

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DRUMSHANBO**  
County : **LEITRIM**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	--
The Built Environment	40	22	--
Landscaping	40	22	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	--
Litter Control	40	20	--
Tidiness	20	11	--
Residential Areas	30	21	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	--
General Impression	10	6	--
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>--</b>

# **Drumshanbo, County Leitrim**

## **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Drumshanbo is welcome back to the competition after a six year absence-obviously the new marking system introduced in 1996 created shockwaves! The adjudicators were pleased to note that you had put together a five year work programme – perhaps for next years competition set a timeframe against the achievement of your aims. This will help you see your progress as the years go by as well as aiding adjudication. Drumshanbo Community Council has some sensible and worthwhile plans for the town's future – the childcare and business facility of Laird House was admired and your proposals regarding the colour schemes for the town are highly commendable. The pedestrianisation of the High Street should be another great asset to the town. Hopefully the creation of a new car park and road from Church Street to Dowra Street will alleviate some of the traffic congestion problems that are all too evident in the town centre.

## **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Most of the public and commercial premises of the town looked well on adjudication day. The Bank of Ireland was particularly admired as it looked extremely fresh with some magnificent hanging baskets. The school and grounds on the Fenagh Road were well maintained for its attractively maintained grounds. There are still quite a number of plastic signs which should be replaced with ones of a more traditional timber variety. There are also a number of shop fronts which would benefit from a re-vamp as they currently look somewhat dated.

## **LANDSCAPING**

The planted bank on the Carrick Road appeared weedy on the day. If planted areas are introduced they should be maintained. Acres Lake amenity area in the vicinity of the entrance to the lake and car park looked somewhat neglected – the surface of the car park area was in bad condition and the sign in this location looked quite battered. However the children's playground and swimming pool were admired. There is scope for further development in this aspect of the competition along the main streets of the town and to commercial premises such as garage forecourts.

## **WILDLIFE**

As previously mentioned Acres Lake should be considered for further development. It has the benefit of many wildlife habitats. On the day ducks, lily pads and jaunty yellow bog irises were spotted. Your plans in relation to tree planting and shrubs to encourage wildlife and the wetland area for ducks are all highly commendable. Drumshanbo is fortunate in relation to the numerous lakes in its immediate vicinity and the wealth of mature trees combined with the benefit of the mill race running through the town.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

The provision of extra litter bins is highly commendable. Litter control on the day was reasonably good although some papers were spotted on the Carrick Road to grass verges and a light scattering was evident along the main streets.

## **TIDINESS**

This is an aspect of the competition which is obviously been improved upon over the last number of years. The car park area at Acres Lake has previously been mentioned. The main streets of the town generally looked quite well maintained but do be vigilant when it comes to back areas and out buildings.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The standard in this category of the competition was generally quite good with houses along approach roads and in the town centre generally being well cared for. The houses and gardens of the Carrick-on-Shannon Road looked as well as ever. Of particular note was a magnificent garden with lupins beside the open space on this road. An attractive two storey house whose garden was filled with bright red poppies was admired on the Fenagh Road and Moores B&B in the centre of the town contributes well to this aspect of the competition.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The standard in this category could have been better. On the Manorhamilton Road the verges had been cut back but some of the dead grass had yet to be removed. Do discourage advertising hoardings. Try to strike a balance between achieving a natural appearance and letting the approach roads grow completely wild and unruly. Some of the street furniture in terms of benches etc. looked quite dilapidated! The Carrick Road was better than the Manorhamilton Road and the Fenagh Road was admired for its overhanging mature trees and stone walling. The traffic control in the town centre leaves a lot to be desired – people just seem to pull in and park at will rather than actually using the existing car parking areas!

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Drumshanbo is a busy vibrant town which has obviously improved since last entering the competition. There are still a number of areas that need to be addressed. Use this document as a means of making these improvements.