

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## **Adjudication Report**

Centre: **Knightstown** Ref: **342**  
County: **Kerry** Mark: **258**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **17/07/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	42
The Built Environment	50	35
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	36
Waste Minimisation	20	1
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>258</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Knightstown is welcome to the 2006 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission and covering letter which outlined your overall development plan for this year. You have done well to maintain the excellent standard which has been achieved to date in the presentation of Knightstown in addition to adding a new project. We are sorry you were so disappointed in your marks last year but happy that you have decided to stay on board the Tidy Towns initiative, we hope that you are not dissatisfied with this years marks. Knightstown has some wonderful amenity facilities and perhaps the Altazamuth Stone was the one most appreciated by this adjudicator together with its interpretative panel.

### **The Built Environment:**

Both the Clock Tower and the small gallery premises beside were beautifully painted and strong focal points in the centre of Knightstown. St. John the Baptist Church enjoyed splendid isolation amongst the stands of mature trees which mark one entrance to Knightstown. The majority of business premises have been beautifully painted and are tidy in their overall presentation and the Royal Pier & Bar Hotel appears to have been freshly whitewashed. The Dive Centre premises is in need of a little work while the Lifeboat premises was looking good. The Church of the Immaculate Conception with its beautiful cut stone never fails to impress and its grounds were beautifully landscaped.

### **Landscaping:**

The grounds of the Hostel are a successful mix of colourful flowers and stands of wild flowers, all of which operates to present a cheerful ambience in Knightstown. Well done on the grass verge along the waterfront with its neatly maintained grassed area, its attractive planting and indeed its seated area, the picnic area utilising the small bridge and stream is an excellent initiative. The Sensory Garden is a wonderful source of

pleasure too the entire community and commendations are perhaps over due on this excellent initiative. The flower display at the small roundabout at the road junction looked very well.

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

The wildflower hedgerow and wildflowers on the verge along the Chapeltown entrance just before the St John the Baptist Church appeared damaged on the day of adjudication. Other stretches of hedgerow and wildflowers were charming however. The waterfront area at the harbour, the pier and the ferry point were all beautifully presented and no rubbish or litter was noted which might have presented a hazard to wildlife. The Altazamuth Walk is a fine development and was being very much enjoyed by the adjudicator and others on the day of our visit.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter control was excellent with no litter being observed on adjudication day; well done. We note your activities under this heading and the frequency of emptying bins, ensuring no overflow, together with appropriate storage until collection by the local authority. If you engage in other litter management activities you should include them your submission next year as these can be a source of additional marks; for example if you engage in National Spring Clean or organise litter picking events involving young people or different groups it would be worthwhile submitting this information.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

To compete successfully under this heading it will be necessary to identify ways in which the amount of waste generated by the community can be reduced sector by sector, in addition to the collection of waste for recycling. The Race Against Waste literature forwarded to you by the Dept of Environment Heritage & Local Government has many ideas on initiatives that might be undertaken.

### **Tidiness:**

A few untidy sides and rear areas were noted which had a negative visual impact on their surroundings. A building site at the waterfront was a work in progress. We note from your submission that your activities include weed control and that you have been successful in the ducting of overhead service cables on the main road and in Market Street, we acknowledge this work and its significance of Knightstown. Well done on the removal of flyers.

### **Residential Areas:**

The Knightstown Holiday Village is an attractive development with a good use of natural stone in their planting scheme. Work in progress has been noted on an other site on the Chapeltown Road which hopefully will be finished to similar high standard. Some cleaning and or painting might be undertaken for the Hostel premises. A number of nicely whitewashed walls were in evidence and handsome period dwellings overlooking the sea were admired also. Hopefully new residents might be assimilated into the community and will become involved into the Tidy Towns work.

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

Some stretches of road were in need of resurfacing; two examples being Peter Street and Jane Street. Freshly painted kerbs at the Ferry Point looked well and the road surface along the promenade is good. Well done on the ducting of overhead service cables, hopefully those along Peter Street will follow suit in due course. We wish you well in your on going liaison with Kerry County Council regarding road works.

### **General Impression:**

Knightstown has always a pleasure to adjudicate and this has certainly been the case this year. The village looked wonderful on a sunny day and is a credit to all who are responsible for its appearance. We look forward to repeat visits.