

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Knock**

Ref: **252**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **202**

Category: **A**

Date: **06/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	
The Built Environment	40	28	
Landscaping	40	29	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	
Litter Control	40	28	
Tidiness	20	14	
Residential Areas	30	18	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	
General Impression	10	7	
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>202</b>	

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Welcome to the Tidy Towns competition and congratulations on your work to date. The documentation received - entry form, map, pictorial record of work undertaken and plan was very helpful. For next year please include a little more detail on the map. The plan is the most important document and an even more detailed version should be drawn up for the next 3 to 5 years in order to focus your efforts. It is good to see that you are working in co-operation with Clare County Council and FAS and, most importantly, that you have the support of the local community.

### The Built Environment:

Buildings in the village were well presented and it was good to note an old wall being whitewashed on the side road during adjudication. The Fisherman's Hut was nicely painted and the landscaped area opposite attractive with its new wooden surround fence. The new pier is a great asset to the village. Stone walls throughout were admired. Good luck with the restoration of the old industrial ice house and the lime kiln.

### Landscaping:

Much good work has been accomplished on the approach roads and at the two piers. The flower and tree planting on the approach roads is attractive and when the grass grows in these areas it will further enhance same. The work at the new pier is commendable. The nice stone curbing to the grassed areas, the picnic table and planting were admired. Some large driftwood was noted by the shore and perhaps a craftsman could provide a driftwood sculpture piece for this area. The old pier was also looking well with good grassed area and seating. Window boxes and hanging baskets should overflow with colour to make them effective. The wooden containers used for flower displays in a number of places are preferable than plastic containers. A person was making one of these wooden containers during our visit. Well done on this initiative. In fact a number of people were to be seen working around the village including a woman with a wheelbarrow - it is good to see such a comprehensive effort. The mature trees on the side road are a welcome legacy from those people with foresight who planted them some time ago.

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

The planting undertaken contributes in this category. Next year you might consider a specific project under this heading - there are suggestions for same in the Tidy Towns Handbook. At the car park next to the Fisherman's Hut perhaps the banks here could be sown with wild flowers such as fox glove, honeysuckle, white daisies or meadow sweet which was seen growing further out the road to make this area more attractive.

### **Litter Control:**

There was no litter to be seen on the day of adjudication and litter bins were noted in strategic positions. This does not mean you receive full marks as you must build up your litter management record over the years.

### **Tidiness:**

Unfortunately, you have a problem under this category as the large old vessel - "Metabruce", berthed at the new pier, is spoiling all your work and will have to be removed for you to progress further. We were not able to nominate you for the Waterside Award as mentioned due to this eyesore being part of that area. Otherwise the village was tidy throughout except for a broken panel at the telephone box.

### **Residential Areas:**

Private houses in and around the village were contributing to the Tidy Towns effort.

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

As mentioned, approach roads were looking well and signage was good throughout. Road surfaces were also of a good standard.

### **General Impression:**

Knock is a charming village on the Shannon Estuary and the residents obviously have its well being at heart. Keep up the good work.