

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Knockanure** Ref: **1149**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **213**
Category: **A** Date(s): **08/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	33
The Built Environment	50	29
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	213

Overall Development Approach:

Knockanure is welcome back to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission. Promoting awareness of Tidy Towns via the school is a great way to start community involvement. This may assist you to generate more volunteers from the wider community. Every undertaking by the community in any area of the tidy towns competition is of great long term benefit to the village and this year you have undertaken a couple of initiatives already and have added appeal and community to your village. You should be proud of this achievement and we hope to see you continue with the competition in the years to come.

The Built Environment:

The conversion of the old school into a community resource centre is a wonderful undertaking that will be of great benefit to the Knockanure community. The centre was still under construction on the day of adjudication but it looked to be coming along nicely. Well done on this initiative. The paving around the church may look well if it was covered in a stone paving mix. This could have a colour through it so it would assist in brightening the area. At the moment this is quite dull and stained and these stains would be extremely difficult to remove. Therefore covering them might work better. Flynn's Bar is well kept and painted. It is noted that you have been trying to get the derelict house fixed up. Perhaps offering to have a community working bee with the owners where the outside is just painted to brighten it up might work.

Landscaping:

The school grounds are very well kept and we particularly liked the bright pictures painted on the asphalt. It is also good to see a large green area available for playing and the young trees planted. The grotto was clean and tidy and we greatly admired the bright flower arrangements. A touch of paint on the figurines would improve the overall appearance. The potted plantings at the cross and the stone wall feature were wonderfully maintained and provide both colour and a traditional feel to the heart of the village. The baskets in the town

were well maintained. The trees planted in the church car park are a welcome addition and really help soften this area. They will also be beneficial to the natural environment.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The erection of the bird table is a great start to introducing wild life into the area. Nesting boxes in the trees around the church might increase birdlife in the area. A project with the school to identify local birdlife would be a great undertaking.

Litter Control:

Congratulations on your involvement of the school in National Clean Up Day and your promotion of anti litter awareness. Generally the village was litter free. However, there were quite a lot of cigarette butts outside Flynn's. Ensuring receptacles for the disposal of cigarette butts are available is important to reducing this issue.

Waste Minimisation:

It was noted that the school had a recycling bin. Working towards Green Flag status could be their next undertaking. Well done on the ecobags and bins supplied to residents. A community compost or individual household bins would also assist in waste reduction and provide fertiliser for your plantings.

Tidiness:

It is noted that the Eircom phone booth is to be removed and that there is a site notice attached outlining this. However, we do greatly appreciate your effort to brighten this feature in the interim by the addition of a floral and wood feature inside the phone booth. Well done on thinking outside the box on this one! The GAA pitch itself was well maintained as were the club rooms, but the spectator area surrounding the field was quite weedy and there was some rubbish around. The entry to the ground was well painted and attention into the alternating colour bars was a good effort. The burial grounds were a bit overgrown and required some weeding out the front. The local garage was quite tidy. It is good to see the community working together with business to achieve a true community undertaking in the competition. There were very little weeds noticed in the public streets or paths so well done on achieving this.

Residential Areas:

Most private residences were very well kept with a couple of exceptional landscaping efforts. The new developments have been nicely landscaped and fit in with their surroundings.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The street markings for the buses and disabled parking outside the school are well located. Generally the roads and paths were well surfaced. There was one section of footpath of about a metre that needs to be resurfaced as it is currently just stones.

General Impression:

Knockanure is a small community that is set amongst a lovely rural setting. Several undertakings such as plantings and the community centre initiative are great assets to the village and we look forward to seeing your future projects