

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## **Adjudication Report**

Centre: **Drumsna** Ref: **428**  
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **205**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **25/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	21
Landscaping	50	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	18
Litter Control	50	23
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	12
Residential Areas	40	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	21
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>205</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

The adjudicator would like to welcome Drumsna to the 2007 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for the various press cuttings that gave an interesting insight to life in the village. The Vintage Day photographs were good to see. Congratulations on your involvement in Pride of Place. The Development Plan for the period 2007 to 2009 is a clear well thought out document. In November of this year you should move it on by another year. With a committee of 12 people you appear to have strong community support for your work.

### **The Built Environment:**

The under-grounding of cables in Quay Street and the new lights has been a great project and hopefully the programme can be extended. It is really encouraging to see that some of the derelict buildings are now gone and that infill development is now taking their place. The planned rope fencing around the swimming figure at The Quay was not in place on adjudication day – what was to be the purpose of that? The adjudicator wonders if the waterways authority might consider moving the 'End of Navigation' sign away from this beautiful sculpture as it really detracts from it and makes it difficult to photograph. A number of buildings were admired on Main Street including the Limestone building near the bridge. This is a fine wide street and the mature trees help to link the village to the surrounding countryside. Another property that caught the eye was Duignan's. Along Quay Street another buildings that stands out for good reasons is the beautiful stone building beside the new Community Resource Centre building. At this building it is good to see that timber rather than plastic windows have been used. Hopefully the signage when provided will be appropriate to a rural village. A yellow building on Quay Street would be improved by repainting.

### **Landscaping:**

Hanging baskets and flower tubs add colour to various parts of the village as in Quay Street. The new landscaped area on Quay Road where the children appear to have had a major involvement fits the area

perfectly. The new Apples trees along Belmont are coming along well. At the Belmont end of the village the landscaped grass areas were presented to a really high standard and cutting was underway on the day of adjudication. Small landscaped areas can also be important such as the one at the Bridge on the Jamestown side. Apart from some weed growth the car park here was well presented. At the bridge nearby the hanging baskets added to the overall presentation of the bridge.

#### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The Quay area is an interesting one for wildlife. The walkway at the end of the Quay is a good project that develops further the potential of this area. The Survey due for completion next year will make interesting reading and do make sure to include a copy with your 2998 Tidy Towns Entry Form. The presentation of the Shannonside Walk was good though a little litter was noted along here. The long grass needs to be removed from the information panel near the start of this walk.

#### **Litter Control:**

Unfortunately litter control left a little to be desired on adjudication day. Litter was present in several locations at The Quay and at the car park here. Very good signage was noted at the Bring Centre but the long grass and weeds at both ends detracted from the overall presentation of this important facility. It is good that your committee has been able to adopt the Bring Bank. The litter patrol idea is used by many Tidy Towns Committees and it appears to work well. Hopefully you also involve the children in your patrols.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

The segregation of litter at clean ups is an important step in waste minimisation. The organising of a Workshop on waste minimisation in the Drumsna community is another initiative that you might consider. This could be held on a waste minimisation community awareness day as part of a series of local initiatives. Your local school or schools should also be involved with their own waste minimisation projects. You could also consider a partnership with local firms and businesses to encourage them to reduce unnecessary waste. In regard to waste minimisation it is important to remember that quite small actions can sometimes have a significant waste reduction impact. The Race Against Waste booklet circulated to all Tidy Towns Committee in 2006 has many ideas on waste reduction that may be of help to your committee.

#### **Tidiness:**

On the Jamestown approach just before the bridge the gate at the splayed entrance area needed to be repainted. However you work on gates elsewhere was noted. The leveling of the area around the old school improves that area. Beside the infill development near the Fair Green some general tidying up is desirable. At the Quay weed and grass growth at kerbing needs to be controlled.

#### **Residential Areas:**

The work on the green area at The Grange is noted. At the new infill development at the top of Main Street the low boundary walls are in need of painting. At Belmont Heights weed growth at kerbing detracted from the overall presentation. Oak Meadows was under development on the day of adjudication and road surfacing had not yet taken place. Along Belmont stone houses were admired. Generally private houses were quite well presented.

#### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

No work appeared to have been done recently on the Crow Hill approach road. On the approach to the village from the N4 very good verge presentation gave a great first impression of Drumsna. New signage for the Shannonside Walk looked neat and tidy. On the approach from Jamestown good verges were again a featured together with attractive landscaping at the village sign.

#### **General Impression:**

Drumsna is an attractive village where the atmosphere of a real village survives. Do make sure that nothing compromises this in the future. Good luck with your projects for 2008.