

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **RATHOATH**  
County : **MEATH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	27
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	22	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	5	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>169</b>

## **Rathoath, Co. Meath**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your very comprehensively filled in questionnaire and map. The Annual report was very useful and showed your priorities throughout the village. It can help to form a good base for the development plan. Congratulations of the work done in the past year. The adjudicators look forward to your plan submission next year.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Many of the buildings were well presented this year. St. Augustine's Nursing Home looked well though the area opposite could be tidied back. The Village Centre was also well presented as was the church. Some of the stores throughout the village could consider more traditional signage if/when they change them. The Rathoath Inn was well painted; however the area beside it required maintenance. The National School looked well though the gate at the front required a coat of paint. The pump on the backroad also required a coat of paint.

### **LANDSCAPING**

This varied from place to place. The new estates were being landscaped and this needs to be maintained. Hanging baskets and other floral displays looked well in some areas - more could be considered. One - colour displays tend to make greater impact. The use of native trees and shrubs are encouraged over exotics in planting around the town e.g. perhaps a hawthorn/privet hedge could have been considered above a Griselinia hedge in Muatuaithé estate. Shrubbery areas around the village are generally well kept.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The riverbank and area is a great asset. A survey of this area is required to determine species of plants and fauna inhabiting the area. Other wildlife can be encouraged through the planting of trees/shrubs that attract insects and that are used as a source of food by animals.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There were a few bits and pieces of litter evident on the day of adjudication. The committee should be commended in putting litter prevention so high on your agenda. Litter bins are well maintained; however, the adjudicators would suggest a few additional bins in the new housing estates.

### **TIDINESS**

The village was generally tidy though some back areas need attention. Remember if they can be seen from the road, they can be seen by the adjudicators. It is appreciated that roadworks and developments do make it more difficult to keep tidy, so well done on your efforts.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Rathoath is another village close to Dublin which is undergoing rapid change and increase in housing and population. The new estates are well landscaped. There will be a requirement for further amenity facilities as these estates/houses grow in number. There were some weedy areas evident in some estates i.e. Brownstown. The Paddocks was well presented and St. Oliver's looked well. The new developments on the Fairyhouse Road are difficult to assess until all the building ceases. However, landscapers should be encouraged to use native species. Litter bins should also be provided.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The Slane road required cutting back. There was an unusual well set into a fence here. The sewerage works on the Ashbourne road seem completed. Some climbing plants such as vines, clematis or ivy could be considered for the fence if a wall is not forthcoming. There were roadworks ongoing on the Fairyhouse road and developments here made it very busy.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The approach taken by the Tidy Towns Committee is well commended. It is important to make the new residents aware of the Tidy Towns and also encourage them to become involved. The committee are to be congratulated on the work achieved through their own efforts. Good luck in the next year. Rathoath has potential to do well in the competition.