

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Roundwood** Ref: **246**  
County: **Wicklow** Mark: **249**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **24/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	38
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	19
Litter Control	50	39
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	34
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>249</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you for comprehensive application with photos, newsletter, and maps. The circulation of the 'wish list' for feedback and invitation to community to feed into work of the committee is to be highly commended. These results should be incorporated into a 3, 4 or 5 year plan and submitted next year to gain further marks in this section. There is a sense of community spirit in Roundwood. It was good to note the involvement of youth groups, schools and businesses in supporting the work of the Community Council and Tidy Towns committee. There are regular updates through newsletters and a website has been provided by a volunteer, even though they no longer live in the area! There is a lot happening in Roundwood. Good luck in the competition 2009.

### **The Built Environment:**

Tochar House, Roundwood Inn and the Coachhouse all look splendid with fresh paint and floral displays. All shopfronts are well presented. The old fashioned lamp-posts with floral displays make a nice streetscape. The church and the national school are both prominent buildings in town. Facades are clean and well presented. National school has small but neat grassy area and good railings. The Garda Station is a fine, well kept building. Houses beside it and opposite caught the eye with the bright colours and window tubs. The butchers, vets and barbers all look well. Public toilets could have the front improved by washing walls and reseeded the bare patch in grass. St Kevins bus garage is an interesting building and is kept well. Heathers bistro, Centra and Miller Bros were all noted for their fresh appearance.

**Landscaping:**

There is a very charming bench area at the Newtownmountkennedy junction, with toadstool seat, wooden features and bird bath as well as sturdy benches and beautiful use of stone. The opposite side of the road at Sinnotts corner could be improved as it had been used to dump grass cuttings. Plans for further planting were noted.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The area around Roundwood is rich in natural amenities and wildlife. There are trails that could be further promoted, with a wildlife element incorporated. Plans to erect mammal and bird boxes are good, as is working with Coillte on a woodland walk. Good luck in these endeavours.

**Litter Control:**

The bring centre in the car park is well presented with no litter and attempt to fit in as many containers as possible. There was no litter in the village seen, it was very tidy apart from some dog fouling. There may be a need for a campaign on this. There was also some signage and plastic wrap seen in the stream across from Vartry Heights. Otherwise very good.

**Waste Minimisation:**

Well done to the school for achieving and retaining the Green Flag. It is unfortunate that the mobile recycling service is being withdrawn. How are you encouraging people to continue recycling in finding alternative locations? The whole area of waste prevention should be promoted. There is scope to increase marks in this section. Are there figures on amounts generated and targets for reduction? Promotion of this issue through the newsletter would be a good start, and as the schools are already working on it, there are chances to strengthen partnerships in this area. The Councils environmental officers can advise.

**Tidiness:**

The area in front of the public toilets is to be improved and plans for an info panel were noted as well as the fact that phones had been removed. Old advertising hoardings should be removed. The Main St areas were all free of weeds.

**Residential Areas:**

The entrance road to Vartry Heights is in poor condition but apart from a little litter, where was mowed looks well and there are some nice planters. Ashford needs to clear weeds from entrance road as they are quite overgrown. Although the trucks are still there and doing work, it is hoped they fix up the green space when finished. It must be quite frustrating to have machinery operating so close to homes.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

There is good demarcation for parking, and it wasn't busy at time of visit so looked quite orderly. Roads generally good. There are traffic calming measures in place including the pedestrian crossing at the school which is excellent.

**General Impression:**

The aim here should be for slow and steady progress, which you are showing. The TidyTowns committee, although small in number, has also the District Council working towards similar aims. Do not be disheartened by lack of involvement from some of the community. Success breeds success so others will come on board in the future. Well done for work to date and good luck.