

Tidy Towns Competition 2013

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Connolly**

Ref: **1181**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **232**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **13/06/2013**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2012	Mark Awarded 2013
Overall Development Approach	50	26	27
The Built Environment	50	28	29
Landscaping	50	28	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20	22
Litter Control	50	30	31
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	11	12
Tidiness	30	20	21
Residential Areas	40	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	224	232

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the 2013 Tidy Towns competition. You have a good committee and are holding plenty meetings to monitor progress and plan ahead. Contacts with the agencies and bodies help to improve the infrastructure, amenity and quality of life for the residents. The local people are well informed of your activities. You have gone to a lot of trouble to submit this entry and this is appreciated.

The Built Environment:

The school is in great condition and it was delightful to see the wardens assisting the children while crossing this busy road. Carney's bar looked great with the bilingual signage and two hanging baskets added colour and freshness to the building with good parking space there. The cut stone church stands out and is very well maintained and I admired the containers of flowers outside near the public seating. McGraths shop was neat and orderly. The built environment is impressive in Connolly.

Landscaping:

Good quality landscaping is in many places making the village a picturesque location. Nice flower beds, flowers in containers, attractive green at the corner for Inagh, lovely trees at the corner, boxes of flowers across from the school and Fáilte signs nicely planted up are all notable features of Connolly. I loved the traditional horse drawn items such as the common cart, turf trolley and the wheels of a mowing machine. The milk churns remind us of the dairy farming tradition of this part of County Clare.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

There is an abundance of wildlife all around the area and the singing of the birds was magical in some areas notably in the trees at the cross for Inagh and in particular at the bridge on entering the village. You are applauded for all that you are doing with the wildlife and great to see the children involved.

Litter Control:

Litter control is very good in the village and surrounding area, and the residents, school teachers and indeed the children are doing great work to present your area in this fashion. Litter could stand out in small villages such as

Connolly and delightful to find none there.

Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:

With the children participating in the green flag programmes in the schools they will be well informed on the best practices to be adopted in the preservation of the local environment. It is interesting to find here and in lots of other locations that the children are now leading the way with environmental issues. The scrap metal scheme is working very well and you are congratulated for all that you are doing with sustainable waste issues led by the great teachers in your school.

Tidiness:

By just driving through the village one appreciates that it is a tidy location, and this view is added to while spending some time in your midst. Tidiness is an attitude and it is practiced here. The control of weeds is good.

Residential Areas:

There are some splendid houses in the village and on the approach roads that show great landscaping of lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers. The housing estate is neat and orderly.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Bilingual road signs adorned with flowers welcome us to the village. The car park at Carneys helps to take cars off the roadside. Good quality footpaths make for safety for the pedestrians. I admired the 7 mile sign incorporated in the wall.

General Impression:

It was a treat to stop off for a time and enjoy your village that you love so much. I met some men where the traditional machinery is kept doing great work for the community