

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Knock** Ref: **78**
County: **Clare** Mark: **239**
Category: **A** Date(s): **23/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	39
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	31
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	239

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for your completed application form and the sketch map along with supplementary photographic material of works ongoing and complete. It is noted that you have developed very strong links with Fas, Clare County Council and the wider community of Kilmurry McMahon. The village has benefited hugely as a result.

The Built Environment:

The main observation here is that the efforts to retain and replicate original features of existing buildings are worthwhile. The new pier path and safety railing was noted and it was wonderful to see the disappearance of the boat-wreck, which has been an eyesore over the years.

Landscaping:

The standard observed was really excellent, including hanging baskets, window boxes etc., all adding wonderful colour and vibrancy throughout the village. Well done to all concerned!

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It was wonderful to see you retaining your wildlife area by maintaining the furze bushes and the wooded area to the rear of the newly constructed wall on the eastern village entrance. You are spoiled for choice of natural wildlife habitats that you would be the envy of other similar sized villages. The Heritage Council will help you identify wildlife projects in the immediate area. This will ensure hedge-grows and grass margins are managed in accordance with what is recommended. The Committee should consider approaching the local school principal to look at the possibility of getting local school children involved. Identifying a project that would record the various types of wildlife that are associated to the local area would be a start. The wildlife ranger from Clare County Council should also help you with this project.

Litter Control:

The community has been very active in ensuring the message of litter control is being promoted throughout the village. Actions such as the placement of litter bins in appropriate locations have been successful as there was virtually no litter evident throughout the village.

Waste Minimisation:

This is a relatively new area which has to be addressed under the National Tidy Towns Competition. The Race Against Waste is a campaign in raising awareness of better waste management practices. It is incumbent on us all to embrace this in light of our poor record among the wider European community. Please refer to the Race Against Waste publication included with the original application package for initiatives that would suit your community. One excellent initiative is the green flag project for the national school.

Tidiness:

The wreck of the Metabruce being removed has added greatly to the overall tidiness of the village. Well done on getting this problem resolved. The kerbsides and verges were in a very acceptable condition throughout.

Residential Areas:

Individual residences were, as ever, looking very well on the adjudication clearly displaying the pride of place exuding from the village as a whole.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

All approach roads were very well presented, however there are a few areas that stand out due to the fact the village is small and visible. But overall a good presentation under this category. Keep up your efforts to date.

General Impression:

Knock is an example of a county village at its best and a wonderful example of community and pride in ones own place. You will progress in the National Tidy Towns Competition with this attitude and obvious partnership. We look forward to further progress in the future.