

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ST MULLINS**
County : **CARLOW**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 30-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	38
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	29	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	25
Litter Control	40	20	19
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	8
TOTAL MARK	300	208	207

ST. MULLINS, CO. CARLOW

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Thank you for the very comprehensively completed application and the three year development plan. The archaeology Heritage Guide No 5 St. Mullins was also welcome and makes interesting reading. The results of the discussions in progress on the draft Tourism Development plan for St. Mullins with public authorities will be eagerly awaited. St. Mullins is a unique village as are the surrounds and hopefully any development proposals will respect the characteristics of St. Mullins. The compulsory Purchase orders on strategic lands in the centre of the village is a major breakthrough. The level of dereliction at the waterfront is staggering and the next few years should, by all accounts, change this aspect of St. Mullins dramatically. The three year plan included items that will keep a good level of maintenance at St. Mullins in a practical way.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There is a varied assembly of interesting features of the built environment to be seen at St. Mullins - from the graveyard and all its interesting head stones to the Heritage Centre, the public house to the waterside premises, the well and the quayside. The pump and monument are also important features.

LANDSCAPING

The extensive amount of grass in and around the village that needs constant mowing makes the work of maintenance very arduous - yet the appearances are very good and this is a great credit to those concerned with organising this work and to those that complete the job. Meticulous work is being done within the graveyard. The lovely riverside garden area by the quays is a delight and admired by every single person that passes. Container plantings - in the pony trap, the boat and the containers at the Well area are very colourful. Planting around the base of the graveyard wall is attractive. Gardens of houses in the locality also contribute well to the overall landscape of St. Mullins.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The funding received from the Environmental Partnership Fund towards a wildlife plan will now help to focus on a good project that will avail of the extensive wildlife opportunities locally and bring awareness and enjoyment to those who use the area. It is understood that this project - the nature of which has yet to be finalised will commence in the autumn and we look forward to new interests in this regard next summer. The riverside walk is a lovely walk and this in itself can be an interesting environmental experience.

LITTER CONTROL

There is a good programme of litter management in the area. Because of the layout of the village there are many places where litter may be present and constant vigilance is needed to monitor the

situation, Litter was noted in several places including the quayside, the graveyard and the open grass area. Sunday afternoon would be expected to be the worst afternoon for litter difficulties and this is all the more reason why extra provision for dealing with Sunday litter is needed. Recycling bins - as at Glynn tend to make people aware of the need to care for the environment. Your cooperative work with Carlow County Council will help in this respect.

TIDINESS

Generally there is a very good level of tidiness in the village. The derelict buildings do not help and hopefully this will be resolved in the near future. The railing close to the Public House looks untidy and a remedy is needed here. The new wooden signs are very attractive and help to give a tidy image of the village.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There is a very good standard of appearances of properties in the village. Many people appear to be so pleased to live in such a place that they respect the need to care well for their premises. Some new residences are being built and hopefully these will be in keeping with the tone of the village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Damage done to roads by excess water and flooding has taken its toll. From the document submitted it appears that the committee constantly requests the Carlow Council to repair the damage on all roads. The need for speed controls is also badly required as many people walk these narrow winding roads. The parking areas by the quayside have particularly bad surfaces.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

St. Mullins is a very interesting and enjoyable place to visit for many reasons, the planned work and developments will be a welcome improvement.