

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Drumkeerin**

Ref: **119**

County: **Leitrim**

Mark: **195**

Category: **B**

Date: **16/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	30
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	13
Litter Control	40	26	25
Tidiness	20	10	8
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	35
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	195	190

Overall Developmental Approach:

In re-organising the Tidy Towns structure you are adopting a fresh approach which will stand you in good stead providing that committee members are positive in their support.

A more determined and extensive approach is now required and it would be a backward step if you were to discard the 5 year plan mentioned in last years report.

Thank you for the entry form and detailed map.

The Built Environment:

Public buildings were in general presented well and Lough Allen College with extensive and nicely trimmed lawns added greatly to an attractive landscape, however, the open area in front of the G.A.A., pitch was disappointing and the stand alone derelict building an eyesore. Davitts was freshly painted and the floral displays nicely presented. The reconstruction of Wynnes is very noticeable and when finished in full will enhance greatly the streetscape. Whilst some improvements under this heading have taken place and all those involved are to be commended there is still a lot of work to be done and the very many untidy and derelict buildings continue to be a problem.

A greater display of hanging baskets and window boxes will enhance the street scape and this should encouraged.

Landscaping:

You continue to make progress under this heading. Lough Allen College is neatly presented and well cared for. The amenity area on the Drumshanbo Road looked well and the view to the valley below is most picturesque.

Young trees in some areas are maturing nicely and others need attention - do consider additional planting and create colourful flower beds where appropriate.

Do remember that trees are the most important plants in the village landscape and should be planted in open areas and maintained with T.L.C.

Some nicely colourful gardens were noted on the Manorhamilton Road and contribute to a well cared for approach to the village.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your performance under this heading is most disappointing.

The very rural nature of the landscape should make it easy for your committee to undertake a major wildlife or nature project.

Seek the advice and guidance of a local wildlife expert in this regard or perhaps engage the support of students attending Lough Allen College to carry out some research.

Litter Control:

Drumkeerin was almost litter free on adjudication day except for some incidental litter outside Kelly's on Main Street and at the corner of Old School Road.

Tidiness:

Some untidy open spaces, derelict buildings and badly presented boundary areas mitigate against you doing well under this heading.

Hopefully Kelly's, Eircom and handball alley site can be developed to the satisfaction of all concerned - your efforts in this regard are much appreciated by the adjudicator.

Success under this heading will require the co-operation of the residents and business interests with support from the Local Authority.

Some improvements were noted and you have been rewarded for same.

Residential Areas:

Private and local authority housing in the village all looked well. Again the cottage on the Manorhamilton Road was eye catching and as already mentioned there are some excellent gardens about the village some with spacious lawns and colourful planting.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Carrick and Manorhamilton approach roads were neatly trimmed and had an appearance of being well cared for. Some directional signs need cleaning and one on the Old School Road needs replacing. Some open spaces were untidily presented and weeds in gullies were noted in some areas.

It is important that verges are neatly trimmed and sign-posting clean and visible at all times.

General Impression:

It is important that you review progress to date and relate to the recommendations contained in your 5 year plan if same is still in use.

Now that a new committee is in place this adjudicator will be watching your progress with great interest.

Give the Main Street a priority rating in your plans for 2004 and plan well ahead in deciding on your work programme.