

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MAYNOOTH**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	30
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	20	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	15	15
Tidiness	20	8	8
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18	18
General Impression	10	4	4
TOTAL MARK	300	162	159

Maynooth, Co. Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Thank you for your completed questionnaire and map. The FAS/Community Employment Submission was very interesting. The surveys are to be commended and points such as the rapid growth of Maynooth must be taken into consideration in all future plans and requirements for the town. It was good to note that those who were asked to participate in the survey were interested to do so and that quite a number of positive points about Maynooth were forthcoming. The information in this submission will contribute significantly to your 3-5 year plan which is now required for the competition. Much work has been completed and well done with it. It is important that all newcomers to Maynooth are aware of your objectives and plans and contribute in their own way to the well being of the town.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Pitch and Putt course was well presented. The Motor Factors, Regan's, Maynooth Curtains and Paddy Power's were all well presented on the main street as were Hula Bou and the Pepper Mill Delicatessen. The stone wall outside the cemetery on the N4 looked well - the adjudicators look forward to it becoming home to some vegetation. Maynooth Credit Union looked very well and Centra Supermarket was being newly painted. A few hanging baskets would look well on the few shops at Just Gifts and the Bookshop. Some bright red hanging geraniums would set off well against the brown/grey stone of the Glenroyal Hotel. The trees behind the Glenroyal are under stress - many are poorly and need replacing. The railings and wall of the school on the Moyglare road required repainting and weeds needed to be removed from the playground yard. The Parish Hall had weeds at the base of the fence. Moyglare Nursing Home was well looked after as was the GAA ground. Caris Communications and Divine Missionaries had some nice landscaping. The front of the College was well maintained as usual - well done. There was also some nice planting opposite. St. Mary's Church of Ireland has been tidied up. The pump on this road could do with a coat of paint. The Garda Station looks extremely well as usual and the Fire Station and Health Centre were fine though again some weeds lurked in corners. Greenfield Shopping Centre could be brightened up. The train station was reasonable and there was some nice planting. The bridge needed to be repainted. Quinnsworth really needs to make an effort with some planting/baskets.

LANDSCAPING

Many of the areas around Maynooth look well, especially some of the housing estates and the college. Individual landscaping is good in many cases; however a more co-ordinated approach is required. Maintenance of trees is important. Side shoots should be removed and make sure they are not being strangled by tags

which are too tight. Grassy areas where the bus turns of the Straffan road badly needed attention as they were very long and unkempt. The grassy area at the Celbridge road and down the Celbridge road was very unkempt.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The canal is a superb amenity area. The canal amenity is well done - new placards and boards required to inform what is in the canal. The water looked reasonably clear and small fish could be viewed quite easily. Swans and moorhens were vying for crusts of bread! There is still scope for more tree planting. Small plants will inhabit the new walls and will give a more natural look. Carton estate is also a haven for wildlife, as are the grounds of Maynooth University. A number of habitats could be developed throughout the town. It is an ideal project for all levels of students and having a large number of third level students in the town should allow for initiative in developing these areas.

LITTER CONTROL

There was a scattering of litter on the Moyglare road and at the entrance to the college campus. Many of the estates were free of litter - some though also had a scattering of litter. There was no evidence of litter bins in the car park area.

TIDINESS

The centre of the town was quite tidy. Many of the estates were also tidy. Due to the grassy areas and weeds in gutters and the uncut grass in many of the grassy areas, the appearance on the approach roads was untidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Convent apartments were nicely maintained. St. Paul's looks well. In Moyglare village, there were weeds in guttering and at base of trees. A lot of landscaping was being carried out in Moyglare Abbey. Woodlands, Cluain Aoibhainn and Newtown Court were among those that were well presented though there were still some houses in Newtown that needed some attention.. Fencing around Newtown Shopping Centre needed to be mended. Parson Lodge and Parson Court were well presented. There are many green areas in the housing estates; these should be considered as areas for use for children's facilities as well as landscaping. Rockfield estate was well maintained though some dead trees required replacing. The estates along the Celbridge road were generally well kept. Trees need to be looked after. The stream area in the estate at the end of Old Greenfield is a missed opportunity. This could be very pleasant with some cleaning up and some planting. The houses along Old Greenfield were generally well presented though the road needs resurfacing. Castlebridge was well landscaped though tree maintenance is required here. Interesting to note that there are no litterbins. The green amenity areas are vast and a grove of trees or area of managed wildflowers would look very well. Birdboxes are another suggestion.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach road from Dunboyne needed some cutting back. The N4 to Kilcock required cutting back also. The Moyglare road also had quite a number of weeds in the gutters. Congratulations to Moyglare Stud for their litter bins and well cut back areas. There are a lot of weedy areas on the Clane road and also on the Celbridge and Straffan roads. This created an untidy appearance. The back street areas were reasonably well kept, but some weeds needed to be removed. There is some nice landscaping and planting at the canal on the Dublin road, but there was some litter on the Dublin approach road. I couldn't locate the sign for Maynooth despite travelling up this road several times.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Well done on the work carried out in the past year especially down at the harbour area. Many of the shop premises should be proud of their presentation as should many of the estates. The approach roads require attention and unfortunately because of the large number of weed in the gutters and at the base of walls and the scattering of litter, there was an untidy air to the town.