

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ST MULLINS**
County : **CARLOW**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	--
The Built Environment	40	23	--
Landscaping	40	25	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	--
Litter Control	40	18	--
Tidiness	20	13	--
Residential Areas	30	21	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	--
General Impression	10	7	--
TOTAL MARK	300	186	--

St. Mullins, County Carlow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your committee of 13 members is a very good number for a small village and the work that has been done reflects a great commitment. The planned work schedule and map was very helpful. St. Mullins is a lovely village to visit. The riverside and the cemetery and interesting historical sites and make for a very enjoyable visit. Plans to deal with problem areas and buildings need more focused attention besides the routine maintenance of the present amenities. The lobbying and co-operation of Carlow County Council and the OPW are key factors to advancement.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The graveyard is very well presented. The stonework and paths are a marvellous attribute. The mown grass paths and well tended boundaries are a tribute to the maintenance scheme. It is good to see walls with their natural vegetation of ivy, toadflax and herb robert rather than the clinical scouring of walls seen in some places. Mown grass and walls are a simple landscape but very appropriate to the site. The little strip of bedding plants along the outer wall may not be necessary. The pub is well presented as are the tea/coffee shop and adjoining housing. The derelict house and surrounding area with corrugated iron is unsightly and hopefully a remedy will be found for this.

LANDSCAPING

The garden by the stream opposite the coffee shop is a delight for all to enjoy. The walkways by the river and well tended and grass cutting with picnic benches give a great amenity. The area around the graveyard is nicely maintained and the grass verges on the approaches have a nice amount of natural vegetation which is good.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is tremendous potential in this regard. Signposting of wildlife interests would be helpful and display boards. Local knowledge of the range of plant and animal life to be seen should be accumulated. Work with schools and perhaps the Conservation Volunteers could give assistance too.

LITTER CONTROL

There appears to be good litter control. There was a small amount around the bins at the picnic tables on the quay – perhaps birds had pulled this out of the bin as there were very few people about on the visit. With larger numbers of visitors on fine days the litter control could be a problem and your efforts to eliminate litter are noted.

TIDINESS

Except for the appearance of the buildings near the car park and a need for a little more attention to the carpark surface and some other surfaces, there was a tidy appearance present.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are very few residences in St. Mullins. Therefore each homeowner has a serious obligation to keep their home, garden and surrounds in a very good fashion. This is happening - the stone walls in places and pieces of ground outside houses which people have adopted are looking well.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The roadways are well treated some filling where rainwater accumulates would be helpful. The boundary between the natural and the artificial must be considered. The natural stone walls with some vegetation as described in the graveyard is fine. Weedy grassy situations at the foot of walls on roadways sometimes can be excessive. Briars and nettles are even less welcome

GENERAL IMPRESSION

This is a lovely village to visit the wells, graveyard and river frontage make the character of the village and there is a great level of care and attention noticeable