

# Tidy Towns Competition 2014

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dromard** Ref: **2162**  
County: **Longford** Mark: **198**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **21/06/2014**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2014</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	23
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	29
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	28
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	14
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	5
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	51
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	20
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	28
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>198</b>

### Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Dromard is welcomed to the Tidy Towns competition 2014. This is your first year in the competition and you are wished well and continued success in the future. Your participation in the competition is important to the Tidy Towns unit. Thank you for your entry, maps and supporting documentation. You have an area enhancement plan compiled by Dromard community for Dromard spatial hub of which Moyne village and Legga village are included. It is good to note that your plan was done by the local community for the community. The plan's life span is over 10 years which presents short, medium and long term proposals to improve the community at large. You have a large committee of 30 representing the 3 areas with support from local agencies and businesses. You have a comprehensive communications system in place within the community. The transition year's student's involvement in the preparation of the area plan is commended.

### Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

Dromard G.A.A. complex was admired. This is a superb facility for the wider community. The childcare facility was also noted and admired. Moving on to Martins cross the health centre was noted. The cemetery was well presented just watch weed growth outside wall. Moyne shop and Post Office was visited on day of adjudication. The Church was nicely painted with brick surrounds at windows and doors and the beech hedge across was noted and looked well. The pump at the crossroads which is part of the village history was noted. This could be made into a focal point by painting and perhaps a container of flowers would enhance. The Latin school with history dating back to 1897 is a splendid building which is now being transformed into the Latin community centre which will also house a community library. Is the adjacent priest's house part of your development? The grotto in this area was noted and admired. Two very important amenities for the wider community were noted on the road to Latin school, Moyne community school and St Patricks National School which looked well.

### Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

There is superb landscaping throughout all the hub area in the mature trees, hedging and stone walls that border the area. Nice well trimmed verges were noted on road to Latin school. These verges are set in rural countryside with natural landscaping and this should be complimented by any planting projects in the future. The planting of year round seasonal planting gives more interest and the planting of native trees and shrubs that encourage wildlife is also recommended. Mixed woodland trees is recommended but if planting trees along approach roads the planting of one type of tree species creates a better impact and establishes an avenue effect. Planting in containers gives colour to an area and should be placed on a hard surface and not on grass. Window boxes and hanging baskets also enhance the area.

### **Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:**

The surroundings contain many habitats suitable for wildlife. Groups are encouraged to work with the schools and the green school programme and carry out an overview of the wildlife and habitats of their area. This is a study or survey to gather baseline information on the species and habitats found in their community. Many communities have local wildlife experts that could help in this area. This report can be recorded and documented and you can build on this with any further studies. In time groups will have a comprehensive overview of the wildlife in their area. Groups are also encouraged to host events that celebrate and raise awareness of local species and habitats. This could be a tree planting day or a bat walk. This event could be held as part of heritage week.

### **Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:**

The provision of a bring bank encourages the community to recycle. There are other areas in this category that you can work on to reduce and prevent waste in the community. Rainwater harvesting will save the community water and funds and should be encouraged with the introduction of water meters. Transport is another area savings can be made in by car pooling travelling to work or even to football matches. Composting is another way of saving. Also by using energy efficient bulbs can reduce energy costs. All ways of saving energy the list is endless. The local authorities prevention network website have added a specific Tidy Towns page to this website providing practical tips and advice on sustainable waste and resource management. The website address is <http://localprevention.ie/tidy-towns/>. This hopefully will be of benefit to groups. This is your first year in the competition so concentrate on one area for next year. You are already recycling add another project for next year.

### **Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:**

Groups are encouraged to put in place a litter control plan. The plan should consist of a survey to identify black spots for litter and how they are going to address the problem with the resources available. Try and involve as many of the community as possible on litter patrols along with the workers and schools if available. By wearing high viz jackets it helps to create awareness in the community. Aged litter looks worse as it denotes it is there a long time. Fresh litter is dropped recently. Tidiness looks at boundary walls, weed growth at kerbs and signage. Bring banks are looked at under tidiness. On day of adjudication your bring bank was a little untidy. Perhaps a container of flowers and signage would help this area.

### **Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:**

The houses were dotted along the roads across the hub area. There were some farmhouses and private houses that stood alone all looking pristine. The gardens were neat and colourful with some nice hanging baskets adding colour. The unfinished estate at Legga was noted. It is a shame to see such an estate unoccupied. Hopefully this will be resolved in the near future.

### **Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:**

The entrance roads were well presented with nice village signs. A nice wooden gate was noticed near the G.A.A complex. On the road to Latin school the grass verges were nicely trimmed and well presented. Groups are encouraged to leave a corridor inside at hedging to encourage wildlife. Field gates should if possible be presented in a uniform colour. Signage should be bilingual.