

Best Kept Village Marking Sheet 2017

HIBALDSTOW

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	39	There was very little litter seen in any area of the village and hedges and verges were generally tidy. Footpaths were well-maintained. There was no evidence of graffiti in the village.
2	Community Facilities Community centres, village halls, schools, parks, playing fields, churchyards/cemeteries, chapel surrounds, war memorials and public noticeboards	40	38	St Hybald's churchyard is a most attractive site with mature trees and is generally well-maintained. The church hall has a smart noticeboard. The war memorial on West Street is well-presented given the space available. There is a splendid and very well-maintained playing field area to the north of the village which also includes a playground and skateboard ramps. It was also pleasing to see a small football pitch in an area off Greenfield Drive.
3	Gardens & Community Areas Gardens, window boxes, hanging baskets, tubs and planters, community planting, public areas, and allotments	50	47	There were many good examples of community planting in various locations around the village including planting under the signs at the entrances to the village. Residents are to be commended for a number of attractive gardens and hanging baskets. E.g. 47 Redbourne Road, 4 and 20 Hopfield and many gardens on Barley Close and Station Road.
4	Other community features Shops, inns, farmsteads, workshops, business premises, advertisements and signposts	20	19	The Co-op has an attractive car park area with a bench outside the store. The Wheatsheaf also has some good hanging baskets.
Total		150	143	

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

The parish church at the centre of the village is very attractive and a number of opportunities have been taken to improve the environment with good community planting. The extensive playing field area and good-sized village hall are very valuable facilities.

Individual Category Entries: HIBALDSTOW

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 Station Road	50	47	The playground is situated in a large playing field area. There is an extensive range of equipment including 2 skateboard ramps, trim trail and useful instructions on a noticeboard. The playground area also includes a basketball hoop and tennis court.
✓	Churchyard Church Lane	50	46	Mature trees frame a small but attractive churchyard with well-trimmed yew trees being a feature along the south side of the church. Some of the graves need a little attention and the grass is tidy but needed cutting. The path around the church is in a good state of repair but the east gate area is a little overgrown.
✓	Community planting scheme	50	46	As well as the planting by the village signs, attractive planting was seen on Manton Lane, Station Road, Hopfield, St Alban's Close and the floral display at the end of Church Street. Although not extensive, a number of opportunities were used to enhance the environment and contributed significantly to the attractiveness of the village.
✓	War Memorial West Street	50	47	The memorial on the wall of the War Memorial Club is simple but effective with 7 poppy wreaths adding a splash of colour. The stone planter is well-stocked with a range of plants.