

## BEST KEPT VILLAGES AND SMALL TOWNS COMPETITION 2019

### JUDGES MARKING SHEET

Section Max points	Criteria	Points given	Comments
<b>A</b> 25 points	<b>Overall appearance and condition</b>  Absence of litter, unauthorised / unsightly refuse, absence of graffiti/ vandalism, dumps on verges, general condition of roads and paths.	22	Free of litter or refuse, very clean neat village, appearance very good on entry from Brandon road. Paths and roads reasonable small potholes near some of the verges particularly towards Dry Doddington. Path by Church quite uneven.
<b>B</b> 10 points	<b>Green Spaces 1</b>  Maintenance of natural areas for wildlife (such as bird boxes / feeders, bat boxes) and wildflowers.	7	Brilliant idea for wildlife from three village properties in the centre of the village, leaving small unmown areas within their grounds, sown with wild flowers, neat and not untidy. Bird boxes and feeders in people's gardens, however no visible bat boxes.
<b>C</b> 10 points	<b>Green Spaces 2</b>  The general appearance of public greens, trees, ponds, streams, dykes, parks, hedges, gardens, and allotments.	5	Public areas neat and tidy, very few weeds, just a couple to be seen outside of the village hall. Trees well kept, hedges well pruned, general condition throughout village well groomed except on the Dry Doddington exit from the village, where I was disappointed to see the village clean up did not extend this far, the approach from this end was untidy grasses, weeds and overgrowth of bushes surrounding the village 30mph sign. Not the neat and orderly entries from the other three entries to the village.
<b>D</b> 10 points	<b>Public Domain/Street Scene</b>  Condition of footpaths, stiles, field gates, signposting, children's play areas.	8	Clearly marked footpaths, easy to traverse, signposting good, no play area for children
<b>E</b> 15 points	<b>Public Premises 1</b>  Condition of town halls, community centres, public halls, sport facilities, playing fields, schools and playgrounds, market places.  N.B It is not necessary to enter school grounds but if the judge does wish to enter, permission must always be obtained.	10	Although tidy, felt the lack of info on what was on at the village hall as per the parish clerks details, and the general appearance of a few weeds which were pulled up after we had been at the hall for a few minutes gave an impression of little used compared to the church area which had several notices outside indicating lots of use within. No other areas with which to compare. Good to see the BKV plaques displayed from previous years.

<b>F</b> <i>15 points</i>	<b>Public Premises 2</b> Condition of shelters, public seats, notice boards, bus stops and signs, telephone boxes and car parks. Cleanliness of public toilets, road signs.	<b>12</b>	Bus shelter was clean and tidy and the idea of advertising what was on locally was good, also the listing of parish meetings and the website was clear and easy to see, the box idea for leaving passing notices of events locally was also excellent. Liked the bench and the flagpole nearby with the plaque to say why the flag was flying. Beautifully kept. The telephone box has been put to good use with a defibrillator, however the signage on the wall on how to use needs replacing as it is now faded.
<b>G</b> <i>15 points</i>	<b>Private Premises</b> Collective appearance of private gardens, hedges, fences and walls.	<b>13</b>	Generally all neat and tidy, care over gardens was shown well, most private homes neat and tidy except some of Dry Doddington road towards the 30mph area which let the area down.
<b>H</b> <i>15 points</i>	<b>Religious Premises</b> Condition of churchyards, cemeteries, chapel surrounds, war memorials and their notice boards.  N.B Churches should be judged on the exterior only.	<b>13</b>	Excellent condition, churchyard well mown, graves neat and tidy. Area for parking outside of church well mown, good seat in excellent condition, but within the notice board area there was a poster advertising a local event which could not be read properly due to it being placed in the middle where the doors met. A review of placement might be prudent if they wish parishioners to attend. The memorial in the parking area was to a village patron and was commemorating his place of burial, no War Memorial visible.
<b>I</b> <i>20 points</i>	<b>Business Premises</b> Collective appearance of business property including inns, farms and farmyards, workshops, post office, shops and caravan sites.	<b>13</b>	We viewed the Stubton Hall as the only business premises within Stubton, neat orderly and very presentable driveway, the website was well presented and many brides must love being in such a beautiful area.
<b>J</b> <i>15 points</i>	<b>Overall community effort</b> Evidence of community spirit and activity and initiative in the care of the parish and its environment.  N.B Please take into account supporting information such as village magazines, parish website etc.	<b>14</b>	I was very impressed with what I saw and the 12 volunteers pulling together to keep the verges neat and tidy, the person who was weeding the village hall area, the bus stop, being so clean and welcoming. One can see that the community care about their village and how others view it. The parish website is full of what is on and who to contact, it may not always be in their own village hall as they share activities with Claypole, Dry Doddington, Fenton and Westborough. The parish meetings and who the parish councillors are is clear and easy to find. The wildlife areas, litter picking and willingness to be involved are a keen indication of community caring and being part of their rural surroundings.
<b>150 points</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	
	<b>Additional comments or relevant advice</b>		For such a small village the whole community must be involved in its daily care and upkeep, apart from the small area near the Dry Doddington 30mph area it was a pleasure to visit. Having read the detailed neighbourhood plan I was pleased to see this was being supported fully.