

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Drumlea** Ref: **1397**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **188**
Category: **A** Date(s): **08/08/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	14
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	23
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	400	188

Overall Development Approach:

Drumlea is a tiny hamlet in a rural setting close to lakes and has the potential to do well in the National Tidy Towns Competition. Drumlea is very welcome to the competition. Prepare a planned work programme spanning a period of not less than three years and submit this together with a rural place map of Drumlea identifying areas you wish to have adjudicated. We wish you success in your future activities.

The Built Environment:

St. Mary's Church is a handsome building and the beautifully painted silver gates were admired on adjudication day. The adjacent grotto is also an attractive feature. The Drumreilly Community Centre is nicely painted and its roadside boundary walls enjoy good maintenance. Perhaps the post of the basketball stands in the community centre grounds could be refurbished. The school and grounds located beside the church are being well maintained.

Landscaping:

Identify incidental sites that could be landscaped and include public seating in their design. One such location might be the area beside the telephone kiosk which needs to be weeded; the telephone kiosk could be maintained to a higher standard. The handsome stand of tall trees on the road to the lake was particularly admired. Ensure that all planting is of a native species as this will help you retain your rural charm and of course is supportive of wildlife. Avoid ornamental species except in private gardens.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The burial grounds located across from the church are neatly presented with an attractive boundary wall.

Access to the lake could be improved as it is not clear whether this is open to the public. An interpretative panel with details of the flora and fauna of the lake and its environs might be installed at the lakeside and indeed a nature trail of flora and fauna from the village centre to the lake might be included also. Stands of wildflowers could be encouraged along roadside verges at a number of locations, wild flowers and wild hedgerow on the road to the lake are acknowledged.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent in Drumlea on the day of adjudication with there being no evidence of litter, well done. Submit details of your litter control activities in future years as these details can attract additional marks. Examples include involvement in the National Spring Clean, the frequency of litter pick-ups and segregation of litter for recycling.

Waste Minimisation:

Perhaps the school children could be encouraged to work towards Green Flag status; this would help improve your performance under this heading. A sign should be provided for the recycling point and weed growth here eliminated. A community composting initiative might be undertaken together with a community waste audit with a view to minimising the amount of waste produced in Drumlea.

Tidiness:

A number of untidy field entrances were noted in addition to a few corner sites and curtilage areas. Regular sweeping is to be encouraged.

Residential Areas:

Residents should be encouraged to take responsibility for communal areas and areas outside of their own boundary walls. They may also be encouraged to participate in landscaping and wildlife activities in addition to litter control activities. The majority of dwellings were beautifully presented including gardens. One section of the wall of the house beside the school was in a collapsed state on the day of adjudication, no doubt this will be rebuilt in due course.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Name plates are nicely presented and verges of approach roads look reasonably well. The small post office box located on the top of the road to the lake is a nice feature and could be refurbished. The road to the lake has a status more akin to a boreen than a road and of course should be incorporated into the proposed Sli na Slainte walk and nature trail to the lake. Other road surfaces appear to be quite good. Some attractive lamp standards might be installed at a future date.

General Impression:

Drumlea enjoys a rural setting with a relaxed ambience which should be protected and preserved in the event of future development.