

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DRUMMOND**
County : **CARLOW**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 30-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	28
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	26	25
Tidiness	20	14	9
Residential Areas	30	17	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	17	18
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	180	173

Drummond, County Carlow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Drummond is a very small village yet a great deal of interest has been made in the village of its potential. The church grounds play a vital role in the area. The committee of ten is a good number and this will ensure that work gets achieved. It would be useful to have a think about future plans and to put these on paper in the form of a three-year plan. This often helps to focus the mind on the sort of possibilities there may be.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The main elements of the built environment are the church - this looks very well, the painted roadside wall is very good and the walls of the church itself would benefit from painting to eliminate the staining. The River Bridge and other stonework in the village is a nice feature. The shrine commemorating the parents and relatives of John and Patrick Brennan is interesting with an attractive stature and balanced planting to each side. This is unusual to find a memorial for family members in such a place and it is a very welcome idea. The school looks well and is painted.

LANDSCAPING

The Church grounds are meticulously well kept with the careful trimming of the purple Berberis and Golden privet hedges. The grass is also very well kept and the best feature of all is the Church name and emblems depicted in extremely well kept box hedge. The dedication required and time spent to get this feature to the present standard is laudable. The river is attractive and the small weirs created by the church grounds are very inventive. The planting of shrubs along the roadside bank is well done, these will require careful maintenance in their initial years to avoid competition from weed grasses. If the triangle behind the shrine could be used as village garden it would create even more opportunities. Window boxes were again noted on the community centre sills and hopefully with better weather in the second half of the summer these will come into their own.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river offers interesting opportunities under this heading. It would be good if a riverside walk could be made. A project in relation to wildlife should be considered with the involvement of the school. Hedgerows and riverside areas are always interesting studies.

LITTER CONTROL

There is a very good level of litter control and the village was very clean at adjudication time.

TIDINESS

The village has a tidy appearance. Keeping kerbsides free of weeds and paying attention to the frontage of gardens to roadsides helps to improve the tidiness aspect.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are few residences in the village. Those present have a good appearance and obviously take pride in their properties and their gardens.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The bridge, approach roads and signs were in good order, some signs are partially obscured by hedge growth. Road signs indicating where Drummond is located in a few mile radius were not seen and some signage at St. Mullins would help.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village is very well tended and the church grounds in particular show a great deal of dedication and enthusiasm. While this is a very small village it is an important part of the fabric of the countryside. The small village is a unique feature of the Irish landscape as such must be preserved. By entering the competition you heighten the awareness of this fact and promote the village style.