

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Knockcroghery**

Ref: **72**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **209**

Category: **A**

Date: **01/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	36
The Built Environment	40	22	21
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	17
Litter Control	40	29	29
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	209	202

Overall Developmental Approach:

Knockcroghery is welcome to the 2005 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission which was helpful during adjudication. Well done on eliciting the help of additional members for your clean up week and for litter rotas and indeed for involving the national school children and the Junior Tidy Towns Committee. Your work with Roscommon County Council and other bodies is effective and we wish you well with regards the proposed Urban Renewal Scheme. Well done on your participation on the Golden Mile Competition also. The village is growing at an unprecedented rate and new housing developments have been noted, we hope that you have been successful in integrating the new residents into the social and cultural life of the community and getting them involved in the Tidy Towns effort.

The Built Environment:

You are well aware of those buildings that are in need of improvement so they will not be listed here. Given current property values and the demand for prime development sites, it would be unusual if this problem persisted into the longer term future. The church and its grounds, together with the school and its grounds are beautifully presented and the Clay Pipe Visitor Centre was admired also. The Widow Pat's continues to look well. Keep up the effort to have people take responsibility for their side and curtilage areas also. The old school building is beautifully painted and features flower displays.

Landscaping:

This is your strong point in the competition. Landscaping on approach roads and in the village itself has to be seen to be appreciated. Your new stone flower beds marking the entrance to Dún Ard will make a strong visual impact as they mature. The Fair Green looks really well and the trees planted around the derelict structure are doing their job effectively. The green with the sculpture was admired also. Your stands of mature semi-mature and young trees and mature shrubberies are wonderful. The large green corner site at the top of the Shrah Road is unacceptably overgrown.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The riverside picnic area is beautifully landscaped as noted above, however the river area itself is clean and is a haven for wildlife. The adjudicator enjoyed the bird song during the course of adjudication. Does the village extend to the graveyard and St. Dominic's GFC? If so, then perhaps the boundary wall of the playing fields could be improved together with the boundary wall of the graveyard. The graveyard itself was neat. The road leading up to the graveyard was overgrown at its verge and could be improved upon.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent as usual, well done. We note the appointment of people to take turns at cleaning up. Commiserations regarding the problems posed by picnickers leaving behind their take-away cups and soft drink cans. If you have more information on your litter control activities and your overall litter management strategies, send these in also as they can be a source of additional marks.

Tidiness:

Well done on the recycling point, it was neatly presented with no dumping or overflows noted. A number of derelict structures are problematic under this heading but, as noted above, it will probably not be a long term problem in the current environment. Excessive weed growth was noted to the Shrah Road.

Residential Areas:

Dún Ard is a lovely new residential development, it is beautifully landscaped and the footpaths had been installed. Kendale Court is sitting comfortably into its streetscape and is a successful infill development. Work in progress was noted on the Corbooly Road, however it was not at a very advanced stage and footpaths and lighting etc had not been completed. Older dwellings continue to make a positive visual impact on the built environment and the stone boundary walls of dwellings on the main road were admired as were many attractive elevated gardens.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Street furniture is generally well presented, lampstandards look good. The waterpump was beautifully painted and the flowertubs here were admired. There were some excellent stretches of footpath and road surface in the village, however more needs to be accomplished. Well done on the wirescape free status of the village centre. The old nameplate at the entrance from the Roscommon Road needs to be refurbished.

General Impression:

Knockcroghery continues to be a beautiful village where landscaping is of the highest order and general maintenance is good. The only way that the village can improve now is to gain the

co-operation of developers. The community have done everything they can possible do and we wish you well in your negotiations with developers.

Second Round Adjudication: