

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Suncroft**

Ref: **58**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **199**

Category: **B**

Date: **04/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	26
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	32	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	20	22
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>198</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

The map and the three-year plan submitted with the entry form shows a good degree of commitment to the future planning and work of the village and surrounds. The development of the three walkways is a fine idea and will give an extra dimension to the village. Planning for the improved upkeep and care of the core the village is needed especially now with such changes occurring with the building developments. The plan really needs to be specific – detailing item by item exactly what work is planned, when who and what resources are needed to follow it through.

### The Built Environment:

The church forms the central landmark of the built environment. The church looks very well, the bell and roadside walls are attractive. The school is in good condition – perhaps painting of the roadside wall could be planned. The building at the cross in the village is causing a lot of disruption. Hopefully this will be completed soon. Some roadside walls through the village would benefit from a painting. The Suncroft building appears well. The thatched cottage on the Askinraw way is a nice feature.

### Landscaping:

There are a number of small attractively planted areas through the Churchview estate, to either end of the school carpark and also at the entrance sign stone to the village. The church grounds are well

maintained and the field beside the church with the birch trees perhaps could be mown – it is not clear what the function of this area is. The old graveyard appears in need of some attention. The cemetery along the approach road is very well tended and the extended area and new carpark look well. Tree planting in the extension cemetery will be welcome. There seems to be a good opportunity also for tree planting at the school along the perimeter of the site by Churchview estate where the vegetation has been allowed grow long. The open greens at Churchview estate are well tended with the bedding plant features and tree planting. Individual gardens in the village make a major contribution to the overall landscape of the village and good credit is due for this. Tree planting where possible is always a good idea. The absence of even one tree along the roadside verges is noted in the new housing estate beside where houses are currently being built. The Dee Morrin memorial garden is beautiful

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

The Carn Commons offers a great opportunity to develop programmes for wild life observation and appreciation. Working with the school is a great idea. The walkways planned are also useful ideas to promote both wildlife appreciation and exercise.

### **Litter Control:**

There is a considerable amount of litter around the village, which is disappointing. The area along by the sports field is particularly troublesome and also on the roadsides and paths at the back areas of Churchview estate. Also some in the old graveyard. A detailed programme of activity is needed to cope with the litter in the village.

### **Tidiness:**

The building developments taking place in the village are having an adverse effect on the tidiness of the village at the moment – this of course is temporary and when work is completed a return to normal will occur. It is important that a tidy towns committee keep a watchful eye to ensure that the sites are fully reinstated before the builders leave the sites. Attention to detail such as gate painting, post and rail fence repair and building paintwork all contribute to the tidiness of a village. The fence along by the sports fields looks in very poor condition with gaps and damage along the way. Removal of overhead cables could also be placed on priority list as where it has occurred in some of the estates it gives such a better result.

### **Residential Areas:**

The housing estates are generally well tended and a great amount of work is put into keeping them as they are. The original thorn hedge being retained in the housing estate near the village centre building site is a lovely idea. In the new housing estate by the current building programme the gardens are well cared for and the open spaces and verges are tended very neatly. The Churchview drive estate looks well and presents a very good appearance towards the main road frontage. A number of houses have broken timber rails bounding their front gardens, which need attention. Some of the doors and walls in the back areas of these need attention to paint and general décor.

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

The road surfaces through the village are badly damaged – possibly because of all the heavy traffic. Road surfaces are patchy and have potholes. Pressure to have resurfacing done could be put on by the committee. Attention to roadside verges and on approach roads to ensure safety and sign visibility are important but at the same time keeping the natural beauty of the roadside vegetation

### **General Impression:**

Suncroft is going through change at the moment with the new building developments. Adapting to

this change is important. With increased numbers living in the village more recruitment should take place for committee members. Concentration on the core of the village and the litter difficulties should be priorities in the next few years.