

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	37
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	22	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	24	18
Tidiness	20	14	9
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	16
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	200	184

Maynooth, Co. Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Maynooth is welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. Congratulations on an excellent submission this year. The committee is well informed on the threats and opportunities and of the town's strengths and weaknesses in relation to the future development of Maynooth. You have achieved your objective of reaching the 200 mark in 2001, congratulations again! Your publication "Exploring Maynooth, Five Self-Guide Walks" is an excellent and valuable publication and a hearty thanks must be extended to all involved in the project.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The town centre looks quite magnificent with its newly surfaced footpaths, sculpture and seated amenity area, beautifully presented shopfronts and of course its mature and semi-mature trees. The new Hotel and Shopping Centre development was admired also. It is quite a few years since this adjudicator visited Maynooth and was very pleasantly surprised by the changes.

LANDSCAPING

Do not plant flowers or shrubs at the base of trees along the main street, it is not necessary. Sucker growth should, of course, be removed in order to highlight the beauty and profile of the boles of these trees. Keep the base free from weed growth also and remove treated weeds. Your landscaping programme could be extended to incorporate green verges leading to the railway station. The lakeside development is an excellent amenity which was much in demand during adjudication. An incidental green area at the Castle was in need of redevelopment (i.e. levelling and reseeding). As noted above the arch sculpture amenity area was admired.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your overall objective under this heading to protect wildlife and to promote an awareness of it demonstrates a thorough understanding of the purpose of this category in the competition. Do furnish us with details of wildflowers along road verges and elsewhere together with details of how you promote wildlife in schools. Your initiative to reward residential estates for the development of small wildlife areas is imaginative, be sure to document these on your map for next year's competition. The flora and fauna details along one of the walks is valuable.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was very good during adjudication. There appears to be plenty of bins and these are both well placed

and frequently emptied. Well done on the regular 'clean-ups' and on the 'Sunday Morning Clean-Up'. Congratulations on your success in Green Towns 2000.

TIDINESS

The immediate environs of the Health Centre and the Fire Station is a little underdeveloped and so looks a little untidy. Kerbed verges to the Railway Station and footpaths at the station were spoiled by weed growth. This suggests negligence. The recycling point at the Tesco car park was very tidy. Overall, the appearance of Maynooth was one of tidiness.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

A co-ordinated colour scheme might be considered for the terraced town houses in Maynooth. Established housing estates were well presented with the exception of the presentation of boundary walls. New estates are being finished to high standards, the challenge will be to maintain these standards as the estates themselves mature. It is hoped that new residents in Maynooth will contribute in a positive way to the cultural and environmental life of the town.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The wirescape free aspect of the town centre is visually pleasing. Roads, footpaths and street furniture complement the built environment. Newly constructed / refurbished stone walls are a handsome feature however some were spoiled by weed growth. Approach roads and nameplates looked well.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Congratulations on a fine presentation this year.