

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MILLTOWN-GALWAY**
County : **GALWAY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 15-06-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	39
The Built Environment	40	28	30
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	23
Litter Control	40	32	31
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	229	228

Milltown, County Galway

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

“Traffic calming” is strongly recommended for Milltown, or at least it should be made a 30 m.p.h. zone instead of the current 40. Thank you for a most comprehensive application form and all the back-up attached. The amount of co-operation between the people of the village and the local and State authorities is a headline to be set for all entrants. The map submitted was a great help as this was the adjudicator’s first visit to Milltown. The “inter county” suggestion is interesting, but it is a matter for another forum.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

When completed the “Heritage Cottage” will be an interesting addition to the built environment. One cannot but mention the Church and its environs, the outstanding feature of this well-kept village, along with other commercial properties, some of which now need repainting, e.g. Ryans (the ugly petrol pump), Burkes, the Post Office and the CYMS Hall. The replacement of concrete tiles on the school playground was an expensive but well worth while exercise. The Dervis Road is a great addition, but there was a tractor and two parked cars on the kerb on the day of the visit. Why the ugly portacabin in the adjacent field?

LANDSCAPING

I have noted your problems with the storm damage and the over enthusiastic “pruning” by the E.S.B. Your efforts to repair the damage and to further enhance the landscaping were noted, indeed the landscaping is one of the highlights of Milltown.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This area continues to improve and the showcase will be a further enhancement. Good to see that you will get co-operation from the Fisheries Board. I hope that you had success with the bird boxes and that there are now bird families that were hatched/born in Milltown. Nice to see the deer farm, could a suitable sign direct visitors to the area?

LITTER CONTROL

Your commitment to litter control is great and yet despite this there was some litter in evidence. I would suggest a litter bin near the National School.

TIDINESS

Again great awareness and keep the populace informed. The village pump and surrounds need attention. There are some weeds in concrete in front of the National School and the gate needs painting.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

A mixed range of houses, some with lovely gardens and window box displays. Some houses need to improve, e.g. the one beside the National School.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main road through the village is nearly too good, traffic whizzes by. There are nice stone walls on all roads. The Galway Road has nice tree planting, verges were being cut and gravel collected on day of visit. There are nice flower display at the signpost on the Kilconolly Road junction. I would suggest that margins could be cut back to the small bridge, taking care not to destroy the wild flowers. The surface on the Claremorris Road was very good. There were some kerbside weeds at the Failte sign. On the whole lovely stone walls, but an ugly sign for Sheridans Bar. There is a nice modern building containing "Sticky Fingers" crèche, but grounds need attention. There is a lovely G.A.A. playing pitch, but what about the spectator area? The Dunmore Road was excellent, but the old store with the Texaco sign needs to be improved. The backway to the river and pathway could be improved, there was some litter visible and the pathway is becoming overgrown.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Milltown has achieved so much and has further plans for the future, but it is now time to take stock again and ensure that the momentum is maintained. Good luck.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (05/08/99)

The attractive signage, floral display, stone walls and relatively new trees on the Tuam approach to the village make for an attractive entrance to Milltown. Most commercial and public premises throughout the town were presented to a high standard on adjudication day. However one or two let the side down such as Burkes and CYMS Hall. The magnificent displays nasturtiums, petunias and marigolds were greatly admired. Centra appeared to be very fresh and the Post Office had obviously been painted since first adjudication day. Teach Uí Sheirdáin's and its sign on the Sligo side of the village will need painting before next year's competition. The village was virtually litter free apart from a problem area at the GAA grounds. Weeds to the old kerbside on the Davris Road were a problem on the day although the new kerbing opposite was admired. The variety of colours to Mullarkeys wall also looked well. The village is making steady progress in the

competition.