

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	42
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	25
Litter Control	40	35	33
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	242	239

Milltown, County Galway

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Milltown Development Association is one which shows obvious pride in its village's future. The adjudicator noted your problems in relation to passing traffic contributing litter to the village on the busy N17. Your endeavours regarding the by-pass are to be commended and hopefully this situation will be resolved in the not too distant future. The efforts involved in the new sewerage scheme are also highly commendable. The adjudicator was pleased to note that your Slí na Sláinte route has been officially launched and noted its signs while traveling through the village. Perhaps for next year's competition you could consider putting together a smaller submission, confining yourselves to the application form, a clear map and your work programme.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The standard of buildings in the village was mostly good on adjudication day. However, one or two areas could have been improved upon. The Top Garage was very fresh, as was Finn's and Teach Uí Sioradáin. Window boxes were being put in place at that location and at the extremely fresh Centra on adjudication day. Mullarkey's was also very fresh and the modern church and grounds looked as well as ever. Before next year's competition the Garda Station will need to be repainted as will the CYMS Hall.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping throughout the village looked well on the day. The playground / riverside park was as beautifully maintained as ever and the adjudicator noted an additional landscaped space on the opposite side of the bridge with its display of farm machinery. In this location perhaps a future project would be a more permanent enclosure of the tennis courts. You could consider building a stone or indigenous hedge base and new fencing in this location. The planting of pansies on the bridge was noted and, as previously mentioned, an abundance of window boxes were being put in place on the day. The adjudicator was disappointed to note, however, that the surrounding wall of the pump had yet to be painted. The landscaping to the stone cottage on the island should be magnificent when it reaches full maturity.

WILDLIFE

Your work in relation to compiling a list of local and wild birds and native wild animals is to be commended. Hopefully you will manage to get funding for your promised show case. The work in relation to maintenance of hedgerows and river banks is well worthwhile.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day was generally very good.

TIDINESS

The standard in this category of the competition could have been better. The adjudicator was disappointed to note that although the large village pump on the main street had been freshly painted the surrounding wall still appeared neglected. Rust was still apparent to the gates of the GAA ground and the side walls leading up were quite badly stained with red algae growth. The whitewashed wall extending from the bridge will also need painting before next year's competition. Do discourage advertising hoarding as they give approach roads a rather cluttered appearance.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category of the competition was as good as ever. A stone wall was being erected below the new house on the hill on the Sligo approach. The nearby house for sale appeared quite grubby and hopefully will be painted by its new owner.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Galway / Tuam Road was well maintained with attractive stone walling. Its relatively new trees are coming along well on the busy N17 route. Both the Sligo and Dunmore Roads were also well maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The busy village of Milltown looked as well maintained as ever on adjudication day.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/02)

The remit of this Association goes far beyond the confines of the 30 MPH limit usually submitted in Tidy Towns competitions. In fact, the Milltown Development Association has given years of motivated work to projects over a wide area of adjoining country. It is hoped that the planned by-pass will, at best, respect these undertakings, and, at least, will allow the visitor to appreciate the village and its life in a quieter fashion.

There was much roadwork to the north of the village on second adjudication day, but the village was looking well. The whitewashed wall to the west side will need freshening up for next year, and the completion of the extensive renovation to car parks and pavements to the back of the two Sheridan premises will be looked forward to. This adjudicator heartily endorses the comments of the first.