

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Milltown**

Ref: **108**

County: **Galway**

Mark: **249**

Category: **A**

Date: **28/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	44	43
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	26	26
Litter Control	40	35	34
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	30
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	249	244

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for completing the entry form and for the very detailed report of the work which you have completed in Milltown since last year. You have a very professional approach to your development plan and each year there is such a noticeable improvement in evidence,. The Development Association and in particular the ten reliable workers are to be commended and congratulated for their great work.

The Built Environment:

Most of the business premises are presented to a good standard, however, there are a few premises which could certainly do with a fresh coat of paint. I do not like to mention them individually, I think everybody should take responsibility for their own business premises. The Church certainly deserves a special mention. The landscaping, paved wheelchair access, new kerbing and the cast iron lamps make this area most attractive. The health centre should get a fresh coat of paint. The Garda Barracks is a good improvement, however, the wall opposite could be freshened up.

Landscaping:

Great work has been done under this category. Milltown looked great on adjudication day, even though it was raining very heavily, it still looked most attractive. The flower beds, hanging baskets

etc all add a great splash of colour to the village. The Millennium Park/Playground /River Walk area is such an asset to your village and is very much the focal point. It is presented to a very high standard and you certainly deserve your extra well earned marks under this category.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is great for your community to have all of this information about the wildlife habitats, flora and fauna that resulted in the environmental study carried out by students from NUIG. It is good to see the community and students working together and now Milltown has a comprehensive analysis of what is available. I am sure that other villages and towns can learn from this.

Litter Control:

Once again your national spring clean campaign is working well. Congratulations to the Foroige group for helping out here. Your efforts are paying off and it is good to note that all of the villagers are playing their part to present Milltown to a high standard.

Tidiness:

The bottle bank area in Milltown park is very well presented and looked very neat and tidy. This is not always the case in some towns where the bottle banks can be overflowing with litter. Other towns could well learn from you. Well done.

Residential Areas:

There are some beautiful private residences on the approach roads, with very nicely manicured gardens. A good individual effort here. The stone walls in the village really enhance the area.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

All of the approach roads leading to Milltown are presented to a good standard. The verges are neat and tidy. The nameplates are very attractive and the flower beds surrounding them are lovely.

General Impression:

Well done to all of the members of the tidy towns committee and the development association. You are doing a tremendous job and are going from strength to strength. I enjoyed my visit to Milltown. I will be delighted to nominate you for the Waterside and Landscape awards. I think that the cottage and surrounding area is really lovely. It seems a pity to leave it empty except for Christmas, and what a great idea it was to use it as Santa's Cottage. I am sure with a little imagination it could be put to some use during the summer months for both the villagers and visitors to enjoy. Keep up the good work, and I look forward to seeing Milltown in the national winners enclosure in the not too distant future. Continued good luck to you all.

Second Round Adjudication:

Fortunately the second adjudication had somewhat better weather! The community of Milltown is to be highly commended for persistent enthusiasm. It is not intended to dampen spirits but in this adjudicator's opinion there has been an over emphasis on prettification resulting in distraction from the main attributes of the village. For instance bedding plants around poles, etc. together with ornamental conifers seem too suburban for a clearly rural environment. It is strongly recommended that a plan be implemented to systematically replace the conifers with indigenous street trees. The painted pump was admired although the surrounding walls needed a fresh coat of white wash. Although the roadsides had been well maintained some tall weed growth behind stone walls was evident – this should have been cut by the end of July. On a positive note the playground was being

well enjoyed during adjudication. The bottle banks area was commendably tidy. The river side and park are clearly areas of which you are justifiably proud. Again the simple image of the Church and mature trees cannot go unmentioned. The enormous number of daffodils you have planted must be beautiful in spring time.