining the river walk and Finn lake free of litter.

### **Tidiness:**

Building materials should be removed upon completion of building work, some were noticed on the roadside edge and at a site leading to the Ardcarne Sports Grounds. This undeveloped site is untidy in many respects including the old shed here. Weed growth was prevalent on the bridge during adjudication although we note from your application that this work is undertaken by the committee.

### **Residential Areas:**

The boundary wall of the bungalow located beside the Post Office in the village centre should be maintained to the highest standard because of its important location. At the time of the adjudication it was in need of cleaning and/or painting. The two houses on the Keadue entrance which occupy elevated sites have wonderful gardens and make an important contribution to the visual amenity of Knockvicor. We note work in progress on another house nearby and hope that the garden here will be presented to the same high standard.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The Boyle entrance to the village was quite well presented but the Keadue entrance less so. The village boasts many stretches of stone wall which in some cases are overgrown, these should be revealed and refurbished. The stone bridge over the Boyle river is a handsome feature of the village also which would be enhanced if the two service poles at the bridge were removed. The stretch of footpath leading off the bridge needs to be refurbished and many posts of road signs need attention also as do some signs. The nameplates could be cleaner.

### **General Impression:**

Knockvicor enjoys an idyllic location on a river and within close proximity to woodland, hills and a lake. Much more could be achieved for the village itself in terms of its presentation.