

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ERRILL**
County : **LAOIS**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	42
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	32	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	37	37
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	7	8
TOTAL MARK	300	233	234

Erril, Co. Laois

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Erril is very welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for this year's application and, in particular, for your planned work programme. We wish you well in the implementation of your plan and agree with you that the village centre has very distinctive character and shouldn't be greatly changed, however the ducting of service cables will be a welcome development. Eventually a footpath should be constructed linking the village to the Community Hall and the School. It is good to note your close working relationship with statutory bodies. The village enjoys a peaceful pastoral setting away from noise and traffic. It appears to be a very safe environment in which to live.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

One or two properties in the village centre will need cleaning or painting to their roadside façades soon. Most buildings are quite well presented and Dowlings looks especially smart. Alans looks well also, as does the Post Office. The School and Community Hall look well but boundary walls here urgently need treatment. One or two low corrugated roofs are in need of refurbishment.

LANDSCAPING

Trees planted over the last few years are well established now and making an important contribution to the environment of the village. The seated amenity areas around the village look really inviting. We look forward to the completion of the new water feature in the village centre.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The graveyard is being nicely maintained and enjoys a historical dimension with the presence of ruins, presumably of a church or abbey. The monument is neatly presented also. The stream presents an opportunity to undertake a wildlife project based on wetland habitats. No doubt the area is rich in wildlife given the extensive number of trees in the village and on its approach roads and given its beautiful rural setting. A survey should be undertaken identifying wildlife present and promoting an awareness of the need for wildlife protection and conservation.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is excellent but you give very little details regarding your litter management activities. This is taken into account under this heading also and can be a valuable source of additional marks.

TIDINESS

We wish you well with your efforts regarding derelict buildings.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many roadside boundary walls in Tierney Park are in need of attention. Tierney Park itself is a charming development of single storey cottages. A nameplate should be provided for the Village View estate and a roadside stone bed here needs to be refurbished. Two storey townhouses are being maintained to their usual high standard. No doubt the new house at Village View will be presented to a comparable standard.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The church carpark is well surfaced and tastefully landscaped. Approach roads to the village are simple in their presentation but effective in creating a very favourable first impression of the village. Some roadsigns need to be refurbished and nameplates cleaned. No doubt the collapsed wall on the Borris-In-Ossory road will be restored in due time. The stone wall leading to the Community Hall was admired.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Erril is a beautiful village situated in a wonderful setting and is a pleasure to visit.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/01)

The simple formula of grass and mature trees on the greens is very effective and gives a lovely impression on entering the village. The Church car park is well attended to with the wall covering and general cleanliness. Painting of the Church gates and gateposts would be welcome. Some litter was noted in several places including the water feature at the green. The old petrol pump and dislodged litterbin by its side need attention. The green at the Village View housing estate could well accommodate some tree planting. The wall-enclosed border to the front of this estate needs a planting scheme.