

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MULRANNY**
County : **MAYO**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 15-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	29
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	28	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	15
Litter Control	40	30	26
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	18	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	8	7
TOTAL MARK	300	204	190

Mulranny, Co. Mayo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The action plan for 2002 is progressing nicely and it is good to see a definite strategy has been outlined year by year to 2005. It was noted that further to last year's recommendations, your entry included a map indicating locations where development has been achieved. I would suggest that to help achieve even greater clarity next year, that all photographs submitted be linked to the map via numeric or alphabetic coding. A before and after photo of each project would also be useful.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Mulranny holiday village entrance is very impressive with a skilfully erected native stone wall. The handrail along the steps to the village is a considerate measure aiding ease of accessibility. There is an intriguing derelict building down near the causeway that would be an interesting feature if it were renovated. Village post offices could be regarded as the pulse of a community, Mulranny P.O. could do with being freshly painted. The two cottage restaurants are particularly eye catching; it's great to see the half doors have been retained. The parish hall is well co-ordinated ie the colour of the tiles and paint. St. Brendans village is also tastefully constructed. Thankfully the holiday villages are not too intrusive on the landscape but one would need to be careful about the proliferation of buildings in the future. Sadly, the old great Southern hotel remains a huge eye sore, it was been mentioned for development in 2005 but all avenues for acting on this before that should be explored.

LANDSCAPING

Fushia hedgerows and rhododendrons feature strongly throughout the village. There was evidence of strimming around the entrance to the golf links however the lawns around many of the holiday homes were in need of cutting at the time of adjudication. There is evidence of tree planting around the village and the picnic area at St. Brendan's village was neatly presented. At the Achill crossroads where there is a nice picnic area/car park in place it was disappointing that there doesn't seem to be much sign of shrubs and flower beds yet nor does there appear to be any climbers set on the wall of the holiday village at the moment. There is an old boat beside the bottle bank area that has potential as a flowerbed.

WILDLIFE & NATURAL AMENITIES

Mulranny is a very fragrant village with luscious landscape and the enviable position of having seaside status. The causeway presents a lovely nature walk that stretches on and on. Sheep roam uninhibited and there is no doubt that numerous species of animals, birds and plants can happily co-exist here. Bird tables, butterfly gardens and nature trails all help to uncover these natural treasures as long as it does not exploit or

endanger them. The directional sign to the causeway is poorly placed, perhaps, if it was put across the road opposite the steps or re-erected on the existing roadside but closer to the road it would attract more attention.

LITTER CONTROL

The beach and the village were generally litter free. It was great to see a bottle bank in place and your anti litter campaign in association with FÁ ;S is clearly effective.

TIDINESS

There are a lot of car parking/lay by facilities reducing the risk of haphazard parking around the village thus giving it a neat appearance. The path area beside the two phone boxes would need to be cleaned up. There appears to be an unofficial car park in this area also which could do with being tidied. There are tastefully painted (red & green) benches lining the foot ways at intervals which also helps to give the village an orderly look. The parish hall steps could do with being tidied and the “Atlantic Drive” sign could also do with being cleaned up.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Individual dwellings and the holiday villages fit snugly into the landscape. There is a nice balance of stone work and its pinkish hue complements the natural colours of this pretty village.

ROADS, STREETS & BACK AREAS

Road surfaces through the village are generally very good. I was glad to see the multilingual welcome sign however the stone signage on the approach roads is too small and consequently insignificant looking. I would suggest signs similar to that at the golf links are more compatible with the rest of the stone work done in the village. New “Slow through Village” signs and flashing amber lights for the school are commendable. Road surfaces to the holiday villages are also very good. Speed ramps outside school grounds indicate dedication to safety.

OVER ALL IMPRESSION

This is a naturally beautiful village. I feel that the community has a lot to be proud of. You have set yourselves attainable goals in an achievable time frame. It is still a work in progress and I feel that I must echo that comment of last years adjudicator in saying that..... the best is yet to come.