

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	35
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	27	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	30	33
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	32
General Impression	10	7	8
TOTAL MARK	300	211	218

Mullinavat, County Kilkenny

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the map which helped to identify the relevant areas in the town. There is an urgent need for a precise plan to be able to maximise on all the attributes in the village. The walls, the old railway station, the mill, the river and all buildings and pathways can be improved. The quality of the stone walls is a major feature. With rising standards all over the country it is difficult to retain the same marks as last year and a good appraisal is needed.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The attractive stone building behind Walshs bar and the Rising Sun premises are very attractively presented. The old station house is pretty but is far from reaching its full potential. Fr. Maher place and the new homes alongside are good and the occupants are caring for them well – except for the large grassed area at the back. The old building close by with blue painted doors – in need for attention is not helpful. As was stated last year the colour theory used in the village could be discussed with a view to forming a policy. The roadway to the bridge has no footpath . This is not very encouraging as heavy traffic pounds by. The mill area has been painted and containers placed. This is a brave attempt to improve the site. The real problem of restoring the building is a great challenge. The Teagasc building, many attractive houses on the street and the school and church are in good condition. In contrast to the well presented Rising Sun premises the property adjoining it leaves much to be desired with old buildings and yard.

LANDSCAPING

The approach roadside verges are natural. They need a little extra attention in some areas. The roadsides by the road from the village to the Hugginstown direction is very attractive and well presented. The individual well cared for gardens add greatly to the overall landscape of the village and prove how important each home owners contribution can be. The green on the main street is pleasant. Some weeds in the borders need attention. On looking over the bridge – this offers a nice opportunity for landscape work in a natural way, but it is a disappointment at present. The site by the river next to the Garda station could be improved in this respect. The containers especially those at the new homes on the main street are very good and give a great lift to the street, as do the containers on the business premises. The gardens opposite the Shell station are exceptional and the garden with the lovely hydrangeas, fuchsia and golden holly is a delight. The wall outside the football pitches, as was stated last year, is unattractive - a simple remedy of planting ivies along this wall would make a major change. Towns and villages with rivers frequently develop an amenity in association with them, for example a riverside walk, a grassy area for a seat. An opportunity seems to exist here.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There must be scope for an interesting project in an area such as this. Wetland, woodland, river sides all offer great opportunities.

LITTER CONTROL

There was a small amount of litter seen in many areas around the village. Perhaps at lunchtime on Monday, it is still suffering from weekend litter problems. Litter is a problem in so many parts of Ireland and constant vigilance and encouragement is needed to solve it. The river was very littered from both sides of the bridge.

TIDINESS

There was a reasonably good degree of tidiness. The road to the creamery and railway station had some untidiness with materials strewn and very weedy areas. The Ballyhale direction area could be tidied more.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The homes as mentioned above contribute greatly to the village. Glen crescent and the Fr. Maher estates are well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The road surfaces are in good condition. The back areas are well maintained but not to the same degree as the main street.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There are a number of challenges facing Mullinavat, especially some derelict sites and properties in poor condition, the utilisation of the full value of the river and colour schemes. A good plan is essential based on three to five years and with well thought-out goals and the means to achieve them, a major transformation will result.