

Tidy Towns Competition 2016

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Drumsna** Ref: **428**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **302**
Category: **B** Date(s): **12/06/2016**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2015	Mark Awarded 2016
Community Involvement & Planning	60	43	44
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	40	41
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	44	45
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	31	31
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	18	19
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	57	57
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	29	29
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	36	36
TOTAL MARK	450	298	302

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Drumsna Development Association is very welcome to the 2016 competition. Many thanks for your completed application form, clear map and associated Development Plan, all of which were very useful on the day. It was a pleasure for this adjudicator to visit Drumsna after a number of years absence. It was good to note that you have a cross section of the local community from young to old involved in your various projects throughout the year. You would appear to have a good working relationship with the various local statutory bodies, businesses and local media as well as the local community. We were pleased to note your new 3 year plan. There are certainly many significant historical figures from the village, of who, you are rightly proud!

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

The large number of projects under this heading is to be commended. It's good to hear that the playground is being well used and that the work to the Remembrance Garden is due to recommence soon. Ongoing work to the various monuments and items of street furniture is commendable. Work on the unoccupied premises will hopefully bear fruit. Do discourage the use of plastic signage on shops and encourage their replacement with ones of a more traditional timber variety. Thomas Duignan's pub and Duignan's shop were in good condition, as was Daly's Convenience Store. Tomas Mac Lochlainn's traditional stepped gabled garage was greatly admired.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Ongoing maintenance to your various projects is commendable. The apple orchard is a marvellous idea and the incorporation of bee friendly planting and nesting areas is laudable. The community herb garden is another marvellous idea. Good luck with your work on the butterfly garden and 1916 Remembrance Garden. Hanging baskets were noted and admired on the bridge. The landscaped grassy area with picnic area opposite the church was admired. The attractive wide Main Street looks marvellous with its maturing trees. Drumsna is certainly a very peaceful spot. The stone trimmed and pebbled dashed church with its prominent tower creates a strong impact. The quayside area is a marvellous facility and the flower filled small bicycles are an unusual display. This area by the harbour is a particularly tranquil one.

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

The incorporation of bee friendly planting and the encouragement of local residents to do the same is laudable. We were pleased to hear that the local school children's participate in your flower planting and the creation of wildlife signage. Maintenance of the information boards at the wildlife areas is laudable. Your work in conjunction with Leitrim County Council in relation to this category of the competition is impressive. The Butterfly garden was noted

and admired and the wildlife area in the facility of the quayside is most interesting.

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

Segregation of waste by the local community and at the Community Resource Centre is commendable. We note the use of water butts and one was spotted at the church tower on the day. The work you do in relation to informing the local community about sustainable waste and resource management is commendable. The Book Club and recycling of unwanted gifts are both excellent initiatives. The participation of the Day Care Centre in growing their own flowers and vegetables is impressive. Upgrading of the compost area was noted and admired. The Keep Cup project is a good idea and seems to be popular throughout the county--good luck with same.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The standard in this category was generally good on the day. Litter control was generally very good, apart from the very odd paper evident. Your work with wardens in relation to local dumping is laudable. Segregation of litter is commendable. Use of biodegradable methods of weed control is a very positive idea. There was a weedy area in the vicinity of the Quays Pub, which was unfortunate. There is a derelict or abandoned building in the vicinity of the quayside area. The wall in this vicinity could be re-whitewashed and the welcome sign is in need of some attention as it looks a little neglected at the moment.

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

The existing housing stock along approach roads and in the village centre was generally well maintained. There are many fine houses and gardens in the village centre and along approach roads. We were pleased to hear you continue to encourage local residents to participate in litter and weed control events. The provision of a TUS worker and Rural Social Scheme workers must be very helpful to your work. We were pleased to hear that Belmont Heights is now under the control of the County Council. An attractive Virginia creeper clad house was admired in the village centre.

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

The Adopt a Road Initiative is a good idea and appears to be working well. Approach roads, the Main Street and harbour area were all well maintained and create a positive first impression to the visitor. The signage throughout was attractive and well maintained. New trees were noted on the road leading down to the harbour.

Concluding Remarks:

Drumsna is a village with a strong sense of community which continues to perform well in the competition after a number of years of entry.