

**Maynooth: 14<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.**

**A strong result for the IBAL 2023 winner with over half of the surveyed sites getting the top litter grade. Court House Square is a lovely town centre environment and the residential area of Moyglare Manor was exceptionally freshly presented and maintained. While there were a number of moderately littered areas, the site which really brought down Maynooth's overall ranking was the Recycle Facility at Tesco – there was litter / dumping between the units, much of it 'long-lie' indicating a lack of thorough cleaning for quite some time.**

**Dunboyne Approach Road: Grade A.** A freshly presented route with road surface / markings / signage in good order and an overall, litter free impression.

**Moyglare Road Approach: Grade A.** All was in good order along this route, with clean verges, road surfaces and freshly presented pavement.

**Moyglare Meadows: Grade A.** An exceptionally freshly presented residential environment, with all elements in very good order. There was a complete absence of litter throughout – well done to all concerned.

**Kilcock Approach Road: Grade A.** The roundabout to Maynooth University was clean and well attended. The overall impression was an excellent one, litter free, with nice floral displays.

**Public Park at Pound Lane: Grade B.** Litter awareness notice is very clear: 'BIN IT OR BRING IT HOME, Let's all act responsibly'. However, there didn't appear to be any visible bins in the survey area. Litter was food related, sweet papers and fast-food wrappers, on the grass and at the water's edge.

**Car Park at The Mall: Grade B+.** This site just missed the top litter grade. With a little extra effort on behalf of smokers this could be a top-ranking site. Perhaps signage reminding the public that cigarette butts are a form of litter / provision of butt units might help.

**Main Street: Grade B+.** Provision of a mix of both 'general waste' and 'mixed recycling' is very positive. The 'olde' style green water pump has some colourful planting either side – very attractive. Weeds were pronounced at the base of the mature trees. This is another site in Maynooth which just missed the top litter grade – litter on the side of the street with shops / newsagents took away from an otherwise well-presented environment.

**Courthouse Square: Grade A.** A lovely town centre environment with good visitor information signage, sculptures, colourful planting, seating, etc. all of which were in very good order. It was excellent with regards to litter.

**Tesco Extra Shopping Centre: Grade A.** A freshly presented shopping centre and associated car parking environment. Litter bins / cigarette butt units were sparkling! There were some cigarette butts but given the size of the survey area, not significant enough in quantity to bring down the overall litter grade.

**Recycle Facility, Tesco: Grade C+.** This was by far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Maynooth. On first impressions, all appeared in good order. Closer inspection revealed litter / dumping between the recycle units, much of it 'long-lie' indicating a lack of thorough cleaning for quite some time. Main items included plastic bags and cardboard boxes. Large signage associated with the use of the facility was freshly presented and included health warning 'Mind your Mental Health by Drinking Less – HSE Drug and Alcohol Helpline'.