

FULFORD – BEST KEPT VILLAGE JUDGES’ COMMENTS 2011

BKV awareness was good, through village website, newsletters, monthly walks, promotions, social events and the Christmas Fair. The BKV posters were well displayed on all notice boards and signs and at strategic points throughout the village.

There was an excellent array of children’s posters, well displayed on the village hall notice board.

All notice boards were in excellent condition. The one outside the village hall may need attention soon.

There was a good display of local information, complete with details of all village groups and their contacts.

Recycling awareness was good, with details of bulk collection days.

Dog fouling awareness was covered by very good notices, footpath stencilling and plenty of disposal bins.

The churchyard was much improved since last year. The grass was very well mown and there was a good wild flower area.

The village hall surrounds were generally tidy and well looked after, apart from a few old grass cuttings and leaves along the edge of the car park in June and July.

The public house surrounds were tidy; but there were weeds on the car park perimeter and in the garden in June and July.

The telephone box was very clean and tidy with a working telephone, although it appeared little used.

The bus shelter was well maintained, clean and tidy with current timetables on display.

Seat and benches were all in good order and well cared for. They looked inviting, but the one by the bus shelter needs some attention.

The war memorial was very good, with a nice tidy surround.

The small public open spaces were tidy and well cared for, but in July they needed mowing.

Private gardens were all very good and demonstrated pride and community effort in the village.

The children’s play area had excellent equipment (but could be better signposted perhaps?) In July, the grass safety needed mowing. The surface beneath all the play equipment was in excellent condition.

The map was adequate, but would benefit from laminating (one map disintegrated in the rain in May). It would be useful if features to be judged were referenced to BKV features listed on the entry form.

Good community involvement was apparent. There was no litter and no dog mess and the village looked very clean and tidy throughout the rounds of judging.

There is clear evidence of community spirit and involvement, good BKV awareness and publicity, children's posters, excellent recycling and dog fouling awareness, telephone, bus shelter and children's play area, very well kept churchyard, open spaces and private gardens. The surrounds of the Shoulder of Mutton could be improved and to some degree the map. Nevertheless, Fulford had worked very hard at BKV this year and achieved a very good Third Place in the Small Village Category in Stafford District (where competition was very close indeed).

Congratulations on this year's efforts and good luck in 2012!

John T Perry, MBE
Chairman, BKV Working Group

October 2011