

Best Kept Village Marking Sheet 2017

REDBOURNE

Points

		Max	Mark	Judges' Comments
1	General Tidiness & Appearance Litter, fly tipping, graffiti, including at bus stops & telephone boxes. General maintenance of hedges, trees, verges, fences, walls, paths and seats	40	38	There is a very tidy and most attractive village which is significantly enhanced by a variety of mature trees. The hedges, fences and footpaths are well-maintained and there are a number of well-placed benches. The only area that needs a little attention are the weeds growing in the road on The Falconers. There was some litter on High Street and also in the grassed area behind the car park on the village green.
2	Community Facilities Community centres, village halls, schools, parks, playing fields, churchyards/cemeteries, chapel surrounds, war memorials and public noticeboards	40	40	The village noticeboard in the car park is smart and the notices up-to-date. The parish church, although redundant, is well-maintained with some planting inside the north entrance. The village playground is a pleasant area with a limited range of equipment that is well-maintained, especially the tarmac safety surfaces.
3	Gardens & Community Areas Gardens, window boxes, hanging baskets, tubs and planters, community planting, public areas, and allotments	50	49	The village is characterised by some imaginative and very attractive planting in a variety of locations and many delightful and very well-maintained gardens. Special mention should be made of the lovely floral displays at 2 Pond Cottage, Boxmoor House, 13 Carr Lane and Empringham Cottage. The planting displays were recently tidied and had neat borders apart from the plants around the plough opposite the village green which needed some weeding.
4	Other community features Shops, inns, farmsteads, workshops, business premises, advertisements and signposts	20	19	The Red Lion is to be commended for a splendid display of hanging baskets that adorn the outside wall. The Aviation Heritage information board on the village green is very interesting although it did need a little cleaning.
Total		150	146	

Notes

- (a) Absence of a feature listed in the marking sheet will not entail a loss of marks
- (b) Natural and architectural beauty will not be taken into account

General comments

A picturesque village with many lovely features and some commendable community planting of a high standard. Equally impressive is the contribution made by individual households with some lovely gardens and many hanging baskets which make this a most attractive environment in which to live.

Individual Category Entries: REDBOURNE

This village has also entered the individual category/ies ticked below. Mark in addition to the general marking. If there is no tick, then no separate marking is required.

✓	Category	Max	Mark	Comments
✓	Playground Off Vicarage Lane	50	48	The playground area occupies a quiet and attractive site behind the churchyard. There is a limited range of well-maintained equipment, including small football goals. The soft surfaces below the equipment are very effective and well-maintained. The area also contains two picnic tables and benches and a litter bin. The tennis court could benefit from some refurbishment and the grass was a little long. There was no litter on the site.
✓	Churchyard School Lane/ Vicarage Lane	50	47	The churchyard occupies an attractive site framed by mature trees on all sides. There is one small area of planting near the north gate with some most attractive ferns and tree stumps. The grass is rather long in places but otherwise the area is well-maintained and the paths are clear and tidy.
✓	Community planting scheme	50	50	Every opportunity is used to create colourful and interesting floral displays with some sympathetic and imaginative planting. There are colourful displays in planters along the fence by the stream on Beck Lane and in numerous other locations around the village, including on School Lane, High Street, North Side, Park Lane, at the entrance to the village from the north and around the village green. The variety and combination of planting is very impressive. It might appear churlish to mention but the choice of planting at the entrance to The Falconers obscures the street name sign!
	War Memorial	50		