

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DRUMKEERIN**
County : **LEITRIM**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	27
The Built Environment	40	28	26
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	12
Litter Control	40	25	28
Tidiness	20	8	9
Residential Areas	30	19	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	35
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	190	185

Drumkeerin, County Leitrim

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your completed application form and very clear map. Your five year plan appears to be a very practical one. Given the size of the town and the difficulties you have experienced gaining financial support you have taken the sensible option of tackling individual issues one by one in order to benefit the “bigger picture”. Your work regarding the approach roads and open spaces appear to have paid off to a large extent. Generally perhaps you could concentrate one or two other aspects of the competition. Hopefully the legal dispute in relation to the ball alley will be resolved by then. It was reassuring to note that you have an increase in your membership numbers this year.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

By and large the buildings of the town looked well cared for on adjudication day. The Heritage Centre and Coffee Shop looked well as did the two churches with their beautifully maintained grounds. Clarkes, the Credit Union and Davitt’s were all beautifully fresh. The Courthouse is an extremely charming building as is the traditional shop front of Kelly’s – this should be restored to its former glory. When this takes place do ensure that its original windows are kept. The Lough Allen Inn was extremely fresh as was O’Duignán’s, the Breffni Store and the Cosy Corner. The Post Office is an extremely charming building and the Garda Station in its prominent location on Main Street looked extremely fresh. Lough Allen College and grounds looked as well as ever. It is to be hoped that Wynne’s in its prominent location on the Main Street will be developed in the not too distant future – at the moment it looks most unfortunate. O Míocháin’s looks somewhat neglected. Staining is apparent where a sign has been removed to its façade and weeds were growing in the gutter

LANDSCAPING

The landscaped areas throughout the village and along approach roads were generally well cared for on the day. The planted bed with permanent planting on the Manorhamilton Road looked well although the grass in this area appeared somewhat overgrown. The attractive and colourful mosaic sculpture to the housing at the top of Main Street at its junction with Sheena Road was greatly admired. The grassy area to the front of the houses on the Carrick-on-Shannon Road looked well with its planting. However the retaining wall of this area was extremely grubby. The picnic area on the Carrick-on-Shannon Road with its seating, timber tubs and stones looked extremely well and affords the visitor a magnificent view to the valley below.

WILDLIFE

Wild flowers on approach roads were admired such as the cheerful yellow flag irises on

the Carrick-on-Shannon Road and the wild daisies on the Dowra Road. Your proposals in relation to accessing the waterfall area and incorporating nature walks along the Owengar River are to be commended. Do ensure that you get that advice you are seeking from local experts in this regard.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day could have been better. Although on first impressions the standard of litter control looked good, closer inspection revealed problem areas. In a village of this size one has to be evermore vigilant as even one or two papers create a very bad impression. Papers and boxes were apparent to a fenced in area on the Carrick-on-Shannon Road and more litter was evident on the road leading to the recycling bins.

TIDINESS

The abundance of empty sites throughout the village create a very untidy appearance. An empty site in the prominent location at the bend of the main street looked unfortunate. Gravel appeared to have been dumped to the roadside in the vicinity of the Heritage Centre for some time as grass was growing on top of it! You should consider screening the bottle bank area in order to make this area appear more ordered. Weeds were evident to the kerbside in this location. The boundary wall to the graveyard should be repainted before next year's competition, although the grounds of the graveyard looked well and work was evident on the day.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of houses along approach roads and in the village centre were generally high on the day. Of particular note was an attractive cottage on the Manorhamilton Road which sported marigolds in the garden and geraniums in the window.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The standard in this category of the competition was somewhat inconsistent. Roadworks were in progress on the Manorhamilton Road and the numerous orange cones created a cluttered appearance. Some gaps were apparent in the hedgerows and this long lead into the village is quite a large area to cover! The Carrick-on-Shannon Road looked quite good considering that the works of the water supply scheme were taking place at the time. Although signage was quite fresh on the Manorhamilton Road directional signs in a number of locations in the village centre appeared extremely grubby.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Drumkeerin is an attractive working village set in some magnificent scenery. It has a number of derelict and empty sites which create a rather gap-toothed appearance to its

presentation. Good luck with your future endeavours regarding the development of the village.