

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MULLINAVAT**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	13
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	32
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	218	214

Mullinavat, County Kilkenny

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank for the information sent with your entry form and for the map which was most useful on adjudication day. However when sending a map next year it is only necessary to mark on it the areas where work has taken place that year so that they can be easily identified by the adjudicator. The following comments are on the progress you have made this year and should be read in context with previous years reports. Many of the comments made last year in terms of planning are still applicable. The success of many other centres has been due to identifying on a year-to-year basis what can be done within their physical and financial resources and taking the best advice they can from their Local Authority, Coillte, FAS etc.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most commercial premises in Mullinavat looked extremely well on adjudication day and those concerned are to be congratulated. The northern end of the village again looked well but comments made last year regarding signage are still applicable. More judicious signs would be appropriate. Perhaps this will come in time. The quality of the streetscape in Mullinavat is still its strongest point but perhaps, as mentioned last year, more colour harmony is required. Some of the unusual stone walls around the village do need repair. Public buildings also looked very well and blended nicely with the overall ambience of the village. Your comments regarding The Mill were noted and the site was visited during the adjudication. Work which has been done there in trying to softening the effect has been quite good and the adjudicator looks forward to seeing further progress next year.

LANDSCAPING

Mullinavat was again very colourful on adjudication day. Tubs of flowers, hanging baskets, window boxes etc. were presented looked very well and are obviously being well maintained. Some additional landscaping however would not go astray. The area of the GAA park, particularly the long concrete wall, could very well do with some judicious tree and shrub planting which would have a softening effect. The surroundings of the church car park and nearby commercial premises looked very well and all concerned are to be congratulated. Open spaces were nicely presented as indeed were their flower arrangements.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your comments under this heading were noted. Do perhaps give consideration to doing a specific project for 1999. In the event it will have the effect of getting you additional marks. However, as mentioned last year, do take the best advice possible from a local wildlife expert.

LITTER CONTROL

The village was completely litter free on adjudication day. This reflects great credit on the community.

TIDINESS

The village again was presented in a neat and tidy manner. As mentioned last year please try to avoid the erection of any further signage or, where it has to be done, please try to insure that it is in keeping with the architecture of the village and should be of wrought iron or wood.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

These areas again looked very well. Some open spaces perhaps needed trimming but nevertheless are being well looked after. Individual residences were excellent, some with wonderful gardens which were a blaze of colour and obviously reflects the tremendous pride which individuals have in their homes.

ROADS, STREET AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads were very good and looked neat and trim. Road surfaces are good and pathways are being well maintained. Side streets and back areas are places that can get overlooked in the competition. Please do remember that the adjudication takes place in the whole village, not just the main street.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is obvious that there is a high level of interest in the Tidy Towns competition in Mullinavat and excellent work has been done again this year. As you are now reaching a high level in the competition additional marks in the future will only be had through attention to detail and planning as already mentioned in this report. Keep in touch with your Local Authority and make contact with your Regional Tourism Authority based in Kilkenny who run an annual seminar each year with guest speakers which is well worth attending. Learn from what other centres like Inistioge, Bennettsbridge, and indeed Kilkenny City have done to overcome the sort of problems which you may be experiencing. In the meantime keep up the good work.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (15/08/98)

It is encouraging to see Mullinavat steadily improving its marks in the Competition. Unfortunately the village was not quite so litter free on our second visit. Also, some of the approach roads, particularly that from New Ross, were beginning to look overgrown and neglected. The hedging on the other hand on the Piltown road with stonewalling and nasturtiums created a good impression. The village would benefit from the removal of the advertising billboard facing the Waterford approach. The residential areas at this end of the village are obviously well cared for as indeed most of the older street buildings. The Church car park was particularly tidy but we would prefer to see deciduous trees in lieu of the conifers at the back. We look forward to returning next year !