

Best Kept Village Marking Sheet 2021

Points

SV	Redbourne	Max	Mark
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	50	49
2	Community Facilities Community centres, village halls, schools, parks, playing fields, churchyards/cemeteries, chapel surrounds, war memorials and public noticeboards	50	48
3	Gardens & Community Areas Gardens, window boxes, hanging baskets, tubs and planters, community planting, public areas, and allotments	70	68
4	Other community features Shops, inns, farmsteads, workshops, business premises, advertisements and signposts	30	30
Total		200	195

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 most attractive village, where local residents clearly care about their environment and community planting is a real strength.

Excellent planting can be found on the corner of Beck Lane and High Street, with very attractive flower beds and a most impressive bed of well-selected grasses. Along Beck Lane there was colourful planting on the pillars along the Beck and across the bridge. Further good planting was found at School Lane, the junction of Carr Lane and St Andrew's Close, Park Lane and by the village sign on High Street. There was planting beneath the street signs in several locations around the village.

There are many lovely gardens in the village, with some good planting and colourful floral displays in the front gardens of many properties. Good examples were found at Boxmoor House, Empringham Cottage, Ford Cottage and Springfield Beck Lane; Stonecroft Vicarage Lane; 2, 7 and 9 Old School Yard; 7 Carr Lane and 3 High Street.

Special mention must be made of the tremendous floral display at number 2 Pond Cottage and the great efforts made by residents on St Andrew Close, especially numbers 1, 2, 4 and 13.

The Red Lion also provided good floral displays, with hanging baskets and colourfully planted baskets on the wall of the car park.

Unfortunately, there was some litter in front of the Red Lion and the litter bin on The Green was overflowing.

Individual Category Entries

Redbourne has also entered the individual categories 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 Vicarage Lane	50	48	A small playground with good equipment, some of which was new. The range of swings was a noteworthy feature. The area includes a tennis court, a football goal and a picnic table and bench. The grass was reasonably well-cut and there was no litter on the site.
✓	Churchyard School Lane	50	46	Mature trees surround much of the site. The grass was fairly long around the graves but the area around the church was clean and tidy. The area near the entrance would benefit from some clearance of nettles and weeds
✓	Imaginative Planting The Green	50	47	There is a lovely flower bed on the north east edge of The Green, with a commemorative poppy sculpture on a rock. The large oval bed has an excellent choice of colourful flowers, carefully selected to create maximum impact, with a range of height.
	War Memorial	50		
✓	Community planting scheme	50	49	The best and most effective planting was found along Beck Lane and on The Green. There is further excellent planting on the junction of High Street, High Street and School Lane, with some lovely flower beds and an attractive bed of grasses. The quality of planting and the care and attention given to the flower beds and planters, has resulted in most attractive displays across the village.