

Congratulations on having entered the 2009 East Midlands in Bloom Competition!

East Midlands in Bloom is the regional competition of 'Britain in Bloom' and has been running for over 30 years. The campaign focuses on three core pillars of horticultural achievement, environmental responsibility and community participation. It has a dedicated team of experienced committee members and judges most of whom are horticulturally qualified and members of the RHS. They give their time voluntarily to give advice to entrants and are available for the judging period during the first half of July.

East Midlands in Bloom will have a New Entrants Workshop in February 2010 to which everyone is welcome to attend. It will be held in Rosliston, Derbyshire. More details will be available later in the year. Please also visit our website: www.eastmidlandsinbloom.co.uk

The Committee and Judges thank you for making superb efforts to the 'Bloom' Campaign this year and wish you all the best in 2010.

CRITERIA

- SECTION A Horticultural Achievement 50% of total marks
- SECTION B Environmental Responsibility 25% of total marks
- SECTION C Community Participation 25% of total marks

CATEGORY AWARDS

There are five grades of award:-

- 1. Gold – marks 85% & above (170- 200 points) Outstanding**
This is awarded to exceptional achievers who have demonstrated a consistently high standard in all areas of the judging criteria and objectives of Britain in Bloom
- 2. Silver Gilt - 75-84% (150-169 points) Very Good**
This is awarded to an entrant who has met the judging criteria and objectives with a very high standard throughout, and has in one or more areas been exceptionally thorough. This award has the potential to achieve a Gold Award in the future.
- 3. Silver – 60-74% (120-149 points) Good**
This award is for an above average entry, and has met most of the judging criteria and objectives for Britain in Bloom and has displayed the potential to progress to Silver Gilt Award
- 4. Bronze – 50-59% (100 – 119 points) Average**
This is a commendable entry meeting the sustainable standards required, and has the potential to progress to Silver Award.
- 5. Certificate of Achievement – 0-49% (0-99 points) Fair**
This is a fair entry aiming to meet the sustainable standards required, and has the potential to progress to Bronze Award.

SMALL VILLAGE

General Comments

There were just two entrants this year in this category and both made valiant efforts considering the tiny size of the communities and the limited resources available to them. Mixed weather accompanied the judges on this tour but a most pleasant day was enjoyed sharing the enthusiasm of the representatives from both communities. Keep up the good work!

Judges – Martin Latimer and Richard Stephen

RANBY (1st): Silver Award - 141 points

Judged 15th July

*** Judges Award:** The garden in a bucket competition at the school

Ranby have been entering the competition at various times over the past fifteen years and have achieved many certificates which are on display in the village hall to indicate their successes. Mavis and Clive met the judges at the Chequers PH to give a briefing and then a walking tour followed through this immaculate village. The local school, residential gardens and the canal side were all visited during the afternoon.

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- Colourful planters on the green and sixteen good hanging baskets through the village
- Innovative floral displays on the two bus shelters
- Good sustainable landscaping at the rebuilt C of E school following the fire

SECTION B

- The verges at Ranby were of the highest standard
- Improvements this year at Ling the Showman's site and the Ranby Oaks

SECTION C

- Garden in a bucket competition at the school
- Working parties on the first Saturday on the month to help keep the village tidy
- Obvious community involvement in the village, born out by the high turn out for the spring meeting at the Chequers PH

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- Consider including a visit to the school grounds and meeting children
- Try introducing some floral displays at the Church and Community Hall

SECTION B

- Hedges and Jetties were in need of cutting on judging day
- Consider an interpretation board by the canal bridge to inform visitors about local waterways heritage

SECTION C

- Use the village notice board to further promote the Bloom competition
- The portfolio could be improved by reformatting according to the three pillars of the competition i.e. Horticulture, Environment and Community and also typing the text would assist the judges
- Pictorial evidence of spring displays and community activities would further enhance your entry

A=76 B=33 C=32

TOTAL 141

ELMTON (2nd): Silver Award – 121 points

Judged 15th July

Elmton is one of the smallest villages with just 38 houses to enter the competition and is situated near to Creswell in rural Derbyshire. Sadly a rainy day greeted the judges as they arrived at the Old School room to meet Barry and colleagues to start the tour. However spirits were lifted as we enjoyed a comprehensive tour of this lovely village.

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- Attractive hanging baskets adorned the historic cast lampposts through the village
- The Georgian Church of St Peter was interesting historically and the churchyard was kept in a neat and tidy fashion
- Several greens were visited on the tour and were an asset to the village
- The Elmtree PH was colourful from the frontage with herb and beer garden to the rear

SECTION B

- The cleanliness of the street scene has improved from the previous year
- The informative interpretation boards around the village are a great asset

SECTION C

- The Old School Room well used by the community for village events and activities
- Informative parish notice board
- A good stream of Lottery money was indicated for village projects

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- Consider floral displays at the village entrances at the Pinfold and Church Lychgate
- Include and visit some of the more attractive gardens in the judges tour
- It would be worthwhile planting a few indigenous specimen trees on the villages greens

SECTION B

- Consider placing an interpretation board at the Pinfold to reinforce this as a historic village feature
- Continue discussions with the local council to try and improve the mowing regimes on the greens to encourage more wildflowers
- Peruse the pond relining project

SECTION C

- Your entry would be strengthened by providing the judges with a portfolio
- Use the Parish magazine as a promotional vehicle for the /bloom competition

A=60 B=32 C=29 TOTAL 121

VILLAGE

General Comments

Four villages were judged this year including one new entrant with all being spread geographically across rural Derbyshire and Leicestershire. They were a real pleasure to visit and it was heartening to see the continual benefits of entering the Bloom to these communities and their green and tidy environments. Congratulations to you all!

Judges – Martin Latimer and Richard Stephen

ROSLISTON (1st): Silver Gilt Award - 160 points

Judged 14th July

*** Judges Award:** The colourful Village Hall and Medical Centre complex

Rosliston is the most colourful of villages and achieves consistently high standards in the Bloom both regionally and nationally. As we were within the National Forest our judging tour started at the fascinating Rosliston Forest Centre which was a hive of activity with many children enjoying the facilities. The tour continued into the village proper and included a visit to the local pub garden to meet the landlord and to Chapman's Garden Centre to see the proprietor. The village core involving the Medical Centre and Village Hall was a riot of colour being nicely complemented by using old agricultural equipment to reflect the bygone heritage.

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- Amazing sensation of colour from floral beds in the village
- The Village Hall/Medical Centre complex was a real riot of colour giving visitors a real lift
- Successful annual gardens open day and competition

SECTION B

- The sensory wildlife and herb gardens at the Forest Centre were excellent
- Good use of resources by recycling timber at the Forest Centre for running the heating boiler
- Innovative use of old rural equipment in the village reflects well the agricultural heritage of the area
- Some attractive street furniture evident during the tour
- Clean –up campaign using Brownies and Scouts

SECTION C

- A useful DVD was provided to the judges as an aide memoir of the visit

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- Consider including a church and allotment site in a future tour
- Try to take the judges to a local school and engage the children

SECTION B

- Try to include some wildlife areas within the village
- Consider more school involvement in the judges tour

SECTION C

- Continue to engage with the local press in the Bloom and during the tour
- Portfolio was informative but could be improved by restructuring following the three pillars of the competition i.e. Horticulture, Environment and Community. Also a route plan with the itinerary and page numbering would be convenient to help the judges deliberations

A=84 B=40 C=36 TOTAL 160

MIDDLETON BY WIRKSWORTH (2nd): Silver Award - 133 points

Judged 13th July

★ **Judges Award:** The Reflective Garden at the school

The Middleton in Bloom group was only formed during February this year and remarkably they have put together a wonderful first entry into EMiB. An excellent portfolio was provided at the Engine House where we met village representatives. A walking tour of the village followed which included meeting local people at the Primary School, Church, Allotments and the finally the Millennium Garden where there was a reception in the pavilion which included the local press. Congratulations are looking forward to what Middleton has to offer next year!

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- Splendid Millennium Garden complete with pavilion and memorial trees around perimeter
- Creation of a new Reflective Garden at the primary school
- Floral displays at the Rising Sun public house and colourful flower displays on Green and on the surrounding houses
- Some well cultivated allotment plots including one especially for children
- Good improvement works at the Middleton playing fields using aggregate levy grant

SECTION B

- Comprehensive recycling site located the main car park
- Interesting Orchid verge project opposite village hall
- Use of a village caretaker resulting in a clean and tidy street scene
- Impressive street scene and furniture
- Wildflower area in the quarry with its interpretation panel

SECTION C

- Impressive community engagement in the completion involving school, church, PC, and Housing association
- A vibrant Bloom group only formed during February 2009
- Local press were present during the judging tour
- A nicely presented portfolio; well structured as per judging criteria also containing good photographs

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- There is scope for using more planters and flower baskets around the village
- Encourage the Nelson PH to participate in the Bloom
- Instigate a comprehensive competition to include best gardens, pubs and allotment plots

SECTION B

- Pursue the development of the wooded area adjacent to the school for countryside activities
- Consider further involvement of the industrial heritage of the area

SECTION C

- Pursue your website proposals to help promote the EMiB competition
- Develop further your funding and support initiatives for the Bloom

A=56 B=36 C=41

TOTAL 133

THRUSSINGTON: Silver Medal Award - 132 points

Judged 6th July

*** Judges Award:** The floral displays at the Blue Lion

This is the second year that picturesque Thrussington has entered the competition and they are making very good progress indeed. This years' theme is "All things bright and beautiful" and the judges were treated to a pleasant tour of village and were shown colourful flower displays wildlife areas and the historic Holy Trinity Church. The tour was concluded by a visit to the local C of E Primary School to meet the young children at their Eco-garden.

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- Colourful planters strategically placed throughout the village
- The Blue Lion and Star Public Houses were most attractively adorned with flowers
- Delightful floral displays visited within Holy Trinity church
- Good planting along Hoby Road outside the cemetery
- Exceptional hanging baskets provided and sponsored outside the Wood yard timber business

SECTION B

- Liaison with the Wildlife officer at Charnwood Borough Council
- The C of E Primary school has an excellent Eco club for children on Thursday afternoons
- Useful improvements to the grounds at Holy Trinity Church
- Great strides being made to improve the Hoby Road Wildlife site including a large range of bird boxes
- Many planters constructed from recycled wood
- Back Lane footpath project involving wildflower planting

SECTION C

- Successful "Thrussington Open Gardens" scheme held on 5TH July each year
- Ground Force Action days held in the village to tidy up, clear litter and maintain landscaped areas
- A good programme of events is scheduled for the village green this year
- Good use of time management during the tour

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- Consider starting a village competition to include gardens, Pubs, etc
- Show the judges more residential gardens during the tour
- There is scope to provide more floral features outside the Village Hall

SECTION B

- There may be scope for an interpretation panel at Hoby Road wildlife site to inform visitors of the local flora and fauna. Also consider installing bat boxes
- Investigate areas of local heritage to weave into the competition
- Consider upgrading the quality and style of street furniture around the village green
- There may be scope for additional floral features at the village boundaries

SECTION C

- Try to involve the press and media more in the campaign
- Consider a local competition to involve Gardens, Pubs and school
- Portfolio progressing well but would benefit further from an expanded Environmental section (B) and also an itinerary page as an aide memoir for the judges tour

A=64 B=32 C=36

TOTAL 132

TANSLEY: Silver Medal Award - 123 points

Judged 13th July

*** Judges Award:** The well dressings and flower festival

Tansley is an attractively placed village on the hillside with lovely views overlooking Matlock. A regular entrant Tansley village accommodates many lovely residential gardens which are variously entered into EMiB as best garden each year. Brian Taylor our contact provided us with an enjoyable tour which included beautifully constructed Well Dressings, many sponsored floral displays and the excellent Flower festival at the local church. There is good scope for Tansley to progress further in the competition.

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- The impact of the garden centre and pub entrances to Tansley
- Excellent Flower Festival at the church and Well Dressings through the village
- A number of colourful rectangular planters maintained by locals
- Sponsored hanging baskets enhance the village scene
- A good number of fine residential gardens sighted during the tour
- Immaculate Geranium beds fronting the Matlock Garden Centre

SECTION B

- Street scene clean and tidy with no evidence of litter, graffiti, dog fouling or fly posting
- Improved footpath layout at the church is very beneficial and has been funded by PC
- Tansley Fete Field Pavilion and pitch improvements partly funded by the Football Foundation are an valuable facility for the village residents

SECTION C

- We liked the Tansley in Bloom competition promoted by your A5 flyer
- Many village events for residents to enjoy including Village Fete, Well dressing, Flower festival and the Scarecrow competition
- Good press coverage on the day via the Matlock Mercury newspaper
- New Bloom web pages up and running in association with the Parish Council website
- Floral sponsorships c.£700 /year from many local businesses and organisations

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- Increase floral planters and baskets at strategic places with more of the same
- Churchyard would benefit from a better standard of maintenance and perhaps the introduction of flowers
- Brookfield Park Industrial Estate was visited on the tour and has potential for improvement
- The local school should be more involved in the Bloom -include a with a visit to their grounds

SECTION B

- Lunsdale/Schools Mill site could be much developed for wildlife through Sec 106 monies
- Try to develop further links using the rich local heritage of the area or around the Well Dressings
- Further tidying up required around the Tansley Fete Field pavilion area
- Sprout lane public open space had weed growth around the park furniture

SECTION C

- Try to involve local business, Pubs, Schools and the PC and their representatives in the competition and the actual judging tour

- The new open gardens scheme is an excellent concept, try to implement next year
- Increase the involvement of local school children in the Bloom competition
- Your portfolio would benefit from restructuring to align it with the competition's new criteria format i.e. Horticulture, Environment and Community

A=57 B=30 C=36

TOTAL 123

LARGE VILLAGE

General Comments

A wide and very diverse selection of entrants was judged this year coming from right across the East Midlands region. Standards were particularly high with most achieving Silver and Silver Gilt level with the category winner receiving a coveted Gold Medal! There were noticeable improvements this year from previous entrants and the two new communities that entered for the first time also achieved excellent results. Thank you all for sharing your wonderful efforts with us!

Judges – Martin Latimer and Richard Stephen

MARKET BOSWORTH (1st): Gold Award - 180 points

Judged 14th July

*** Judges Award:** The new Market Bosworth Cemetery

This seasoned entry led by Chris Hooker and colleagues did not fail to impress. Organisation of the tour and the accompanying portfolio were both first-class as was the correspondence before the visit. The village on the day looked stunningly beautiful with all issues regarding horticulture the environment and community being fully addressed. Market Bosworth you are truly at the top of your game!

SECTION A

- Brilliant arrays of floral features surrounding the Market Square complement the attractive architecture
- High quality floral beds in the Park Street area provide a real pleasure for visitors to enjoy
- The residential gardens visited and seen on the tour were lovely to behold
- Planting displays at the Police Station, Court House and Fire Station were a real credit to those involved

SECTION B

- The Bosworth Country Park with its Green Flag accreditation was a pleasure to visit and we particularly enjoyed the Butterfly and Vista Sensory gardens
- The Eco-toilets are a real innovation at the Country Park and well explained by Andy the LCC ranger
- A truly immaculate street scene throughout the tourwhat an achievement!
- We liked the solar powered fountain at the new cemetery

SECTION C

- All embracing community involvement in the Bloom effort
- A fully committed and very able Bloom committee achieving the very highest standard within EMiB
- A fabulous portfolio was presented to the judges

Areas suggested for future development

SECTION A

- Continue to maintain your very high standards
- More of the same please!

SECTION B

- Try to integrate more heritage features into the competition, perhaps more Dixie connection

SECTION C

- Continue with the introduction of the proposed website
- Numbering the pages of the portfolio would help the judged during their deliberations.

A = 90 B = 43 C = 47 Total = 180

BARLBOROUGH (2nd): Silver Gilt Award - 165 points

Judged on 15th July

*** Judges Award:** The efforts of June Widdowson at the garden of Stonecroft Guest House

The well organised Bloom group led by Bridget Ingle met the judges at the Little School where a photo shoot and briefing took place before we embarked on an enjoyable walk around the picturesque old village much enhanced by the wonderful floral features. Later in the tour we made use of the comprehensive road network to visit the Country Park and the Barlborough Links commercial centre. A really excellent effort this year by all involved at Barlborough

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- Impressive floral displays created from beds, planters and baskets around the village and Townswell greens, the Village Cross and at village gateways
- Excellent standards at the Memorial gardens, Doreen's garden and at the Stonecroft B & B
- Slayley Green access and signage. An open space providing a vital green oasis right through the recent housing developments
- Well designed and managed permanent landscapes around the Barlborough Links commercial area

SECTION B

- Improvements at the Country Park particularly Hedge laying, pitch drainage and proposed new footpath network
- The balancing pond acting as a wildlife resource as part of the Links development
- The street scene was clean and tidy on the day of the tour

SECTION C

- Great community involvement evident throughout the tour and in the competition
- A very professionally produced portfolio with a good balance between text and pictures
- The Bloom team were well organised and made good use of the time allotted
- Good financial support for projects e.g. RBS grant for the new school garden

Areas suggested for future development

SECTION A

- We are looking forward to the proposed Primary School garden project on a future tour
- Encourage pubs to take a greater part in the Bloom competition

SECTION B

- Try to interpret more of the local village heritage within the competition
- At the country park consider mowing out swathes by surfaced paths and create flowing rides through the newly sown meadow area
- Pursue the excellent idea of establishing a living churchyard at St James' Church
- Continue with the chain saw sculpture concept using artist Andrew Frost
- Show more recycling activity on the judging day

SECTION C

- Try to show more evidence of press releases in the portfolio

A = 89 B = 36 C = 40 Total = 165

DONINGTON (3rd): Silver Gilt Award - 163 points

Judged 17th July

*** Judges Award:** The rainwater harvesting schemes

The entry at Donington is much improving on an annual basis. The village centre is fully adorned by well grown and colourful flower displays many of which are sponsored by local business organisations. Good strides have been made this year with conservation by using water harvesting techniques from roofs of local buildings. The community element is strong within the competition and a good example is the volunteer-rota set up for watering the floral containers.

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- There is a major floral impact in the village centre this year with all displays well maintained
- The Fire Station display using a crashed car theme provided an innovative feature
- A great contribution is being made by local businesses and other organisations
- The recent Matthew Flinders Park is very attractively designed and laid out

SECTION B

- Strong heritage links throughout the tour involving local man Matthew Flinders
- Water harvesting arrangements well implemented using run-off from the roofs from Select timber and the public toilet block
- Aylesbury House wildfowl species conservation and cultivation of Mistletoe
- A generally clean and tidy street scene during our visit

SECTION C

- All embracing community involvement in the Bloom competition
- Funding support is very successful
- Good publicity through support flyers on houses and use of the IDEA village newsletter and the local Lincs free press
- A splendid Donington in Bloom float entered into the Spalding tulip parade
- Innovative portfolio produced using recycled paper also informative DVD shown to the judges at the reception

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- The mowing and shrub bed maintenance at MF park could have been improved for the judging tour
- There were some poor verges and weeds present around the A52 access to the village
- Try to include a Church and School in a future tour
- Consider a floral feature at the A52 village boundary sign

SECTION B

- The future development of the Red Cow PH will benefit the community
- The sunflower boarder at Matthew Flinders Park was a real feature. It is worth relocating elsewhere if displaced by the pending play ship project
- Consider installing more bird and bat boxes in appropriate places

SECTION C

- Try to involve more children and schools in the competition and provide evidence
- Consider including a route map, itinerary, page numbers and more spring photos in next year's portfolio

A = 86 B = 38 C = 39 Total 163

CAISTOR Silver Award - 128 points

Judged 16th July

*** Judges Award:** Westbrook Grove Sheltered Housing

Welcomed by members of the 'In Bloom' committee was a good start to what turned out to be a very enjoyable afternoon. A good first entry by Caistor's 'In Bloom' team. Jacquie Brown and Debbie Barker presented a well co-ordinated itinerary with planned 'stops' along the way to meet hard working teachers, volunteers etc. An informative portfolio was provided prior to commencing the tour.

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- The Town Pump was beautifully decorated by Caistor Flower Group also excellent baskets opposite. The hanging baskets located in Bob's Lane were particularly good.
- St. Peter and St. Pauls Church grounds were well maintained with good section of wildflowers.
- Whitegate Kindergarten had good gardens with wonderful baskets / tubs etc. An excellent play area as well.
- Westbrook Grove Sheltered Accommodation – a wonderful oasis Well done Mr. Wood and Acis.
- Courtyard Gardens very good – having to work in a difficult environment.

SECTION B

- Good wildlife / natural habitat areas at Church. Nice to see Owl Boxes.
- Regeneration of village pavements and excellent recycling results.
- Caistor Primary School Eco Warriors.
- Adopt an open space – very good idea. Loved the topiary elephant.

SECTION C

- Good community involvement from schools, police, Methodist Church, volunteers etc
- Good 1st entry portfolio.
- Good press coverage via the Market Rasen Mail and Grimsby Telegraph.
- Planned future projects show that the 'in bloom' entry is going to improve. Whitegates Kindergarten and Westbrook Grove Pond.

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- White Hart was pretty but could do so much more to supporting the entry.
- Try to increase number of floral displays on green spaces.
- Caistor Library & other buildings close by would benefit from baskets and tubs. Develop nearby rose beds.
- Syfer Spring could be made more of a feature.
- Consider more tubs / baskets at the Town Hall.

SECTION B

- Generally street scene quite good but tour did show up weeds in road gutters and along some footpaths.
- Try to incorporate Heritage features and more interpretation boards in entry. Westbrook Pond, Church wild flowers Syfer spring etc.

SECTION C

- More photographic evidence of spring floral displays and children participation in portfolio would be good.
- Try to implement planned projects for next year's judges' tour.
- Consider increasing the number of categories in your local 'in bloom' competition.

- Continue to develop support from local businesses either financially, 'in kind' or contributing by providing their own hanging baskets / tubs etc.
- Consider promoting the competition on 'In Bloom' web pages.

A = 56 B = 35 C = 37 Total 128

KIRTON IN LINDSEY Silver Award - 126 points

Judged 16th July

*** Judges Award:** The eco-garden at Huntcliff Technical College

Kirton has made an impressive entrance into the East Midlands in Bloom competition. An informative portfolio was provided followed by a well organised tour, led by Cllr Pat Frankish around this attractive and quaint Lincolnshire village.

The tour ended splendidly at the Green where a tented reception was provided to allow the judges to meet Civic leaders, volunteers and the ground maintenance contractors. A great first entry with good future prospects. Well done Kirton!

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- Many colourful floral displays visited particularly at Grove Street, the War Memorial, Bader Way and Steep Hill
- All the village gateways were given a bright floral makeover -sure to impress visitors
- Orchard Close residential gardens were a delight to see

SECTION B

- Good evidence of street cleansing on the day via a NLC sweeper and a hand picker in the market place
- Comprehensive recycling site at Redbourne Mere visited and a roadside collection scheme for recyclables run by the NLC
- An interesting Eco garden was visited at Huntcliff Technical College, plus a new vegetable garden with proposed greenhouse as a learning resource for the pupils

SECTION C

- Obvious Civic pride in promoting Kirton-in-Lindsey which was ably assisted by the KLAGS (Kirton in Lindsey amateur gardeners Group)
- Much sponsorship of floral features by local businesses and other organisations
- The Scunthorpe Telegraph was present for a photo shoot
- £1,000,000 Heritage Lottery Grant recently secured to refurbish the historic Victoris Jubilee Town Hall

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- You need to achieve more impact in the Market Place with the hanging baskets and cascade planters
- Grass mowing in various areas i.e. the Dales estate and verges were not done well
- Try to involve the Fire Station, Post Office, Methodist Church and remaining Pubs in the Bloom
- The flower bed at the Queen Street/High Street junction would thrive much better if moved from under the trees to a more sunny spot
- It would be nice to include the ancient Church and churchyard in a future tour

SECTION B

- Include more wildlife/natural areas in the tour i.e. the churchyard
- Some weed growth was present around the streets and gutters
- Consider incorporating local heritage i.e. include the Windmill in the competition
- There seemed to be a lack of seating around the village with the unit on Queen Street open space lacking its slats

SECTION C

- A promising portfolio but could be improved by formatting along the lines of the judging tour or using the 3 pillars of the EMiB competition i.e. Horticulture, Environment and Community

- When the work at the local primary school is completed next year it would be beneficial to include this school with its children in a future tour

A = 54 B = 33 C = 39 Total 126

ASFORDBY - Certificate of Achievement- 90 points

Judged 6th July

*** Judges Award:** The Riverside Walk Pocket Park

This promising entry was provided for the first time this year by the "Asfordby Friends of Wildlife and Gardens" organisation who are still feeling their way as new entrants in the competition. The judges were greeted at the Parish Hall car park by Peter Cates and other members of the group. A village tour followed both on foot and by car as we tried to avoid the torrential rain storms during the afternoon. There is great potential for improvements next year at Asfordby

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- Allotment plots well cultivated and maintained by tenants
- The Parish Cemetery was neat and tidy and contained some attractive trees
- The three Horseshoes PH showed some attractive hanging baskets

SECTION B

- Restoration of the leaking pond at Jubilee Park using local volunteers
- Improvements to the Wildlife area such as the new beetle- bank using dumped spoil
- The new River Walk pocket park development has great potential for the village centre

SECTION C

- Photographer was present to promote the Bloom in the local parish magazine

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- Include a local school in future tours
- The Parish Hall would benefit from some floral features
- Residential gardens need to be added into the judging tour
- Better use needs to be made of the full judging period i.e. we had been shown around the entire village in only one hour

SECTION B

- Include recycling sites and data into the tour and portfolio
- Incorporate local heritage features into entry
- Encourage schools to be more involved via environmental projects, litter picks etc
- Consider introducing art features into parks and other areas

SECTION C

- Widen publicity using local press/media/radio
- Introduce notice boards/banners/displays to promote the competition
- Instigate more partnerships in the community to assist the Bloom competition
- Consider a competition to include best gardens/Pubs/Allotments etc
- Meet the judges inside the village hall with display boards to show off entry
- Portfolio in progress but could be improved by including a tour itinerary at the beginning of the document

A = 43 B = 27 C = 20 Total 90

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