

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MILLTOWN-MONAGHAN**
County : **MONAGHAN**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	35	35
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	217	215

Milltown, County Monaghan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the completed application form and map - both were of great help on adjudication day. Progress continues and the enthusiasm at community level is there for all to see. You now have a good rating in the competition and continued progress will require attention to detail and the availability of a simple and concise 3/5 year plan which will map out in specific terms your future work programmes.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The built environment is well presented and an attractive feature of Milltown. Further screening to the side of Patton's Mill is still a priority - the rusting trailer here was noted by the adjudicator. The river area and adjoining "park" is attractively presented, however, a cottage nearby is developing an unattractive appearance. In general you continue to perform well under this heading.

LANDSCAPING

Colourful flower beds (red roses, in some areas), hanging baskets, tidy grass verges and well cared for trees are in the main largely responsible for your high rating in this section. The community and FAS workers deserve congratulations - well done. The stone aspect and repairs at River Blackwater is a further enhancement of your efforts under this heading.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As mentioned in last year's report "there are still opportunities for further suitable developments under this heading" For advice and guidance please refer to the "Tidy Towns Handbook"(Action Sheet 6). You might also consult with a local wildlife enthusiast and engage the support of the local school in carrying out some research.

The manner in which you present the riverbank areas and care for the tame ducks is highly commended.

LITTER CONTROL

The village was free of litter on adjudication day. This contributes to a very clean and tidy environment and promotes a welcoming invitation for visitors to stay longer. Your strategy under this heading is working very well, however, do not get complacent - continue with your monitoring programme.

TIDINESS

You continue to impress greatly under this heading. On a clear sunny afternoon Milltown was presented in pristine condition - everything so neat and tidy including the river area and the well manicured flower beds and green areas both in the village and on the approach roads. You have again scored highly in this section - well done to all concerned.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Well cared for residential properties are a striking feature of the overall presentation of Milltown. Well cared for lawns, neatly trimmed hedging, maturing young trees, attractive green areas and colourful planting contribute in no small way to an attractive all round presentation. Local residents have pride in their environs and their working relationship with the Tidy Towns Committee is as strong as ever. Continue the good work.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads looked well on adjudication day. Well presented hedges, tidily presented verges and neatly trimmed green areas were all noted. The "park" beside the river is nicely presented and has a welcoming appearance. As mentioned in last years report the forecourt areas at the ESB sub-station still needs attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Attention to detail is now of priority if you are to expedite further progress. It is important that you continue to avail of the FAS schemes and work more closely with Monaghan County Council on such matters as road surfacing and signposting. As already mentioned give serious consideration to a 3/5 year action plan. Another good performance has been rewarded with an increase in marks - well done.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (07/08/99)

During second adjudication the overall appearance of Milltown, was one of tidiness. However as you are well aware by now, aspects of the mill look quite unsightly and every effort should be made to soften its visual impact on the village on entering Milltown from the Monaghan road. This can be achieved with judicious landscaping. A small amount of rubble tucked in a corner at the mill entrance beside the bridge should be removed. Grass verges dotted with freshly whitewashed stones and tastefully landscaped with young maturing trees and flower displays are a credit to those responsible and compensate for other problems in presentation. The numerous seated areas around the

village are most enticing. The mill car park could be resurfaced. The refurbishment of unoccupied residential properties will be a welcome development in the village.