

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Mullinavat** Ref: **401**  
County: **Kilkenny** Mark: **228**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **30/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	33
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	15
Litter Control	50	31
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>228</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Mullinavat is welcome to the 2006 National Tidy Towns Competition. Mullinavat is an attractive village located on a national primary route set against a scenic backdrop of low hills. The problems caused by through-traffic are appreciated by the adjudicators and we are pleased to see that the village is soon to be by-passed which should result in an enhanced quality of life. We note from your application that you intend to formulate a plan and this will be submitted next year, we wish you well in this. The adjudicator is sorry that you feel that the competition is too professional for small communities and would like to reassure you that Mullinavat has a most attractive appearance and is a pleasure to adjudicate.

### **The Built Environment:**

The church and graveyard with its high pebble dashed wall was neatly presented as was the school and most business premises. Again this year the Rising Sun premises was admired for its old stone building material and its overall presentation; other premises which were admired included The Rod Iron, Jim Ja's, and Brogan's. The Mullinavat Service Station together with the Centra and the Take Away were neatly presented also.

### **Landscaping:**

Flower displays in containers were noted at several locations and were admired for their colour and profuseness and overall presentation, well done. Flower displays were nicely balanced by stretches of low and high hedgerow together with shrubs and young trees. Landscaping at the church car park looked especially well and the grotto was particularly admired again this year. When choosing plants in the future try to include native species that will be supportive of local wildlife.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

A buddlia bush on the entrance from the Newross Road was in full bloom at the time of inspection however it was hiding the nameplate so when its flowering season has passed it should be cut right back. Well done on the refurbishment of the sports ground and also on the development of the play area at the hand ball alley by your local authority. Perhaps a survey of the flora and fauna of the area could be under taken at some time in the future and published on a bi-lingual all-weather vandal proof display panel at a prominent point in the village with the purpose of raising levels of awareness of wildlife.

**Litter Control:**

A small amount of litter was noted on the main road and a few plastic bottles were noted on the verge on the Newross Road, the latter could have been thrown from passing cars. The overall appearance of Mullinavat was one of a litter free village and the community is commended for this. Do send in details next year of your litter management strategies as this can help increase your marks also.

**Waste Minimisation:**

The recycling point was noted at the church car park and was being neatly maintained with no bottles, bags or litter anywhere around, well done. We note the absence of an information panel on the use of the recycling point and urge you to install one for greater clarity for the community. In order to compete successfully you should try to devise ways for all sectors of the community in the minimisation of waste; this may involve surveying the waste produced by the various sectors of the community and be creative in identifying ways of reducing waste.

**Tidiness:**

As with litter control the overall appearance of Mullinavat was one of tidiness, a number of vacant or semi derelict buildings were noted however these are unlikely to remain so for any period of time given the current strong interest in property development also.

**Residential Areas:**

The housing development at the bridge on the Waterford entrance into the village was admired for the maintenance and beauty of its green open spaces. A number of gardens were admired particularly the garden to the dwelling on the Glenmore road located beside the railway bridge. A vacant house on the main street near the northern entrance to Mullinavat was noted, hopefully this will be reoccupied at some stage in the near future. Terraced on-street dwellings along the main street were quite nicely presented.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Grass verges on the northern entrance to Mullinavat had been trimmed however the grass had been allowed to get a little high by the time of adjudication; verges on the southern entrance were maintained and neatly trimmed and footpaths, stonewall and well painted street furniture together with road surface of a high standard including its hard shoulder were all a feature of the southern entrance to Mullinavat. The stone walls on the Piltown road were admired for the shape of the stones themselves, which was a little unusual; the bridge on the Piltown road should be maintained free of weed growth. Field boundaries were generally good and those noted near the speed limit signs on the road back in from the church are a particular case in point. A number of nameplates were in need of refurbishment. Old stone kerbstones to some stretches of footpath are an attractive feature.

**General Impression:**

Well done on a fine presentation yet again this year. We look forward to repeat visits and to receiving your plan next year and witnessing the completion of the proposed by-pass.