

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dromod**

Ref: **4**

County: **Leitrim**

Mark: **265**

Category: **A**

Date: **01/08/2003**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2003 | Mark Awarded 2002 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 42 | 39 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 37 | 36 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 37 | 36 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 22 | 22 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 36 | 36 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 19 | 18 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 27 | 27 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 36 | 35 |
| General Impression | 10 | 9 | 9 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 265 | 258 |

Overall Developmental Approach:

Dromod looked lovely on adjudication day. The Tidy Towns Committee and Dromod Development Association are to be complimented on the work which has gone into the National Tidy Towns competition over the years and to the residents for maintaining their high standard. The provision of a new holiday village and an extension to the harbour augers well for the future. Thanks are due to the committee for their excellent yearly report and their detailed town map which was most helpful.

The Built Environment:

Many of the commercial buildings in the village are extremely well presented. The Brandywell Public House on the North approach is most praise worthy with its nice signage, floral displays and its magnificent railings and stone wall. Nice tree planting here as well. O'Connors also looked well. Jimmy's was still maintaining its high standards, with a lovely floral display. The Annaduff Credit Union is extremely presentable. The post office was extremely attractive and as last year the antique shop on the southern end of the main street still looked well. The Copper Stil on the Mohill Road has nice signage and a lovely floral display. The old Mace sign on the corner store has been restored (well done). The stone garda station on the main street still maintains its dignity.

Landscaping:

This is a most popular part of the competition as can be seen by the erection of a gazebo on the opposite side of the road to the J.G. O'Connor Memorial Garden in the centre of the village. The gazebo is most charming and a credit to all concerned. The floral displays and tree planting in this area is charming. One small comment, the small wishing well in the O'Connor Park is full of debris and should be cleaned up. The wonderful floral display beside the bog oak sculpture on the harbour is most commendable. The tree planting, wooden seating and tubs in the harbour area is most pleasant. The floral display beside the renovated empty house on the Rooskey approach is outstanding. Some nice floral displays at many of the new houses in the village. Litter bins are nicely screened at the harbour.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Bird tables were clearly visible in the harbour area and near the new gazebo in the village park. The wildlife area in the vicinity of the marina should be highlighted.

Litter Control:

The committee are having some success under this heading and the main street and other amenity areas in the village were pretty much litter free on adjudication day. Many of the litter bins are well presented. Your street bins are lovely and the replacement of these litter bins as mentioned in last years report is noted. Well done. The litter bins throughout invite all to make use of them and the notice attached to many of them clearly identify their sole purpose. Some residual litter was noted in the vicinity of the recycling bins. A sharp watch has to be maintained to ensure that your high standards are maintained.

Tidiness:

Dromod has a lovely appearance and looked extremely well kept and tidy. Some improvements have been carried out as a result of last years report and thanks are due to the committee for their excellent work in this regard. The number of hanging baskets have been reduced to twelve, the old Mace sign on the corner food store has been removed. The derelict building beside the bus stop has been refurbished and looked extremely presentable. Well done. The work carried out at the entrance to the railway station is also noted as is the picnic tables in the harbour area which has been restored. The railway station is very eye catching and is also worthy of comment. The appearance of the Cavan-Leitrim railway line also looked well. With regard to the railway yard itself, it really needs tidying up. It is in a poor state of neglect and really spoils the ambience of the entire area. The new fencing on the Sligo Road and in the vicinity of the Brandywell is very commendable. Perhaps, as mentioned in last year's report, the recycling bins on the Mohill Road could possibly be screened. The G.A.A. Park on the Mohill Road is also worthy of comment, with it's lovely floral display and new tarmacadam carpark. The harbour area approach will be impressive when Leitrim County Council have completed the restoration work here.

Residential Areas:

The new houses at the marina area (holiday village) are extremely well presented and when the work is completed the harbour should be a fine asset to your Tidy Towns effort. The new houses on the northern approach on both sides of the road are quietly blending in with the village landscape. The new estate at the rear of the Brandywell is extremely well kept with its neatly trimmed lawns and lovely fair green. The overall presentation of many of the houses on the approach roads is most spectacular, as are many of the houses on the Harbour Road. The cottages at the rear of the railway station are really lovely. The standard here is quite breathtaking.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads to the village are presented to an extremely high standard. The verges are all neatly trimmed and the tree planting throughout is exemplary. The floral displays are eye catching

and most attractive and colourful. As mentioned in last year's report, advertising hoardings can be a distraction in this regard. The small park in the centre of the village with its water fountain, new gazebo, seating and tree planting is most inspiring. One should also mention Crowes Garage on the Sligo approach with its tidy fore court and extremely neat and attractive appearance. Some of the corrugated sheds visible in the vicinity of the village park will need attention before next year's competition. Hopefully, all building work will be completed shortly. Well done.

General Impression:

The committee and the residents of Dromod are to be complimented on another excellent Tidy Towns effort this year. The maintenance of their high standard over the years is a credit to them all.

Second Round Adjudication:

It has been a real joy to observe the changes in Dromod year by year, and to note how the hard work put in over such a long period has placed Dromod at the top of the county, with always the possibility of going further. As you sow you shall reap, and you are reaping magnificently!

The comments, and the increase in marking, made by the first adjudicator, are confirmed by the second. The only significantly adverse comment by the first was on the railway yard: the mainline station is maintained to a very high standard, as is the entrance to the Sligo-Leitrim Railway, but the further area of the latter is starting to look like a scrap yard because of the collection of the now derelict busses and the weed growth surrounding them. The wishing well was still being used as a receptacle for litter at the second adjudication. Over the summer there has been considerable weed growth in the forecourt of Duigan's. These points apart, the village was looking superb in early August, a real credit to the committee and all who help in the splendid effort.