

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **MULLAGHMORE**  
County : **SLIGO**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	21	21
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	16	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>183</b>

## **Mullaghmore County Sligo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The completed questionnaire was helpful in setting the scene for adjudication.

Once again this adjudicator was also impressed with the way you advertise your report and activities on the village notice board. This provides both locals and the many visitors to the resort with a useful insight on your committees continued hard work and future plans and may generate further support for your work. Under this heading of the of the competition, you are requested to include a proposed long-term work programme, incorporating the various aspects of the competition headings for the town. A clear and simple 3/5 year plan, outlining achievable targets for the committee will help focus your work in the future, and also helps the adjudicator to measure your progress. Your fund raising ventures and community involvement, along with your continued co-operation with the County Council, other interested bodies was again noted, and the benefits of these partnerships will continue to enhance and enrich the village and its community. Your results to date are a good advertisement for the hard work of the Committee and the community.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Mullaghmore in its beautiful seaside setting, has many features within the village that contribute to its overall appearance. Once again many of the public, business and residential properties in the village are attractively presented and maintained, with attractive floral features. The pier and marina area are a busy focus for the village, both commercially and as a leisure facility, and measures should be effected to keep it tidy and well maintained. The new building beside the Pier Head Hotel will certainly enhance this area, but the Processing Plant appears to have become even more untidy then last year and detracts from this end of the village. The construction work at the convent is now complete and the building looks well with some nice landscaping. Mc Gloines also looks much improved now that its paint work is finished, the sign still needs a little attention. The stone buildings at the back of the Beach Hotel and behind the shop on the corner look very untidy as you come down the hill, and initially need only to be tidied to improve their appearance. The old schoolhouse looks very well, but last year's comments still apply regarding the derelict buildings on the same road. Dereliction is a challenge faced by many competitors in the competition and the committee should now start considering some approach to tackling this important issue.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Once again, some nice landscaping features, tubs, and hanging baskets were evident, providing a lovely splash of colour to the whole streetscape. The bi-lingual sign and lovely flower bed at Classiebawn Gate look really well, providing a lovely welcoming first impression of the village. The flower bed at the entrance to the pier also looked well again this year and the new bed beside the convent is finished and along with the other landscape features here, brightens up this area of the village. The stone wall, and gate looked well at the Priests Field. Some really attractive picnic areas were noted throughout the headland, and the cut grass verge on the road side to accommodate walkers looked really well. Lasts year's comments still apply about preserving and enhancing the many old ventilation pipes around the headland and perhaps painting them in a standard colour, to match your other street furniture. In spite of their wind swept location, your trees are slowly maturing but they should be appropriately staked and sheltered in these early years to promote effective growth. Your choice of seasonal planting and perennial shrubs and plants that provide a good mix of colour and content to last the whole year round, is praiseworthy.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The T.T.C. have an important role in preserving and suitably enhancing the natural environment within their community. Your tree planting is a first step in this area, providing roosts, food and nesting sites for birds, in addition to enhancing the environment. Your unspoilt seaside location presents many other opportunities for enhancing and conserving wildlife habitats and the environment within the village. Wild flower meadows / grass areas, nesting boxes, trees and hedgerows offer additional opportunities. When choosing appropriate signs for projects ensure the enhance rather than detract from the environment you are promoting and preserving. Work in conjunction with relevant local bodies, ENFO, or a local wildlife expert to develop this area. Congratulations on maintaining your Blue Flag Status, this is no easy achievement and credit to all those who assisted in this endeavour. The beach and commonage areas looked well, and it looks like you are getting a large bright new wildlife sign for this area.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

There was some litter in the village on the day of adjudication, in much the same places as last year. A bin was overflowing on the village green area, and there was sporadic litter at the steps down to the pier, at the beach entrance and on the approach road. It is good to see that you have a voluntary clean-up day as part of your litter awareness programme. This, along with tidy well maintained bins, all contribute to the marks in this section. The committee, business premises and the community

must remain vigilant in this important area.

## **TIDINESS**

When considering this heading, the village presents a mixed impression with some premises and areas detracting from the property owners that keep their areas clean and tidy. With regard to the residential areas last year's comments still apply, with many of the housing developments and summer properties still looking untidy and not very well maintained. Derelict sites were mentioned earlier on, but there also remains a number of abandoned boat trailers and pieces of farm / builders equipment in the area. It is important that all areas of the village and headland are appropriately maintained and kept tidy and litter / weed free, including forecourts, back yards, kerb edges, all open spaces, and areas between properties. Back alleys/yards, should be appropriately screened particularly in areas that will attract rubbish or dumping.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Many of the houses throughout the headland were generally well presented. The attractive hedges, lawns and colourful flowers in some individual gardens were noted. Again this year particular mention must go to the houses that have incorporated or built stone walls, complimenting the many fine stone walls that feature throughout the headland. Also well done to the home owners who maintain the areas outside their own properties, tidy grass areas and some flower features were noted outside some homes. However, the nicely maintained homes highlight those that need attention or their paint work refreshed both in the village, in the housing developments and on the approach roads. Whilst once again acknowledging that many of the residences on the headland are recreational or summer homes, many of these properties still need attention. Some of the housing developments have poor road surfaces and footpaths, weeds, poor boundary fences, and untidy open areas. Houses that caught the eye include Anchor Cottage and the bungalow opposite, the new bungalow with the very attractive stone work on the Green Road and The Den.

## **ROADS STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach road with its outstanding stone walls, very tidy verge and attractive landscaping feature creates a most impressive first impression of the village. Well done to all concerned for the hard work in achieving this fine feature. There are many fine walls all over the headland that with some judicious grass trimming would be exposed and appreciated. The area around the pier and small beech in this area also needs to be tidied up, edging, steps, road surfaces all need some attention. Many of the minor roads and lanes also need attention, with surface dressing and

weed clearance. The grass Car Park at the beach looked tidy, and the disabled access area to the beach is still an impressive contribution towards access for the disabled.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

As stated last year, Mullaghmore has so much to offer, and has great potential in this competition if appropriately enhanced and developed. In close association with the local bodies, and the whole community, the committee will have to work on the solutions to issues raised in this report. Build on your successes to date, your committed enthusiasm and hard work is commendable.