

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Drumkeerin**

Ref: **465**

County: **Leitrim**

Mark: **199**

Category: **B**

Date: **24/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	35
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	199	195

Overall Developmental Approach:

The programme of activities as outlined on the entry form is impressive and should show positive results in the immediate future. Your proactive approach in working with Leitrim County Council to progress the new footpath on Main Street and getting overhead wires put under ground in commended. The adjudicator wishes you well with your application under the Clár Village Enhancement Scheme in association with the local Residents Association. Your excellent map and notes regarding ongoing development and future plans were greatly appreciated.

The Built Environment:

Construction of "Rowan Tree House", the development of the derelict site on the Manorhamilton Road and the near completion of Wynnes Bar will greatly improve the built environment of Drumkeerin. The adjudicator is looking forward to seeing what developers have in store for "Kelly's" in the Main Street and hope you are successful in retaining as much as possible of this architecturally distinctive shopfront. While some derelict buildings and problem areas remain I feel confident that the transformation of similar sites around the village will encouraged those concerned to take positive action and improve the built environment of Drumkeerin.

Landscaping:

The amenity area on the Drumshanbo Road was being strimmed on adjudication day with visitors using the carpark and picnic area. Additional trees and shrubs look well in local authority housing estates. It's good to see that you act on suggestions in these reports. The house with balcony and hanging baskets opposite Kelly's in the Main Street is beautifully presented. Some open areas around the village are in need of attention. Your on-going negotiations with Eircom in this regard have been noted. Refer to the Tidy Towns Handbook for some guidance as to how you might make improvements under this heading.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

As suggested in last years report you have the location and natural amenities to do really well under this heading. Actions 6 of the Tidy Towns Handbook and the literature produced by the Heritage Council "Conserving and Enhancing Wildlife in towns and villages" will help you select the most suitable approach for your group.

Litter Control:

Litter control was good on adjudication day. Your additional litter bins, bulletin and clean up campaigns appear to be working. Some occasional litter in open spaces and on some approach roads was noted. The recycling area was well presented. Continue to engage schools in anti-litter drives.

Tidiness:

Lough Allen College was again well presented. The corrugated sheds in this vicinity are unsightly. Street furniture needs repainting and graffiti removed. When the ongoing work programme to develop open spaces and derelict buildings are complete you should see an increase in marks under this heading. Meanwhile, encourage private and local authority householders to maintain their boundary walls and verges. O'Duigean's Shop and Davitts Bar on the Main Street looked well.

Residential Areas:

A number of private houses on approach roads and in the village are well presented with colourful and well landscaped gardens. It is essential that existing and new residential areas are encouraged to maintain a high standard of presentation not only of their premises but also of the surrounding boundary walls, fencing and roadside area. Some residential areas would benefit from painting. You are commended for cutting all estate lawns.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Main approaches were reasonably presented. Some directional signs still need cleaning and verges trimmed back to make signs visible. A regular maintenance schedule is needed to keep grass down and weeds at bay on all approaches and back areas. Attention to details and vigilance is now required to progress under this heading.

General Impression:

An annual work programme in relation to the key issues raised in this and previous reports is now essential to prioritise and set realistic goals for the coming year. Circulating your tidy towns report to residents is a good way to get community support for the work required. Your continuing efforts have been rewarded with an increase in marks.

