

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Mullinavat**

Ref: **412**

County: **Kilkenny**

Mark: **222**

Category: **B**

Date: **15/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	31	31
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	28	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	33
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	222	219

Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator was disappointed to note that you had not submitted your work programme. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator in his/her report, it is important at this stage in the competition to do so. This document will be invaluable to yourselves and to the adjudicators in order that your progress can be monitored as the years progress. The introduction of street furniture in the village is to be commended. The problems you are having relating to the old sawmill are noted and sympathised with. Good luck with your future endeavours regarding the resolution of this. Your map was most useful on adjudication day.

The Built Environment:

The Rising Sun looked well and was very busy on the day. The playschool and the Post Office were both very fresh but the latter will need painting before next year's competition. Centra looked very fresh and the Field sported a most attractive colour. The GAA ground and clubhouse building have been upgraded and the entrance area was admired. Rusty railings to the Garda Station should be attended to before next year's competition and the high boundary wall of the graveyard was quite patchy in appearance. Do ensure that the render is not removed from traditionally plastered vernacular buildings. This can cause problems with water penetration and is also incorrect from a conservation point of view, as traditional village buildings were, historically-speaking, meant to be rendered.

Landscaping:

The grounds of the church and its landscaped car park looked quite magnificent. The tree planting taking place in the centre of the village was noted and admired. Perhaps you could consider some additional tree planting for next year's competition. The floral tubs at the New Ross Road junction looked well.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The adjudicator was disappointed to note that you had left this section of the application form blank. Consult your Tidy Towns Handbook for clues for getting started in relation to this category of the competition. It covers such topics as habitat survey, developing a management plan, carrying out the work, creating a wildlife area, golden rules and the types of wildlife area you are likely to encounter both within the village and in the surrounding areas.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day was generally very good, apart from a few minor outbreaks on the main street and along approach roads. Generally the village was quite well presented in this respect.

Tidiness:

Dereliction is a problem in the central areas of Mullinavat. The derelict garage in the centre of the village creates a very bad impression to the visitor. A neglected house close to the pre-school looked unfortunate and another appeared to be abandoned near the centre of the village. Weed control was a problem to a boundary wall near the centre of the village and on the road to the GAA pitch. Do discourage advertising hoardings as they can give roadsides a rather cluttered appearance. Boxes had been dumped by the recycling area which looked most unfortunate.

Residential Areas:

Some of the cottages on the Thomastown Road had some very attractive cottage gardens to the front. However, a number were not in the same condition or presented to the same standard. The attractive garden opposite the derelict garage was greatly admired. The open space to Glen Crescent looked extremely well and a house with hanging baskets in this estate was admired. The housing estate located more centrally in the village also looked well.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Thomastown Road was quite overgrown and the village nameplate was virtually obscured on this approach. Some strimming was required at the base of a stone wall along this road and the grassy banks were overgrown. The Waterford Road was in a similar condition, although the new footpath and the magnificent ash trees overhanging the road were admired. Limestone signage to bridges announced the village in the Irish language. These looked extremely well. The Graiguenamanagh Road looked well with well maintained grass verges. Do try to strike a balance between an overgrown appearance and an over manicured one, in order to achieve a natural appearance to approach roads

General Impression:

Mullinavat is a very busy centre located as it is on the main Dublin to Waterford Road. It continues to progress well in the competition.

