



Heart of England in Bloom Marking Sheet 2018

Name of entry: Whittington and Fishwick in Bloom	Judging Date: 23rd July 2018
Category: Large Village	Judges: Roger Bache Stephen Middlehurst

We were met at St.Giles hospice by Mike Kingham who presented a comprehensive powerpoint portfolio followed by a guided tour of the splendid gardens at St. Giles. The tour continued around the Orchard project which is adjacent to St. Giles, Mike described the large amount of hard work that had been carried out by many volunteers in achieving and maintaining this project.

The tour continued around the village the highlights of this where Swan Meadow, Middleton Bridge Garden, Whittington Woods, Village Hall, troughs planters and baskets throughout the village.

The group had achieved a remarkable amount of improvements to the village and surrounding areas with a wide range of volunteers working on many new projects an admirable first entry.

SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Assessing year-round horticultural achievement including conservation and natural areas.

		MAX	ACT.
A1	Impact design, colours, appropriate choice of plants, special features, presentation, innovation	20	12
A2	Horticultural practice cultivation and maintenance, quality of plants, sustainability, new planting	20	13
A3	Residential and Community Gardening residential, communal areas, allotments, public buildings (grounds of churches, schools etc.), car parks	20	14
A4	Business Areas and Premises retail and shopping areas, leisure sites, transport terminals, car parks, farms, rural businesses, pubs, post offices, tourist areas/attractions, offices, estate agents etc.	20	11
A5	Green Spaces verges, parks and open public spaces	20	12
TOTAL POINTS AWARDED FOR SECTION A		100	62

50% of maximum points		
<p>Areas of Achievement:</p> <p>The new troughs, hanging baskets, and planted containers dotted around the village and village hall all planted and maintained by volunteers.</p> <p>St. Giles garden, a splendid display of colour and landscaped areas of mixed trees, shrubs herbaceous and bedding plants set in tranquil settings creating many different areas to relax and reflect within.</p> <p>Middleton bridge gardens, a remarkable display of sustainable planting carried out by volunteers.</p> <p>The wildflower meadows in various locations, the best being the meadow at Swan Meadow.</p> <p>The orchard project, consisting of a collection of heritage fruit trees, wildflower meadows, trim trail and BMX track.</p> <p>Woodhouse farm and garden project .</p> <p>River of Flowers project</p>		

<p>Areas for Improvement:</p> <p>The Dog Inn public house, floral displays were very limited.</p> <p>Weeds within the gutters around the majority of the village.</p> <p>Entry / exit to the village could be improved to create more impact and knowledge that you were entering Whittington / Fishwick in Bloom.</p> <p>There is a need to evidence more residential and business garden displays within the village.</p>		
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SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Assessing year-round activities improving environmental responsibility.

		MAX	ACT.
B1	Conservation and biodiversity areas of natural habitat, wildlife and conservation sites	10	9
B2	Resource management recycling, minimising demand placed on natural resources and any harmful impact on the environment	10	8
B3	Local heritage management and development of local heritage and/or identity, inclusive of natural heritage	10	8
B4	Local environmental quality management of vacant premises and plots, litter, graffiti, fly-posting, dog fouling etc.	10	9
B5	Pride of place management of street furniture, signage, art in the landscape and hard landscaping	10	8
TOTAL POINTS AWARDED FOR SECTION B		50	42
25% of maximum points			

Areas of Achievements:

The use of recycled material, to build planters, bug hotels and bird boxes, and seats at St. Giles.

The Orchard project with bee friendly planting and improved biodiversity with the introduction of the wildflower meadows growing between the fruit trees.

Whittington Woods, biodiversity studies carried within and the additions of bird boxes feeders and bat boxes.

Wildflower beds replacing open grass areas.

Solar power projects throughout the village including St. Giles and the village hall.

The sedum roof planting at St. Giles

The use of volunteers to keep the area litter free.

Areas for Improvement:

There needs to be more details regarding the management of resources, water collection, the use of peat, recycling of prunnings and grass cuttings .

SECTION C – Community Participation			
Assessing year-round community participation			
		MAX	ACT.
C1	Development and continuity - Development and sustainability of the local Bloom initiative and evidence of ongoing projects	10	9
C2	Communication and education community awareness and understanding, engagement with schools and young people and/or other community groups, press coverage, publicity materials	10	9
C3	Community participation engaging a wide range of people across all areas of the community	10	9
C4	Year-round involvement schedules of events and supporting evidence of year-round activity (primary evidence to be presented in 15 minute presentation)	10	9
C5	Funding and Support initiatives to secure ongoing support for the local Bloom campaign including local business support	10	10
TOTAL POINTS AWARDED FOR SECTION C 25% of maximum points		50	46
<p>Areas of Achievement:</p> <p>Excellent volunteers commitment to projects within the village.</p> <p>A well established committee which is constituted and linked to other Parish, County and National organisations.</p> <p>Excellent communication systems in place.</p> <p>The many organised groups and schools are linked to projects ongoing within the village.</p> <p>The strong fund raising methods adapted to finance the in bloom and environmental works carried out.</p>			
<p>Areas for Improvement:</p> <p>There is little to add to this section for improvements, but to continue with the methods adopted and successes gained.</p>			
GRAND TOTAL POINTS AWARDED		200 (max.)	150
MEDAL AWARDED		Silver Gilt	

