

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **NAAS**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **F**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	30
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	32	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	24
Litter Control	40	22	19
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	23
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>201</b>

## **Naas, Co. Kildare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Naas is welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. The town looked very well during adjudication, although it was a busy shopping day. The overall standard of presentation is very good; the built environment is of a good quality with many fine features; there appears to be adequate amenity facilities and green open spaces; however the town centre along the main street was congested and seems not to cater for pedestrian needs. Consideration might be given to pedestrianising some central areas and making the town more 'shopper friendly'. The proposed inner relief road may make this possible, you should talk to your local authority about this. Thank you for the map identifying proposed and actual developments. Is there a Tidy Towns plan for the town? If so, send in a copy or a summary next year.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The new 'Swans on the Green' fruit and vegetable market looks especially well and enhances this important junction of the town. The SuperValu development continues to be nicely presented. A number of shopfronts are being considered for awards, amongst these are 'Rushes', 'Sarah Floods' and 'Hugh Statham Jewellers'. The courthouse is an impressive building and appears to have been recently refurbished to its roadside façade. The Presbyterian Church and the Town Hall were also admired together with the Church of Our Lady and Saint David. The Dara Cinema needs to be upgraded.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The Lakelands amenity development is superb in both design and presentation and was very much in demand during adjudication. The harbour amenity area presents a quality recreational amenity experience. Monread Park is a fine initiative and will meet the amenity needs of this district of the town, as will the new sports centre amenity at Jigginstown.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The proposed new woodland amenity at Mill Lane with lighted amenity walk to Tandys Bridge will do much to promote and heighten awareness of the importance of wildlife in Naas. Wildfowl at the river amenity are invaluable to the integrity of this area and wildflower displays on approach roads were visually appealing as well as being important for wildlife.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The overall presentation was good, however there were some weak spots. Take Away litter was noted on the green areas across from the Harbour View Hotel and across from

the Fire Station. Old litter was caught in the wire and post fencing along the road to the roundabout for Newbridge (R445). Litter control was very good otherwise.

## **TIDINESS**

The long stretch of wire and post fencing noted above is shabby in appearance and should be replaced with a good quality timber post fence or planted with beech and hawthorn hedgerow. An undeveloped incidental corner on the Blessington road could be improved. The recycling point was tidy in presentation. There are no major problems under this heading.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Housing estates are nicely presented, particularly in respect of their green areas. Elm Wood was especially admired and the stand of mature trees here is magnificent. Older residential areas such as Rathasken Heights and St. Conleths look well also. Harbour View apartments sit well in their surroundings and new estates such as that at Jiggenstown are being finished to a high standard.

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

The proposed inner relief road should ease the pressures from traffic in the town centre. Car parks are being well maintained and car parking on the street is orderly, however it adds to the 'visual clutter'. The overhead wirescape is visually obtrusive. Footpaths are being well maintained as is street furniture in general, however some seating opposite the Harbour View Hotel was in need of painting.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Naas is a fast growing commuter town with many development pressures. The overall impression is one of tidiness and a town with fine recreational amenity value.