

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MOUNTCOLLINS**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	22	23
Tidiness	20	11	10
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	20
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	188	183

Mountcollins, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning the completed entry form and helpful sketch map. You have many facets to your village and an enormous amount of space to cover, relevant to your population. There is an abundance of amenity areas that have been developed through the years. Some of this work is now in need of improved maintenance and it is advisable that you tend to this before embarking on new developments. Your great single asset is the attractive river, and you have done well in highlighting same.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The village has an unusual amount of corrugated iron roofs and some are in need of fresh painting. The Church and forecourt are well presented, together with the grotto. Overall, there is a lacking in co-ordination between the various buildings. You might consider organising an agreed colour scheme for the village. You have some problems with open spaces between buildings but they are really a matter for the respective owners. Signage is not great throughout and signs on the approach roads should at all time be well presented.

LANDSCAPING

This is one of your strong points. The landscaping around the river bridge is excellent and the small vegetable garden, now rare, is a gem. Your work of previous years is now paying off and will further enhance with the passing of time. You should renew your efforts to improve the car park and make a semi-shubbery - (similar to the car park at the rear of the Heritage Centre in Adare). The riverside walk is excellent and the salmon sign at the bridge gives valuable instructions on seeking respect for the spawning salmon.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You have more than average potential for the promotion and popularising the wildlife in the area. Consider a good illustrated display board at the river area that would highlight the various species. Indeed, you could promote Mountcollins as a place of wildlife and this would boost your tourist numbers.

LITTER CONTROL

It was regrettable to find so much litter in and around the village. You scored well in this section last year, but the standard has dropped. Traders are obliged to provide

adequate litter bins in and around their premises, but at the end of the day it is the community who must take responsibility for litter control.

TIDINESS

You need to impress upon builders the need for finishing well when they are developing developments. Untidiness is caused by a number of badly kept open spaces and some dereliction, however, your efforts with removing derelict buildings previously, is acknowledged. You have excessive weed growth in the approach roads to the village centre. Could you organise the spraying of weeds in May.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The immediate image being projected to visitors is one of great individual effort. The beautiful display of flowers - some exotic, reflect great credit on all concerned. You need to maintain the traditional features of these houses and ensure the rural ethos of the village does not surrender to ultra-modern developments. Well done to all who keep their gardens with such attractive colour.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The road surface is way below standard and has been now for some years. You need to lobby the County Council for improvement. Boundary walls play an important part in tidy towns and some premises are not being presented to a high standard because of poor boundary walls. Side entrances now form part of the core adjudication process and owners should be encouraged to present to a high standard.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your strong points are well documented i.e. river landscaping and good individual effort with fine gardens. The village needs improved co-ordination. Pay more attention to approach roads and continue with your tree planting programme.