

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Drum** Ref: **608**  
County: **Monaghan** Mark: **232**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **06/07/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	40
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	13
Tidiness	30	12
Residential Areas	40	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>232</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Drum is indeed welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition 2008. Thank you very much for your most comprehensive submission, which included a detailed application form, map, photographs and other significant material. Please ensure that there are new elements to your development plan each year as well as sustaining previous endeavours as this will show that the village is evolving through time. You have a good sized committee and it would appear that there are numerous volunteers who make themselves available when necessary – you are lucky to have such consistent support and indeed it is reflected in the villages appearance. Co-operation with a variety of agencies has been noted and no doubt has been invaluable to your committee throughout the years. Again, you are very lucky to have the assistance of a worker on the Rural Social Scheme to help with the upkeep of Drum. You are lauded for your attitude of concentrating on what can be done rather than the obstacles that face you and this is critical. Your foresight in relation to the involvement of the youth and then inadvertently their parents is commended and will play a significant part your future success in the Tidy Towns Competition.

### **The Built Environment:**

As indicated in your application dereliction is a blight on the streetscape of Drum currently and hopefully in time this will be remedied. Stewarts Post Office forms a charming focal point in the village and was fresh in appearance on the day of adjudication. The Church of Ireland, as ever, is quaint in appearance. The completion of the Childcare Facility is a huge boost to the overall appeal of the central part of the village and this certainly sets the standard for future projects. There is considerable potential to develop the site at John Andersons and your contact with the Heritage Officer has been noted.

### **Landscaping:**

Verges and grassy areas are consistently well maintained throughout Drum. Landscaping is also used

effectively to screen the old Manse. The welcome sign on the Clones approach was greatly admired. Planters were noted at various locations throughout the village (although varied somewhat in the amount and quality of planting). Those at the end of the derelict row were particularly admired. Planting at the rock on the Augharegh road looked fantastic. The raised planters at the lakeside amenity look great.

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

It was refreshing to note the the grass verge at the Church of Ireland was cut back just enough to maintain a tidy appearance whilst also allowing wildlife to flourish. The lake is a wonderful amenity and was being enjoyed by geese, ducks and swans on the day of adjudication. The wildlife area is marvellous and is clearly the 'pride of Drum' and rightly so. It has been entered on your behalf for the 'Sustainable Development Award'. The photograph of the visiting Canadian Geese was noted, as was the provision of bat and bird boxes at various locations.

#### **Litter Control:**

Litter control was good on the day of adjudication with only an odd small piece here and there. Your conduct a comprehensive Annual Spring Clean and requesting help from all families within a two mile radius seems to be doing the trick!

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

It is clear that there is a strong waste minimisation ethos in Drum and for this you are commended. It is good to note that segregate and recycle litter. The use of old ESB poles for the picnic tables has been noted. The school are commended for their contribution. Is the Green Flag Programme up and running in the school?

#### **Tidiness:**

For the most part Drum is tidy in appearance. Ensure to encourage owners of developments to remove rubble, gravel etc as soon as a project is complete. As mentioned previously improvement work at John Andersons would have a huge impact in the and other sections of the Tidy Towns Competition marks. Please ensure also the farm equipment display are always fresh in appearance.

#### **Residential Areas:**

A residence in the village with an impressive display of lillies and rose beds was greatly admired. A welcoming black and white bungalow with seating and planters looked fantastic. In general, the private residences in and around the village are presented to a high standard.

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

The presentation of roads, streets and back area is quite good in Drum. Unfortunately alley ways and side entrances to derelict properties are disappointing but as mentioned earlier, hopefully this will change in the not distant future.

#### **General Impression:**

It was a pleasure to visit Drum and you have the potential to progress to a high level in the competition. Your attitudes to overcoming obvious problems are admirable and we wish you well with your plans. Keep up the good work!