

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Coney Island** Ref: **1232**  
County: **Sligo** Mark: **250**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **26/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	27
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	33
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	21
Residential Areas	40	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>250</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you for your entry into this year's TidyTowns Competition. It was great to visit the very unusual Coney island again. Thank you for your well thought-out entry, the very useful map and the additional information. You have reported on some very key issues and your work is helping to improve the island for all.

### **The Built Environment:**

The one commercial establishment, Michael J. Ward, was open on day of visit. This looked well. The remainder of the buildings on the island are either part of the farming community here or are single houses or holiday homes. There are some derelict houses. With one exception, a particularly modern house, the houses are built or rebuilt in traditional style. Tradition also applies to the walls and gates for most of the island.

### **Landscaping:**

There is little by way of what may be described as formal landscaping. The appeal of Coney is dependant upon the rural and insular feel to its laneways, fields and boundaries. It was noted that the pump, well painted, is now decorated with flowers.

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

The rabbits which give the island its name were indeed in abundance on day of visit. However, there were many birds seen and heard, including those typical of farmland as well as sea and shore species. Is the corncrake still to be heard here? The mature hedgerows and stone walls are excellent for insect life and several bee species were seen on the fuchsia flowers. Common spotted and marsh orchids, vetches and

trefoils were among the wildflowers seen.

Well done on the splendid wildlife photographic sign that is found beside the new map of the Island. These are excellent additions.

**Litter Control:**

With the exception of some jetsam, no litter was seen on day of visit. Well done on your Spring Clean event. The constant collection of what is essentially someone else's rubbish is a tiresome but not thankless task. Your 'bring a bag' initiative is highly praiseworthy. The 'Leave only footprints' sign is excellent.

**Waste Minimisation:**

Well done on the composting. If you could adopt some practices to counter any non-biodegradable waste that would be a useful addition. Perhaps you already have these in place.

**Tidiness:**

A well-tended impression is given by all of the populated areas of Coney. The pump and Post Office box were well painted. Gates, walls and side areas were in good condition. The Pier area was remarkably neat.

**Residential Areas:**

All of the homes of Coney are presented to a high standard. Roses, fresh white paint and glossy doors are the overriding memory. The pair of clogs probably tells a story.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The tiny lanes of Coney are very pleasant to walk in the summer as there is abundant insect life and birdsong. Road surface is perfect for this use or slow cycling.

**General Impression:**

Coney is as nice as remembered from my last visit. However, your committee has made positive contributions in the meantime. The new signs are lovely. The beach conservation measures are to be applauded. The beach at Carty's Strand was spotless and very pleasant to walk along. Well done to all for your work. For the constant clean-underpass and bringing a bag, on behalf of all visitors to Coney, thank you.