

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2024

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Top spot again for Low Burnham



The standard in the small village category gets higher each year and Low Burnham was just ahead of the competition with another stunning display of planting in an immaculate village (see above and bottom right).

Community planting in Low Burnham was on the theme of painted chairs and much imagination was demonstrated in including a chair in the floral displays. There was a wonderfully colourful display of planting in equal second place East Lound, mostly in wheelbarrows and wellingtons, including sheaves of corn and delightful knitted snails (see top right).

High quality community planting was also a feature of the immaculate village of Elsham (second equal), which also had a well-planted telephone kiosk (see right). The attractive coordinated planting beneath the very smart street name signs is a most impressive

aspect of the village, as was the lovely display at the entrance to Elsham, which can be seen below right.



The display included recognition of the village winning the 'Best Kept Small Village' competition in previous years, and it was pleasing to see similar signs and winners' plaques being displayed in other villages.

It is clear from the judges' comments that all villages take great pride in their local community. This was well demonstrated by the almost total lack of litter found in any of the small villages. This was certainly the case in the two villages that were highly commended, Garthorpe and Fockerby and Redbourne.



Not surprisingly, Low Burnham won the best community planting in the small village category, which remains the most hotly contested competition.



Small Village Results

1st Low Burnham

2nd= East Lound

2nd= Elsham

Highly commended Garthorpe and Fockerby,
Redbourne



Belton and Westwoodside are Best Kept Large Villages

After two top three places in recent years, Belton deservedly shared top spot with Westwoodside, in the large village category. One of the best features in Belton was the most attractive wild flower planting at Ash Tree Close (see right).

The community planting across this tidy village was very effective. Belton, like some other villages, have a keen group of volunteers who sustain the community planting throughout the year and not just for the



summer season.

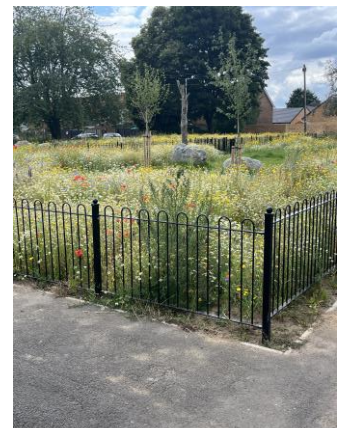
Westwoodside maintained its high standard of community planting (see left) and scored highly for their playground and playing field area.



Goxhill and Haxey came equal third, whilst Messingham, and Scawby were highly commended.

One of the features of the Best Kept Village competition is to encourage community involvement. The judges therefore, recognise the efforts of local residents to brighten up their village or town with colourful planting displays at the front of their properties, which can often make a real difference,

One example is the excellent display on Church Street in Haxey (see below left).



Large village results

1st= Westwoodside

1st= Belton

3rd= Goxhill

3rd= Haxey

Highly commended, Messingham, Scawby



Best Community Planting

The quality of community planting in our towns and villages continues to improve, with many impressive displays, including the Pinfold at Low Burnham (right).



The judges were full of praise for the efforts of the winners and many entrants across the region. They were also pleased to report the increase in sustainable planting and a welcome trend of entrants growing their own plants.

Best Community Planting Results

Small Village – Low Burnham

Medium Village – Ulceby

Large Village - Westwoodside

Small town – Broughton

Best Kept War memorial

Kirton in Lindsey were worthy winners of the Best Kept War Memorial for a second year, in a category that attracted many excellent entries.

The war memorial at Kirton is extremely well-maintained and occupies a prominent position. There is excellent planting around the memorial, with colourful flowers and shrubs. On the well-cut grassed area to the west, there are also three attractive rose beds.



Medium village award goes to Barnetby-le-Wold

For the second year Barnetby claim the award as top medium sized village. Judges recognised the considerable improvements in recent years and praised the tidiness of the village, the variety of the community planting and the excellent playground and cemetery.

Wootton was a new entrant to the competition this year and deserves



every congratulation for achieving second place. One of the features of the village was the good community planting in various locations, including the High Street and around the pond (see bottom right).

Ulceby has scored consistently highly in recent years and gained a deserved third place in this year's

Medium village results

1st Barnetby-le-Wold

2nd Wootton

3rd Ulceby

Highly commended **Owston Ferry, South Ferriby**



competition, as well as the best community planting award. One example at West End, can be seen on the left.



Broughton regains crown as Best Small Town

After missing out last year, Broughton were 2024 winners of the small town category.

With exceptional planting across the town, Broughton boasts many good facilities and has some excellent features, including an outstanding cemetery, where there is also some very attractive planting.

It is the community planting that has the biggest impact across the town. The high-quality planting is very impressive, especially the range of plants used, the well-



stocked planters and the use of colour and height to create impact.

Having been highly commended in 2023, Epworth achieved second place

this year. The judges were particularly impressed with the colourful array of hanging baskets in the town centre and the excellent cemetery.

Crowle and Ealand were placed third, only two points behind the winners, whilst Barton upon Humber, Waltham and Winterton were all highly commended. The standard in all the small towns was very high this year, with only three points between the entries. So, it is all to play for next year!

Small town results

1st Broughton

2nd Epworth

3rd Crowle and Ealand

Highly commended – **Barton upon Humber, Waltham, Winterton**



Best Kept Public House

A new category for 2024, the Crown at Belton (right) was the worthy winner of the Best Kept Public House, with The Tilted Barrel, Waltham, a close second.



Best Kept Playground

Scawby deservedly won the Best Kept Playground Award this year.

This is an excellent playground with an interesting range of good quality, well-maintained equipment set in a large field, which includes a MUGA and adult exercise equipment. The grass is well cut and there is excellent provision of litter bins, picnic tables and benches.

The area is fortunate to have



some excellent, well-maintained playgrounds, with judges also giving very high scores to playgrounds in Elsham, Goxhill, Westwoodside and Wrawby.

BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD



West Butterwick are winners of this year's Best Kept Churchyard competition.

There are many attractive churchyards across the region, but what impressed the judges most about St Mary's, West Butterwick were the significant improvements, making this an extremely well-maintained churchyard with excellent planting.

West Butterwick was certainly a worthy winner. Nevertheless, close runners-up in this category were Garthorpe and Fockerby and Crowle, which both had excellent churchyards and will undoubtedly be close contenders next year.

Best Kept Cemetery

Winner of the Best Kept Cemetery, Waltham (see right) received full marks for their cemetery, which was praised for the excellent maintenance of the site.



Belton, Broughton and Epworth (see left) all scored very highly for the quality of their cemeteries. The judges recognised that many other towns and villages also have attractive and well-maintained cemeteries.

2024 AGM Saturday 5th October 2024 – 2.30pm St John's Hall Brigg
Tea/coffee from 2.00pm **Speaker: Simon Tomson who will give a talk on**
Modern Archaeological Aerial Photography of Lincolnshire (in the digital age)
Tickets (at door) £5 - free to CPRE members



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