

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MILTOWN**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 21-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	34
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	16
Litter Control	40	23	24
Tidiness	20	16	11
Residential Areas	30	22	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	189	198

Miltown, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

There is a very positive approach to development by the committee. The committee of six is small for such a large town and a lot of work is borne by a few. Try to recruit more. A 3 to 5 year plan is essential to see where best results will be achieved. Areas where changes are occurring are always important to have an influence – such as housing development, road works and alterations to existing structures – you have all three with the road widening, new housing at chapel lane and the planning permissions being sought at the river/ surgery area.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There is an interesting mix of buildings in the town. The R.C church is a very fine stone building and a nice stone wall adjacent to it. The stone wall of the residence up towards Aqua Designs is a lovely asset and emphasises the value of stone in the landscape. The piers at the entry to the housing estate on the square are a lovely asset. The old church currently being used for community purposes is also a nice architectural asset to have. Many of the business premises have been upgraded and this trend continues – the number in need of improvement is getting smaller. There will always be a few derelict premises in every town and dealing with them can be a slow process. The school is nicely presented. The Mean Scoil is also well presented with a dramatic colour style. The large trees to the side in the church grounds help frame this.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping in the square and at the entrance to the housing estate is attractive and has worked very well. Inside the estate the tree planting on the large greens is doing well. While all the trees are attractive please consider planting some of the traditionally large trees such as chestnut, sycamore, beech and lime. A few large “real” trees are so valuable – they will benefit the next generations in the same way as we enjoy so many large trees in the landscape now. The green is big enough to take such planting and the success of the chestnuts at the entrance are an endorsement of this suggestion. The planting on the main street opposite the school is very effective and well managed. The window boxes and hanging baskets are developing well and will look really well as the summer proceeds.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There should be interesting possibilities in this regard. The

river behind the community hall is not well utilised. Could a walk be made at this point? Are there any other access points that could be interesting ?

Every locality has an interest in nature and by focusing on one aspect a project can be developed. Use local knowledge and gain help and co-operation from the schools to develop a meaningful wild life interest.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was relatively good although vigilance is needed in this national problem.

TIDINESS

Apart from the effects of the road widening and ongoing work there is a good standard of tidiness. Poor surfaces , weeds on pavements and in unacceptable places result in a lower score.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

As stated above, the estate by the square is particularly good and adjoins the town well. Many individual houses along the streets and approach roads contribute overall to the town through good maintenance of their homes and gardens – these are often the silent contributors and deserve credit

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Work on the widening of the road continues and causes some disruption . This also detracts this year from the MILTOWN floral name display which must take such commitment and energy to achieve. The back way by the community hall is a useful carparking area and a nice short cut for pedestrians to the road above. The surfaces are very poor in this area. When back spaces are opened up they often reveal unsightly areas which then become a challenge to upgrade. The Chapel lane area also needs some attention especially the area faced on coming out of the new houses.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is a good impression of work and activity in Miltown and the future depends so much on good planning in all areas of the towns development.