

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Mullagh** Ref: **82**
County: **Clare** Mark: **214**
Category: **A** Date(s): **21/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
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	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	23
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	214

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the completed application form and sketch map of the village which was of great help to the adjudicator. The attached reference material was also of great assistance. Do consider putting a three year work plan in place which would also be of benefit as it allows one to have measurable benchmarks to work to. Your committee of ten is a very good number to have on board for any village of your size. It is good to see you are working well with bodies/agencies which are offering you their support e.g. FAS and Clare County Council.

The Built Environment:

Public buildings such as the Church were in a good condition on the day of adjudication, although this building would be enhanced by painting of same.

The school however was not in such a pristine state. Again, painting would help to freshen it up. The village suffers in that the road surface is in very poor condition and this does not help the overall appearance. The standard of presentation of the buildings is very mixed and any committee is dependant on the co-operation and goodwill of local owners to keep premises up to scratch. Getting people to address such issues such as dereliction and upkeep is a very delicate operation. Keep focused on the above and you will succeed. Mullagh Health Centre was well presented.

Landscaping:

Planting by the village pump was excellent adding plenty of colour. Apart from this area the village lacked all planting/colour. The village needs to have a landscape plan applied as part of a greater renewal programme. There are a number of focal areas that could be tackled in the meantime and improved upon. It was also noticeable that large sections of the village were bereft of trees and again consideration should be given to the

planting of appropriate trees for coastal areas.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Given that Mullagh is near a coastal location you should consider seeking advice from the Wildlife Ranger from Clare County Council to help identify what would be a suitable wildlife project to undertake. If you do embark on such a path do involve the local school children/Brownies etc., as they will bring enthusiasm as well as knowledge about the wildlife, fauna and flora of their area.

Litter Control:

Litter control was very bad on the day of adjudication. It's very important that the committee get involved in spreading the message by both communication and action. Again please liaise with Clare County Council and FAS on this most important issue. Involve your local Brownies on a regular basis, not just once a year.

Waste Minimisation:

As recommended in last years report it would be advisable to engage with the school on the Green School Programme. It is very important that the younger generation become involved in the Race Against Waste Campaign. Getting school children involved is excellent as children tend to take on board projects with gusto and also learn good practices at an early age. Please refer to the Race Against Waste publication included with the original application package for ideas on initiatives that would suit your community.

Tidiness:

As mentioned previously litter control was very bad on the day of adjudication. Weeding is very necessary all through the village. There was untidy grass growth visible. The adjudicator appreciate that it is not easy for a voluntary committee to always influence individual householders but please continue with your efforts. A general message should be circulated via the Parish Newsletter to ask people to keep premises painted and tidy and to contribute to the efforts of the Tidy Towns.

Residential Areas:

The Housing Scheme from the Quilty Road was well maintained. Well done to all concerned. Other areas have been addressed throughout the Report.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The town nameplates were noted and very attractive in keeping with your unique landscape/heritage area. Again please be mindful of the overall tidiness of your village.

General Impression:

We would encourage the committee to keep up its good work. The village has quite a lot to offer. It is a pleasant place in which to relax and spend some time. Keep up the effort and harness the goodwill of your community to the full.