

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Mulranny** Ref: **501**  
County: **Mayo** Mark: **272**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **11/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	40
The Built Environment	50	35
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	32
Litter Control	50	35
Waste Minimisation	20	11
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	35
General Impression	10	9
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>272</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Mulranny Tidy Towns Committee is welcomed to the 2009 Competition. You are a committee who appear to have its finger on the pulse, what is required of a modern village facing into the 21st century! You would appear to have a good working relationship with school and wildlife ranger, as well as a good level of support from the local community. Your frequent meeting during summer months is commendable. The road toll, mock wedding and pub quiz sound like fun ways to fund raise and garner support! Your Environmental Plan 2010 and Progress Report 2008, both made for interesting reading.

### **The Built Environment:**

The standard in this category was good on the day. The church in red stone and render, and grounds looked well maintained with a bench located in the gardens to sit and contemplate! The adjacent modern school was in good condition also, and we congratulate them on achieving their third Green Flag for water conservation. Its mural of sea-life looked very cheerful. The hall looked fine and commercial premises looked well cared for. Of note were Daly's and Cost Cutters. We read with interest of your planned colour scheme and look forward to seeing the results. The Park Inn was well presented, sitting above the roadside. Campbell's looked somewhat neglected on the day. The Garda Station looked well. We look forward to seeing work to the beach facilities.

### **Landscaping:**

The area at the National School and Church looked cheerful, with its village pump and bucket, picnic area and information board. We were interested to read of your landscaping concept for the N59, as a wildlife corridor and pleased to note that this is exactly what it is, and most effective. The trimming of grass to roadsides and letting it grow more naturally further out works very well and looks most attractive. The causeway area is a magnificent asset to have in the village and a most unusual one. Planters throughout looked most cheerful

and helped to give a cohesion to the overall presentation. The area outside the Park Inn was well maintained with grassy verges, stone walling and tree planting. Landscaping and information board at the junction of the road leading to the parish hall were well maintained. Timber tubs and dished metal planters throughout created a cheerful impression. Attractive planting at village nameplates is most welcoming.

#### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

This is an area of the competition at which you obviously excel. Work in relation to the sand dunes and coastal erosion was read with interest and you would appear to have conducted a number of fascinating surveys on moths, garden birds, coastal habitats, grassland fungus report, the railway cycle track, heritage interpretation project and dune information board are all unusual and well worthwhile. Working with the park ranger must be very beneficial to you in your cause. The planting of native trees is laudable.

#### **Litter Control:**

Congratulations on your new litter bins after a 10 year wait! The standard of control on the day was good, apart from some litter spotted at the car park area leading to the holiday village.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

Your work in relation to this category of the competition is laudable. The recycling of litter is laudable and we look forward to seeing your carbon footprint calculation.

#### **Tidiness:**

The village looked quite neat and tidy on the day. You have effectively monitored the areas that are problems, such as abandoned outbuildings etc., and tackled these by boarding up windows and painting them up. One on the Westport side of the village would benefit from a fresh coat of paint to its tin roof, although its walls had been freshly white washed. There were a few outbuildings in rear areas which would also benefit from a fresh coat of paint. One or two yard areas should be screened from public view. An empty site on the main street looked unfortunate. Piles of building materials, hardcore and stone appeared to have been abandoned on the Newport side of the village. These should be removed once work is complete. Try to ensure untidy yard areas are screened from public view, where possible. The tidiness audit and signage audit are both worthwhile projects.

#### **Residential Areas:**

The housing estates and individual houses of the village were generally well cared for. Those along the main street looked very fresh. Mulranny Holiday Village was well maintained. Moynish House B&B was well maintained. A garden with lupins was admired along the main road. The thatched cottage on the Newport side of the main street looked very well cared for. St Brendan's village was well maintained, with attractive planting to the front. A marvellous garden to Breezemount B&B created a good impression.

#### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The landscaping of approach roads was mentioned elsewhere in this report and is most effective. Signage was generally clean and street furniture was being maintained. The overhanging trees and wild rhododendrons created a good impression on the Ballycroy Road. The planted metal tubs, trees, well cut verges, extending to more natural grass with wild daisies, fuchsia and bog irises was most effective on the Newport side of the village. An area of verge to the front of one premises looked somewhat neglected in comparison to the rest.

#### **General Impression:**

It was many years since this adjudicator had visited Mulranny and was delighted to see that the village retains much of its original charm, despite much change taking place at this time.