

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Mullagh** Ref: **82**
County: **Clare** Mark: **212**
Category: **A** Date(s): **01/07/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	31
The Built Environment	50	41
Landscaping	50	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	16
Litter Control	50	28
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	13
Residential Areas	40	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	22
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	212

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the completed application and sketch map of the village and its outskirts. Good to note that the Committee of 6 has established links with FAS and more importantly the wider Mullagh community, this type of cooperation will pay dividends in the years to come.

It is also important that links be developed with Clare County Council to ensure that essential services are accessible for the Village.

Good to see that this is your second year since you re entered the competition and we hope that there will be many more.

Do consider putting together a work plan prior to next year's competition as it allows for proper work objectives that can be achieved.

The Built Environment:

The novel towns lands stone name plates were admired and this is the second Clare Village that this was seen – so well done for achieving this.

The core of the village the square was well presented in the main and the pump feature adds to this.

In actual fact the two old village pumps that Village has were maintained to a very high standard

There were a number of premises both commercial and private that took this adjudicators eye.

The owners of Darcy's, which seems to be no longer a business premises, deserve credit for preserving the unusual nameplate. A similar comment to the owners of two newly refurbished premises, which have retained traditional shop front even though they are no longer in business.

The owners of the Pub, that has of yet no name sign, are also to be congratulated for refurbishing this fine premises in old style format. The Church and School were in very acceptable condition and credit is due to those responsible for their upkeep.

Unfortunately there are a few derelict premises that need attention and it is hoped that Committee can engage with owners to address the problem and have them made good. I am aware that it can be a very sensitive subject in a small rural village.
The road surfaces were quite poor and it behoves your local Public Representatives to address this and try and get some work undertaken for next year.
Finally it is very much the wish of this adjudicator to see Scanlon's restored, complete with marble name sign, to its former standing.
This is an example of wonderful village architecture.

Landscaping:

The Committee should seek advice from the Clare County Council Planning department on putting a planting programme in place that would serve the needs of the village.
The Committee and indeed individual householders have made good efforts to date, but objective outside advice would help to create an effective scheme that would exploit the strong points of the village.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

As was stated in last year's report it would be beneficial if you could involve the children to devise a project that would identify the wildlife species associated with Mullagh and its surrounds.
Consult the Tidy Towns Handbook or indeed seek advice from some one with in depth knowledge of local wildlife.

Litter Control:

The amount of litter on a Saturday Afternoon was minuscule and that is down to good litter management. The Newsletter plays a big part in informing local residents and making them aware to keep their village tidy at all times.

Waste Minimisation:

Good to note that re cycling is encouraged in the local school and hope that this will expand to embrace the Green Schools Programme.
The Committee should consult the Race Against Waste publication, which was included with the original application packet, with a view to identifying some idea that can be worked into a project, which would benefit the Community.

Tidiness:

The standard here was a little mixed but verges look very messy and need to be cleaned of to give a tidy look to roadsides.
There were a number of areas adjacent to premises that need attention and the car park area at the Sports Ground was a little weedy in parts, it could do with a dressing of suitable surface material.

Residential Areas:

Reference has been made in a previous section to the manner in which older premises have been restored. Overall the residential properties including the Housing Scheme as one enters from the Quilty Doonbeg Road were very well maintained.
There were a few boundary walls that need a little attention.
Overall a good standard in what is in reality a small residential village.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The towns land nameplates were very attractive but it is a pity that one could not say the same of the directional name signs.
The sign for Mullagh off the main Doonbeg/ Quilty road has either rusted off or was removed.
The entrances, especially from Kilmihill direction, could do with a bit of forward planning from a landscaping point of view and its here that the external expertise would prove worthwhile.
The Village nameplates were visible and clean and the verges were acceptable if a little overgrown in places

General Impression:

It was nice to visit Mullagh after a few years absence and it is good to see the Village return to the Competition.

The Committee of 6 are doing very good work, there has been very many good things achieved in the last two years.

Keep up the effort and here's hoping that you will progress in the Competition in the years to come.