

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **EMO**
County : **LAOIS**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	28
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	30	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	16
Litter Control	40	37	37
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	32
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	218	214

Emo, Co. Laois

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Emo is very welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition and it was a pleasure to adjudicate the village once again. It is many years since this adjudicator has last visited Emo and was surprised at the excellent presentation and maintenance of the village and its immediate environs. Well done on the new namestones, these are quite magnificent. Well done also on your activities regarding vacant properties, we hope that these will pay dividends soon. Emo is well endowed with historical heritage and Emo Court is a valuable asset to the village. Congratulations on heritage signs and on basing your local tourism initiative on heritage. You could expand on the objectives for the village in next year's submission.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Park Inn needs to be painted to its roadside façades and its dated plastic neon sign removed. The National School looks really well. The church looks magnificent and is beautifully complemented by the shaping of its trees in the grounds. A good overall presentation.

LANDSCAPING

Well done on the development and excellent maintenance of the picnic area. The line of trees out the road are maturing nicely and grass verges here are being maintained here to as high a standard as elsewhere, well done. Flower troughs were noted around the village but none of these were in bloom at the time of adjudication, however trees and shrubs look well. This adjudicator does not like the white stone chippings on the landscaped area on the Mountmellick end of the village as these have too stark an appearance and don't blend into the natural setting of the immediate environs.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Hedgerows are neatly presented and appear to enjoy a great diversity of species. The area is rich in woodland habitats and some of these might be identified for the pleasure of walkers and information made available in leaflets, brochures, wildlife panels, etc. The woodland walks are a valuable heritage and amenity feature.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was very good on day of adjudication. It is good to note the 'house to house' collection of litter in the village and also sponsorship of litter bins.

TIDINESS

The litter bin at the Park Inn was full but not overflowing, however, this was an exception and all other litter bins

appear to have been emptied recently. There are no major problems under this heading.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Newly painted residential properties look extremely well. Some boundary walls to residential properties out one road need to be repainted. Most old and more modern properties are presented to an excellent standard.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

It is good to note the absence of weed growth along the base of walls and kerbs. Congratulations on the trimming of the outer margins of roadside edges and the display of wildflowers inside the grass margins. This is a nice touch. Some roadsigns need to be cleaned. The Demesne wall with its sporadic outbreaks of ivy is a handsome feature of the village. The wirescape at Kennels Cross is particularly bad and visually obtrusive and the service poles on the corners here should eventually be replaced by attractive heritage style lampstandards.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of Emo is very favourable with its neatly trimmed grass verges, its display of wildflowers, its handsome namestones and, of course, its valuable heritage, well done!