

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Donaghmoyne** Ref: **268**  
County: **Monaghan** Mark: **214**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **06/07/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	28
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	11
Litter Control	50	36
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>214</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

It is good to welcome back Donaghmoyne to the Tidy Towns Competition 2008. Thank you for your neatly presented application form and clear map. As mentioned by last years adjudicator the inclusion of a three year plan would allow an increase in marks in this section. It need only be a few pages long indicating ongoing maintenance and new projects planned however small. You have quite a large committee of eight for a small village and you are commended for your ongoing relationships with Monaghan County Council and Fas. Your comments about the competition are encouraging and your involvement of the school children when possible is lauded.

### **The Built Environment:**

St. Lastra's Church was admired for its fresh appearance however, the hedge was a little wild on the day of adjudication. Further out from the village St. Patrick's Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic Cemetery were neatly presented. The Post Office dating from 1857 is a marvellous addition to Donaghmoyne. Is there any information available on its history? Was it always a Post Office? Donaghmoyne National School looked fantastic with colourful window boxes. St. Michaels Church was greatly admired for its crisp presentation, pretty hanging baskets and neatly trimmed hedge. The derelict site is unfortunately located at a prominent location and, of course, your committee are limited in what you can do.

### **Landscaping:**

The stone flower beds were noted and admired for the variety of permanent and seasonal planting. The developing hedge and numerous trees are maturing well and had a softening effect on the village. Planting at the village pump was noted but a number of empty planters at the Post Office should be removed or replenished.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The duck and pheasant sanctuary is a wonderful addition to Donaghmoyne even if it privately owned and you are unable to erect a sign. Have you considered conducting a flora or fauna survey of the area? Perhaps the school children could assist in your research. There is plenty of scope to earn extra marks in this section.

**Litter Control:**

Litter control was good in Donaghmoyne on the day of adjudication and you are commended on the involvement of the community during the clean-up in April.

**Waste Minimisation:**

You mention in your entry form that the development committee work with the school on the Spring Clean. Please provide more information on this. Do you segregate and recycle waste? Has the school participated in the Green Flag Programme?

**Tidiness:**

Donaghmoyne is neatly presented and it is refreshing to note the consistent use of stone for the village signs and flowerbeds. The stone wall at the Post Office would benefit from a whitewash as it is currently a little grubby in appearance. The freshly painted pump and bollards were noted. As mentioned earlier the derelict site does detract from the village but hopefully in time it will be developed and will enhance Donaghmoyne. It is important to encourage private property owners to remove rubble following the completion of building works.

**Residential Areas:**

New developments in the village are being finished to a high standard and this is commended. The consistent use of stone is in keeping with the older buildings in the village. The completion of new driveways will further enhance the appearance of Donaghmoyne. The gardens at Tullynacross and Abhaile were particularly admired.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The roads in the village are all well surfaced and marking were clear. However, as one leaves the village the condition deteriorates somewhat on the minor roads. The path and the new residences were admired however the road was a little rough as a result.

**General Impression:**

Donaghmoyne is progressing well in the competition to date. This adjudicator found it a most pleasant village with considerable potential. Well done.