

# Tidy Towns Competition 2013

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Suncroft**

Ref: **386**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **239**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **26/06/2013**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2013</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	50	30	31
Landscaping	50	35	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	32	33
Litter Control	50	24	25
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	8	9
Tidiness	30	16	16
Residential Areas	40	27	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25	25
General Impression	10	5	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>239</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Suncroft is welcomed to the 2013 Tidy Towns competition. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator the map enclosed with your application does not help the adjudicator find the village or help with the location of proposed projects. A drawn map of the village with the road names is essential showing where projects are located in relation to the key areas in the village such as the school Church etc. Do try and put together a three year plan for the area of realistic projects you hope to complete each year. You have a small committee assisted by one worker. You communicate well with your community and local agencies. It is also good to see the local school encouraged to get involved and all this involvement from the community is certainly noticeable in the village. The village's short commuting distance to the capital city attracted housing developments similar to what can be seen in most villages and towns around the country. The mix of old and new houses have blended in well in this picturesque village and your continued work of developing the village is welcomed by the Tidy Towns competition.

### **The Built Environment:**

The village has some very attractive buildings. The church and Grotto with its attractive landscaping are an important focal point of the village. St Brigids School is a well maintained feature of the village. The green flags flying outside are an indication of a hard working school committee working together to achieve its goal. The graveyard on the approach road is very well presented. The pubs that form part of the streetscape add colour and character to the area. Katie's thatch house on the road to the amenity area is like a picture postcard. One cannot but stop and admire this lovely feature. Suncroft lodge nursing home is a modern well-presented building nestled in the village with some attractive landscaping. The new Community Centre will be a valuable amenity for the whole community. Good luck with your fundraising for this important project.

### **Landscaping:**

The village has some superb landscaping from the nicely planted stone surround flower displays at the entrance to the village and throughout. One of the planters outside the school was in need of repair and planting. The amenity area with mature trees, seating and landscaping was admired perhaps a similar type of amenity could be included nearer to the village with the new community centre.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The village has many natural areas for wildlife. The river that runs around the village is a perfect source for wildlife and could be developed more by identifying the plants and wildlife that are in existence along the bank of the river. The proposed wildlife sanctuary at Carn Commons and the Suncroft way will be a welcome addition to the village amenities. Hopefully you will be successful in acquiring funding for these projects and do include the School in any projects you are undertaking.

**Litter Control:**

The village regular litter picks are proving successful as the village was almost free of litter on day of adjudication. Continue to include the school children with any clean ups you are participating in as this will get the entire community involved in keeping the village litter free.

**Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:**

The School is making great progress in this category. Well done on the achievements of three green flags. This category has proved difficult with many communities but you have started to address this category through the school and community working together on minimising the amount of waste produced. The information leaflet enclosed with this year's application form gives good guidelines to groups on the many ways the community can reduce the amount of waste produced and also how you can conserve energy and water and reduce costs.

**Tidiness:**

As mentioned in last year's report the removal of old signs when new one are erected would avoid clutter. The local Authority should help you address this matter, try and remove any of those signs before next year's competition. The Phone Box in the village also looks untidy.

There was a lot of grass at the entrance e to the pitch which left this area untidy. At the Centra shop there was some weed growth that needed attention.

**Residential Areas:**

On driving through the village one cannot but admire Church view estate. This is a well maintained landscaped area. Ashfield estates as well as Newtown are well presented. As one drives out of Newtown estate there is a tree partially blocking the view that needs cutting back, there is also an unused house in this area that hopefully you will receive assistance from the owners and the local authority. The houses on Askinraw way and the many other private houses around the village were all superbly maintained and added character to this picturesque village.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The approach roads to the village were well presented with well-maintained verges. There was some untidy fencing on the road leading to the amenity area. Do try and have continuity with the name signs on the approach roads to the village.

**General Impression:**

Suncroft was a very pleasant village to visit and adjudicate. You are making good progress in the competition. You are wished continued success in the future.