

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MILFORD-DONEGAL**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	25	22
Landscaping	40	25	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	11
Litter Control	40	30	25
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	174	162

Milford, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Last years adjudicator suggested the creation and adoption of a development plan, it is disappointing not to find one attached to your application this year. A 3 to 5 year development plan with achievable target dates set for each project would be most beneficial and a map of the town of Milford, highlighting areas where improvements have been made, buildings of interest and problem areas, would also be of great benefit to yourselves as well as the adjudicator. Your submission does, however, itemise improvements made under each category.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Council Offices designed by architects McCormack, Tracey and Mullarchy are an excellent example of modern Irish architecture. The derelict stone building opposite would obviously benefit from being renovated and, as such, make a fine addition to the area. The Information Office at the bottom of the street requires its gutters cleaned out as many weeds are growing there. The rundown cottages at the top of the hill on the right hand side have great potential but are currently quite unattractive. The Victorian style street lamps are to be welcomed and add much character. Mulroy College, on the Carrigart Road, looked very well. Moving the overhead cables to underground ducting would really enhance the streetscape of Milford.

LANDSCAPING

The grass verges and hedgerows on the approach roads were in need of attention on adjudication day. There is a pleasant space at the top of the town, well landscaped and with a good seating area and the provision of bins. More areas like this would be a great asset to the town. The grassy area around the top car park was overgrown. If this could be landscaped it would greatly enhance the car park.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The stream running beside the derelict stone building mentioned earlier is in dire need of cleaning as it is full of rusting metal and debris. To tackle this problem would be an advancement under this heading. The creation of nature walks would be worth adding to your development plan.

LITTER CONTROL

The provision of a bottle bank within the car park was noted. Unfortunately, the containers were full to overflowing with broken glass all around their bases. The town itself was quite tidy despite a lack of bins.

TIDINESS

Keep an eye on the gutters along Main Street as build up of weeds occurs frequently. There was a fire burning in the back area of the Information Office and producing a lot of grey smoke, try and keep such activity to the evenings if it must happen at all. Unused buildings such as the one halfway up the town do not add to the charm of your town.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Residential buildings were generally well maintained with many featuring well established gardens.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

There remain serious problems of traffic flow through the town with cars unable to pass each other in most places. The car park at the top of the town was virtually unused on adjudication day with most people electing to park on Main Street. Cars were even parked in areas designated No Parking. This situation may require a more aggressive strategy. A traffic user's survey was being carried out by the council on adjudication day and it must be hoped that positive developments will result from its findings. Resurfacing is required in many areas.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Milford has a certain charm emanating from its geographical location upon a hill and it is hoped that this charm will be nurtured over the coming years.