

# Tidy Towns Competition 2014

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Drumlish** Ref: **478**  
County: **Longford** Mark: **287**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **21/06/2014**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2014</b>
Community Involvement & Planning	60	40
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	40
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	39
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	31
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	13
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	55
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	36
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	33
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>287</b>

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

Drumlish is welcomed to the 2014 Tidy Towns competition. Thank you for your application form, map, copy of your plan and supporting documentation. Your participation in the competition is important to the Tidy Towns movement. You have a large committee with a long list of agencies and businesses willing to support your activities. This shows that you are a dedicated group with clear objectives on how you would like to see your village progress. This progression has created a sense of pride in the community. Having youth involved is so important with litter picks and other areas such as sustainable waste. Working with the Green School Programme helps the community achieve results.

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

Many areas of the town centre caught the adjudicator's eye. The superb Church building and its grounds were admired. The impressive tree in the Church grounds with bat roost was also noted. Kane's Post Office, the Florist and Gift shop with murals brought brightness to the streetscape. O Reilly's old village Inn was also appealing with hanging baskets. The restored shop front is a superb project. The old Corn Mill is an important part of the history of Drumlish and its restoration is commended. Existing walls in this area each side of road, if stone faced to match the Corn Mill would present a pleasant entrance to the village. The Land League monument was noted. The Community Centre is in need of painting and freshening.

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

Arva road rockery had some lovely landscaping with bilingual stone was admired. The roof of a shed in the background takes from the appearance of the area. Some nice planters after the entrance sign were noted. The planting here looks very well but the adjudicator felt the large stones are taking from the landscaping. The stones catch you eye first, maybe smaller ones would work in better contrast with the planting. Newtownforbes corner had a nice rose bed and sculpture. The house with the Virginia creeper was admired. Newly planted trees on Longford road were noted. Do mow grass to highlight these trees however. The trees though Main Street add character to the streetscape. Mill Street entrance has an impressive sculpture which was kindly donated. The landscaping at the Community Centre needs attention. There were lovely planted containers noticed throughout the village. Your planting of year round seasonal planting is noted. It is more cost effective and more effective on the landscape.

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

The Poly Tunnel is a superb project and a pleasant area to visit with no shortage of birds. The composting bins are part of sustainable waste. Well done on your biodiversity survey. Last years workshop has set the ball rolling for

this year's biodiversity day which included the National School resulting in more days to follow. The aim of these studies is to gather baseline information on the species and habitats found in the community. The reports from these studies will allow you to create a map of the area highlighting the areas within or close to the centre that is of value to wildlife such as water courses, hedgerows or woodlands. Key results and outcomes should be included with your entry form. Communities are encouraged to host events that celebrate and raise awareness of local species and habitats. This could be a dawn chorus, tree planting day or wildflower talk from an expert. Assistance can be obtained from the local authority for such an event. These can be part of Heritage week or Tree week. You had a similar day last year with Tree planting in Farnagh Woodland reserve. You are making good progress in this category. Continue to build on each study completed.

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

Well done on your progress in this category. Resource management is being addressed well in your water saving initiative. Composting in your village was also noted and hopefully will spread to the wider community. Savings in transport by car pooling or cycling is also noted. The community savings on energy conservation using the correct energy saving light bulbs is just one example being addressed. The groups are encouraged to look at waste prevention reducing the amount of waste produced in the first place. Food waste is one area where savings can be made. 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.

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

There were very little areas of untidiness that need addressing. Fly posting on poles looks untidy. The litter bins needed emptying. The bottle bank looked neat and tidy. The roof of the shed beside Cairn Hill View needs painting. Your regular litter picks as part of your action plan on controlling litter is working well. No major problem areas of litter were noted. Your control of weeds at kerbs is good. While we do not encourage the use of weed killer, if used on early growth it will be effective and unnoticed. Spraying of long grass is not recommended as it looks bad and in this type of growth there is wildlife that can be harmed.

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

The streetscape of Drumlish looks splendid with well-presented houses with colourful landscaping. Neat gardens, bright window boxes and hanging baskets were noted adorning their facades. The housing areas were well presented. Well done to Church View Drive on winning an award in the Longford Tidy Estate competition. Very well deserved. Mill Street entrance has a nice sculpture. Sliabh Cairbre was also admired for its presentation. Mill Oaks shows great pride in their estate. Well done to all the residents for the presentation and maintenance of their homes.

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

The entrance roads have superb areas of landscaping and good entrance signs. Landscaping continues through Main Street with nice trees lining the streetscape. The Longford Road has newly planted trees but as mentioned be careful of the long grass around the base. The wooden fence on this road also needs attention. There were some uneven surfaces at Hill Street.