

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Keash** Ref: **1220**
County: **Sligo** Mark: **211**
Category: **A** Date(s): **01/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	11
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	211

Overall Development Approach:

Keash Village Enhancement Ltd is welcome to the 2009 competition. You show an obvious pride in your local environment and concern with its future development. The application was very concise and to the point, which is always to be applauded. It was good to hear that you have a good level of voluntary help in your work, and the FAS workers must be a great help. Your close working relationship with the school is all to the good. You would appear to have a positive and healthy approach to your work in the competition. Congratulations to St Kevin's Church on its 200th Anniversary.

The Built Environment:

The church and its magnificent hedging, grotto, landscaped stream area and brightly painted murals and statuary looked marvellous as ever. It has a marvellous backdrop of the escarpment and unusual Keash caves. The school was well maintained and the new community field opposite was admired. The Keep Keash Clean posters/murals in this location looked bright and cheerful. Commercial premises, such as the Fox's Den were well maintained, although it's car park area would benefit from one of your marvellous landscape plans! Ward's shop was very bright and cheerful on the day, with a magnificent garden seen to the adjacent house. The White Hall lived up to its name and was very fresh with bright red geraniums on display!

Landscaping:

Planting at speed limit signs and at key areas in the village was admired and looked very cheerful. The area by the houses near the church was maturing nicely, with its new blue pump. The grotto area, with its stream area and lush planting also looked well, as did the planted area adjacent to the White Hall. The old farm machinery formed interesting displays at various spots along roadsides. The Droim Caoin area was looking well maintained and attractive on the day, and your work in relation to rescuing this area from neglect is marvellous.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The planning of a wildflower garden at the school is applauded and will provide great enjoyment and knowledge to the children.

Litter Control:

The standard in this category of the competition was very good on the day. The anti-litter campaign at the school must have paid off!

Waste Minimisation:

The bins at the recycling area were well maintained. The fact that you have regular clean ups and recycle all that can be recycled is laudable. Your close relationship with Sligo Environmental Department in the County Council will, undoubtedly, be of great benefit to your efforts.

Tidiness:

The village generally had a neat appearance on the day. The tin roofed shed opposite the White Hall was in need of attention, and weeds were evident to the kerbing around the recycling parking area and to the houses opposite. The perimeter wall at the GAA grounds could have benefited from a fresh coat of paint, and weeds were also evident at its base.

Residential Areas:

The housing estate by the church was well maintained, with attractive landscaped space, although the houses themselves would benefit from a fresh coat of paint. Individual houses along roadsides were generally presented to a high standard.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Do ensure when you clear away hedgerows and trees on approach roads that you take into consideration bird nesting times and other wildlife and ecological issues. Verges along the main road were generally well maintained and the bus stop with granite faced seating area and planting was admired. The road to the church was beautifully maintained and sported wildflowers such as clover. Some of the road signage, such as warning signs was in need of a wash-down on the day.

General Impression:

Keash is a village that, by its nature is quite spread out and this has caused you some problems in terms of maintenance, but you have tackled these very well.