

Best Kept Village Marking Sheet 2021

Points

MV	Appleby including Santon	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	65
4	Other community features Shops, inns, farmsteads, workshops, business premises, advertisements and signposts	30	30
Total		200	192

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

There are many attractive features in Appleby Parish, not least the many lovely gardens and the parish church and churchyard. The playground, set in a large playing field, has a reasonable range of equipment, and is well-maintained.

Good community planting is found at several locations but in others the impact was less effective. This was the case at the Village Hall, Santon Villas and Paul Lane where the planters had suffered in the recent hot weather. However, there was good planting on Ermine Street at the entrances to the village, on Hayton's Lane, School Lane, Risby Road and Churchside.

The planting is complemented by local residents, many of whom have lovely planting and colourful floral displays at the front of their properties. Some good examples can be found at 2, 5, 8 and Bamford Oaks Vicarage Park; 18, Innis Free and Hollyhock Cottage School Lane; Signalman's Rest Churchside; 5 Paul Lane; 6 Carr Lane; 9, 32 and 37 Santon Villas and The Old Post Office and The Cottage Ermine Street.

One outstanding feature of Appleby is the quality of the hedge-trimming, which is really impressive throughout the village.

Individual Category Entries

Appleby & Santon have 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	50		
✓	Churchyard Church Lane	50	48	The churchyard is a peaceful and attractive site, surrounded by a low brick wall and mature trees. The grass has been cut well across the churchyard and has been reasonably well-trimmed around the gravestones. The wall along the west side of the church has been cleared, and the area to the east of the churchyard has been left to grow long, as a nature habitat.
	Imaginative Planting	50		
✓	War Memorial Ermine Street/Paul Lane junction	50	47	The granite memorial, framed by a large oak tree, occupies a prominent position on Ermine Street. The area is enhanced with planting. The wooden planter was well-stocked but the stone planter was less effective and the plants needed some attention. The area was free of litter.
✓	Community planting scheme High Santon Villas	50	35	The judging took place at the end of July and the planting clearly had not survived the very warm weather of previous weeks. There were a lot of pots and planters outside properties and along the verge and also at the bus stop. It had the potential to be very attractive, as some planting was quite colourful. However, the quality was generally poor with many dead or dying plants and the impact was not helped by litter on the road and weeds on the verge.