

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **MULTYFARNHAM**  
County : **WESTMEATH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16
Landscaping	40	25
The Built Environment	40	25
Litter Control	40	18
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21
General Impression	10	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>165</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The Community continues to adopt a very positive approach to the restoration of the village to its former high standard. It is encouraging to note that you are actively working with a wide range of organisations. It is a pity that you appear to be having problems with the FAS scheme as they can make a major contribution to the improvements of the village; hopefully these problems can be resolved. You should consider the preparation of a development plan which would help you to focus more clearly on your objectives and would assist the community and other State organisations. This would also help in your discussions with State agencies. Your detailed entry form was helpful.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is a new section in the Competition and up to now few centres have given serious consideration as to how best to maintain and improve habitats. Hedgerows, mature trees and gardens are all important habitats for wildlife. You also are fortunate that you have a clean stream running through the village. There are not many centres where one can see trout rising from the bridge in the village centre. Much more can be made of the stream as a wildlife feature. You should obtain assistance from local environmentalists on how best you can make the most of all these resources.

### LANDSCAPING

The park is a most attractive feature and looks better this year than ever before with its stone work, flowers and shrubs, well maintained street furniture etc. The seating at the bridge with the rose bushes could look much better. Sadly it has become a litter trap and needs considerable upgrading. An attractive feature of the village are the very many, well planted window boxes and baskets. The stone troughs at the Mullingar road junction are especially noteworthy.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The stone frontages of many of the buildings in the village are one of the most attractive features of Multyfarnham and give the village much of its character. Most of the business premises are very well presented, e.g. Murtaghs, Weirs, Fagans, An Tintan, Gerard Daly, etc. Another good feature is the restrained signage throughout the village. The old forge is an increasingly rare building and is a nice feature in the village. The Church and grounds are also attractive, however, improvements could be made to the Friary entrance area, e.g. painting walls and upgrading road surfaces. The National School and grounds are maintained to a high standard.

### LITTER CONTROL

This is a weak area in the village and litter control is poor in spite of the attractive new litter bins. The village will not do as well as it could until the litter problem is tackled. You must mount a vigorous anti-litter campaign involving the whole community.

### TIDINESS

The scattering of litter throughout the village detracts from the overall appearance of Multyfarnham particularly on the Coole road junction, bridge area and in the bed of the stream. More regular sweeping of footpaths and street gutters in the village centre would be a big help. The local authority housing scheme on the Coole is particularly in need of attention.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the private houses in the village are maintained to a high standard, several have attractive landscaped gardens and flowerboxes and hanging baskets. A number need to maintain entrances and

gravelled areas between boundary wall and road, e.g. on the Mullingar road. A painting scheme would greatly enhance the local authority housing scheme on the Coole road.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Mullingar, Bunbrosna and School roads are the best presented of the approach roads and in general have well maintained hedges and grass margins, for example, the trees on the Bunbrosna road are attractive as is the planting at the junction of the National School/Bunbrosna road. More attention is needed to screen off the rusty chainlink fencing at this junction. The new stone wall under construction at the Holiday Homes will be a very attractive feature of the village when completed. Further work is need on the Crookedwood road as there are stretches of dilapidated chainlink fence on the opposite side of the road to the GAA pitch and there are also stretches of grass verges in need of attention. Several signs need cleaning or painting, e.g. village sign on the Coole road.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Multyfarnham is an attractive village which is set off by its stone buildings and indeed the lengthy stretches of stone wall. Good progress continues to be made, however, it will take several years of sustained effort before you reach your full potential. Litter control must be one of your priorities.