

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **MURRISK**  
County : **MAYO**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	19	18
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	14
Litter Control	40	25	22
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	26
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>179</b>

## **Murrisk, County Mayo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Murrisk is welcome to the 1999 Tidy Towns Competition. It is good to note the links with Mayo County Council, FAS, South Mayo, LEADER and other statutory bodies. Congratulations on the involvement of the local community in all aspects of development within the village. Murrisk's heritage is indeed unique to Murrisk. The starting point for the ascent to Croagh Patrick and the National Famine Monument. The presentation of the village complements this heritage very well. Well done on the gaining of planning permission for a community room in the carpark at the foot of Croagh Patrick. The room for the use of the Mayo Mountain Rescue Team will facilitate more than the immediate community. Your weekly lotto is, it appears, successful in its role in fundraising for the village. Indeed the adjudicators appreciate the pressures placed on the community by the throughput of visitors and your activities have not gone unnoticed.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The majority of buildings in the village look well. Congratulations on the cleaning and painting of the shed at Murrisk pier. It looks especially nice with its green door and gutters complementing the green public seating. The ancient Abbey is presented to the highest standard and its immediate area beautifully landscaped. Buildings in the village are well presented in most respects. Some unpainted buildings or walls might be cleaned. One or two derelict properties, no doubt, will be redeveloped in the not too distant future given that property prices are at a premium just now. The Tavern Restaurant looks well.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The newly landscaped areas were quite immature on the day of adjudication but we look forward to many repeat visits to your lovely village and to witness their maturity. Seating at the Saint Patrick's statue together with paving and landscaping is appreciated also. Both the shrine and the small well were much admired together with boats with their colourful flower displays. Landscaping at the carpark has established itself very well. The carpark is now a very attractive feature, however the height barrier could be improved upon with some decorative work. The Famine Park and the sculpture piece of the Famine Ship with its backdrop of Clew Bay and its islands have a quiet dignity. The placement of boulders between newly planted trees on the west of the village is visually successful.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The harbour and pier area is a wonderful amenity area. The beautifully maintained green spaces are a pleasure to experience together with well painted seats and buildings and the general tidy aspect of the pier. The backdrop of Mount Errigal does the area no disfavours either. The provision of bird feeding tables in the village and the wildlife bird sign are appropriate activities under this heading. The new slipway at the pier is a welcome addition to the facilities of Murrisk. The playing fields are being well maintained. The new wildlife interpretive panel and its associated seating is a welcome development. Try to make sure that it is as well maintained as every other aspect of the village.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Well done on your major spring clean-up to clear the litter which had accumulated after the storms at Christmas. Your activities under this heading are admirable given the problem of the large throughput of people and the associated problem of litter. Keep us informed of your activities in this regard.

### **TIDINESS**

Do try to keep weed growth in check, particularly along kerbs and the base of walls. Your weekly clean up together with daily litter activities is fruitful as Murrisk has a very tidy appearance.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

A very good presentation under this heading. Be vigilant regarding the maintenance of side and rear areas also together with boundary walls.

### **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Work was in progress on footpath construction during adjudication. Existing footpaths exhibited a fair amount of weed growth, although these had been sprayed. Do remove these as they look unsightly when they have become discoloured. Nameplates, road signs, speed limit signs, etc., all look well as do entrances to the village. Your weekly strimming of verges is a credit to the community. Well done also on your success, together with Mayo County Council, on the parking problem at the Famine monument. The extension to the carpark at the abbey has also been noted. Street furniture everywhere were presented to a high standard. The litter bins in the carpark at the foot of Croagh Patrick should be replaced by better ones at some stage. Stone wall building along the west of the village is much admired.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

A visit to Murrisk is a great pleasure under any circumstances. The visual amenity value of the pier / harbour area is very

high.