

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2013 - JUDGES COMMENTS SALT

BKV awareness was achieved via the parish newsletter, village hall website and meetings. There were BKV posters on noticeboards and at all village entrances.

Children's posters were well distributed throughout the village, in house windows and on village entry signs – very commendable for a small village with no school.

All the noticeboards were in good condition, with neatly displayed notices.

There was a good range of local information on recycling facilities, dog fouling awareness, together with a wide programme of village activities – all up-to-date.

The churchyard was well kept, with neatly mown grass, hedges recently cut and the seats and noticeboard were in good condition. The burial ground was tidy, but had large weedy areas in the pathways.

The village hall surrounds and carpark were very neat and tidy with nice planting (particularly at the front), no litter or weeds.

The Holly Bush carpark was very clean and tidy, with excellent planting at the front and an immaculate rear garden area. No litter was seen at any time and the area around the mini recycling area was very tidy.

The telephone box was immaculate inside and out, with a lovely flower border outside.

The seat at the village green was in good condition and the village feature/planter was a nice touch.

All the small verges were well mown, neat and tidy. The village green grass was well maintained, but the wood chip at the rear of the bench was scattered all over the roadway (perhaps this area could be planted or laid to grass?)

All private gardens, with a few exceptions, were colourful and tidy, with verges well mown.

The simple map was very effective, with good use of coloured dots; all BKV items were easily located.

Apart from a small amount of litter in Casey Lane in July, the village was clean and tidy, with no dog fouling and evidence of community involvement in BKV.

Salt had taken account of last years judge's comments and judges said what a pleasant village it was to judge this year. A very good standard had been achieved across all BKV features and the "sparkle" seemed to have returned this year.

Congratulations on achieving 2nd place in the Small Village category of Stafford District. Well done and best wishes for 2014!

John T Perry
Chairman, BKV Working Group

September 2013