

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Colmanswell** Ref: **1110**  
County: **Limerick** Mark: **233**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **05/07/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	26
The Built Environment	50	34
Landscaping	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	4
Tidiness	30	22
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>233</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

The adjudicator would like to welcome Colmanswell to the 2009 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed entry form and location map. Colmanswell is a very attractive, peaceful rural area and one where community pride is immediately obvious to the visitor. The preparation of your 3 Year Tidy Towns Plan has been noted. The Committee of 18 is indeed very large and this is most positive. You are working with Ballyhoura Development, An Taisce and the County Council and this support is most important for future progress. It is obvious that there is very good community support for Tidy Towns. The communications media that you use are very good and it is so important to let the Colmanswell know of your Tidy Towns work on a regular basis.

### **The Built Environment:**

The Church and grounds are delightfully presented and most neat and tidy. On the day of the adjudication visit, the old Letter Box still awaited its replacement door. You may be able to source a door at an architectural salvage company in Limerick city. A visit to the old Abbey showed immediately that you have been quite active here and the bark used here provides an attractive surface finish. The Graveyard is excellently presented. In the new section, it was noted that kerbing around graves has not been used to facilitate grass cutting. The Church car park was spotless and the landscaping here is excellent. All the grass in the Graveyard was excellently presented. The road boundary wall of the Priest's old house and the Church had been painted white at the time of the visit, and this makes such a difference. The large gable wall to the house and the outbuildings had also been painted white. In summary, there has been a great improvement here. The Rambling House was much admired, together with the roadside stone walls here on both sides of the road. St Coleman's well was visited and this is a really well presented area with great care and attention to detail. The fencing on the approach road had been recently treated, as had other timber work at the Well.

**Landscaping:**

Flower tubs add a splash of colour at many locations around the village including the Church car park. You have been careful in the provision of tubs and have not over provided. In such a rural area natural landscaping will always be the best approach with limited use of hanging baskets, window boxes and flowered tubs. Well done on achieving the right balance here. The new trees at the Graveyard and the additional planting at the well are all welcomed. Well done on your success in The Limerick in Bloom Competition.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

It was good to read that a Wildlife Survey is pending. This should include birds, fish, insects, plants and animals. When you have the results of this Survey, the next step will be to consider how best you can continue to make the Colmanswell area attractive for wildlife. The Graveyard must play an important role in the Survey and indeed the stream at the Well also.

**Litter Control:**

On the day of the visit, litter control was very good indeed and your links with the County Council in this regard are important. On the day of the visit, there was absolutely no sign of dumping of any kind. Congratulations to the Colmanswell community on their high standards in regard to litter issues.

**Waste Minimisation:**

Your entry indicated that you are promoting composting, but did not give any details. Last year's adjudicator gave some suggestions in regard to this category and these are still valid.

**Tidiness:**

Once again you have maintained your high standards in respect of tidiness issues. Therefore, your marks here show an increase on last year.

**Residential Areas:**

The limited number of houses in the area was presented to a high standard and with very obvious pride.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

On the approach roads, banks and verges needed to be trimmed just a little. On the approach down to the Graveyard to the main road, a long private hedge on the right was in need of a cut. At the Colmanswell signs on the main approaches, the small landscaped areas were examined and commended.

**General Impression:**

It was a real pleasure to visit the beautiful area of Colmanswell on a warm July afternoon. Good luck with your projects for next year.