

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Knockraha** Ref: **791**
County: **Cork(North)** Mark: **235**
Category: **A** Date(s): **24/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	34
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	20
Residential Areas	40	30
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	235

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for this filled up entry form and the excellent map of the area. I read your 5 year plan and you have some ambitious schemes in mind to maintain and indeed improve your village. I note you have a core group of 12 and up to 6 extra helpers for specific tasks. You have good local commitment when people give up some of their spare time to attend all those meetings. I see there are no businesses in the area and you get very little sponsorship, but you do your own fundraising. You are getting the message across to the community very well. It is worth while to keep in touch with the schools and you could continue your support to them on the green flag. We are pleased to find that the competition has raised awareness on the well being of the area. All of this means you have a good overall development approach.

The Built Environment:

The school is well presented, bright and crisp, with good flower beds. The community centre was bright and cheerful with nice hanging baskets. The old school house, now a childcare facility, is beautifully decorated – wonderful. St Mary's church nestles peacefully at the cross roads and it had a bright and fresh appearance. Willow Haven and O'Douoghue's bar were freshly painted in attractive colours. I admired the old forge and maybe the ivy could be removed as it will eventually destabilise the building

Landscaping:

The village was festooned with tubs and baskets of flowers and the layout of this village does not really require elaborate landscaping as it has its own particular charm. The church is very well landscaped as is the landscaping in the housing estates. There was good landscaping at the entrance to Holly Woods. The stone sign posts for the village are excellent – well done.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

I saw that the entrance to the forest and the Holy Well were renewed with timber gates. This short amenity walk is very interesting. You could enlist the assistance of some local people that are interested in outdoor pursuits to help you on the fauna and flora of the area.

Litter Control:

The person that is dumping the papers on the way into the village is most irresponsible. You can take action by getting in contact with the environment section of Cork County Council; they will take up the issue and if the identity of this person is found big trouble lies ahead, and you will not be identified in the process. Your attention to litter is well noted.

Waste Minimisation:

I understand that you do not have a recycling depot; you could contact the County Council about the provision of one. The big thing about waste is to assist the schools to go all out for the green flag, this gives children and their parents a better understanding of their local environment and composting etc.

Tidiness:

It is positive to follow up the County Council and ESB about unsightly cables. I did not see any graffiti. The village was orderly and tidy. There is a huge difference where the service cables are underground in the new developments. I could see that the locals are following your examples on tidiness by looking after their own places well.

Residential Areas:

This town has been expanded greatly with the new estates which are well maintained with good landscaping. The old town houses are beautiful with great displays of shrubs and flowers, and some of these are quiet spectacular.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

I came to a T junction coming from Glanmire but there was no sign post for your village and I therefore turned left in error. This is dangerous and should be addressed. The road out to holy well needs attention. I loved the little old bridge. The signposts coming into the village are great

General Impression:

You have gone to a lot of trouble making this presentation and we appreciate this. Well done to all concerned.