

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MILLSTREET**
County : **CORK**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	30
The Built Environment	40	27
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	11
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	188

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your participation in the 1996 Tidy Towns Competition. It was a pleasure to adjudicate your beautiful town. Thank you for the helpful information and the suggested route to be taken during adjudication to highlight the work that has been achieved in the past year. The committee is obviously dedicated and the many environmental improvements to the town over the past few years are exceptional. Well done! Your strong point in the competition is the landscaping development. Congratulations on the redevelopment of Saint Anna's Church and graveyard. This is a valuable amenity feature.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Some thought might be given to establishing the wildlife dimension to Millstreet. Perhaps an underdeveloped site which is not due for development for a few years might be sown with wildflower seeds and managed for a display of local seasonal wildflowers. Alternatively one approach road might be singled out and managed for a display of seasonal wildflowers. You do not make it clear in your submission whether or not the grounds of St. Anna's Church are to be formally landscaped. If you do not plan to have them formally landscaped, perhaps you might develop a wildlife garden as an amenity feature here.

LANDSCAPING

Tree planting along the Main Street looks well as these young trees are maturing and giving a graceful appearance to this streetscape. Landscaping at the Town Hall looks well also, although the water feature at the entrance to the carpark should be cleared of litter. The redevelopment of St. Anna's Church and Graveyard is a fine example of community work at its best. At the time of adjudication it was not open for a more thorough inspection but what could be examined from the roadside was impressive. Landscaping on the entrance from the Mallow Road is most impressive as is landscaping in the graveyard. Flower displays and seating at the corner marking the entrance to the Green Glens Arena is another fine amenity feature.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Some sections of the church need to be repainted as they are weather stained. Murphy's Furniture Store has some fine traditional architectural features which should be restored when it's being refurbished. However the tiling sections at the base could be eliminated. Another building in need of attention is O'Briens Mace Shop. Reens Pharmacy is being considered for the Best New Shopfront. The roadside boundary wall of the Hickie premises could be re-whitewashed. However it is very beautiful and this last point is a small detail compared to the beauty of the shopfront. The great majority of buildings in the town are nicely presented with a good colour scheme. The streetscape is enhanced by tree planting and orderly carparking. Keep up the efforts to have plastic signs eliminate together with tiling facade finishes. The Clara Inn has been tastefully refurbished also. Floodlighting of the Bank Of Ireland premises is an interesting feature of night time in Millstreet. The Mart premises are well painted also.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is not as good as it could be although it is not a serious problem. Its presence diminished the otherwise attractiveness of the water feature at the entrance to the carpark.

TIDINESS

No serious problems were noted under this heading.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are some fine terraces of residential properties in Millstreet. Most are presented to a high standard and featuring a very pleasing colour scheme. The new residential development at the entrance to the town has been finished to a high standard, particularly in respect of landscaping at this early stage in its development. A few roadside boundary walls near the Coleman Brother premises are in need of refurbishment and the Coleman Brother premises itself could be upgraded also.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The carpark at the Town Hall is neatly presented. New seating and litter bins are attractive. The wirescape along the Main Street is still visually obtrusive and we look forward to its elimination at some stage in the future together with the addition of street lighting on attractive lampstandards. Footpaths are finished to a very high standard throughout the town and on approach roads. The latter are neatly presented.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Millstreet is an attractive town where community involvement is evident in its appearance.