

WINSHILL IN BLOOM 2024

Now that judging has come to an end for Winshill's entry into *Heart of England In Bloom* and *Britain In Bloom National Finals*, Dennis and Margaret Fletcher (coordinators of Winshill In Bloom) would like to thank the very many individual volunteers and community groups who contributed so much to our entries.

Judging for the *Britain In Bloom* National Finals took place yesterday when judges Ann Holland and Lesley Jellyman were shown round by Dennis and Margaret. There was not time for the judges to visit every aspect of our entry, but we were able to show them everything they could not visit using through a Powerpoint presentation on the day and a printed Portfolio submitted in advance of judging.

The following community projects: -

- Little Empire Road
- Neighbourhood Resource Centre
- Wheatley Lane Allotments Association
- St Mark's Church Environmental Project
- Tower View Primary School
- Holy Rosary Primary School
- Mill Hill Lane Park and Peace Wood
- Newton Road Park
- Winshill Wildlife Woodland

all contributed to *Winshill In Bloom's* entry into the National Finals.

It was a real team effort where every single community group did us proud. In addition, the judges were shown the relaxed mowing and wild flower and tree planting in Vancouver Drive which is part of our move *Towards a Carbon Neutral Winshill*. They also saw our rainfall capture at the Resource Centre and our plans to install solar panels on the roof there.

Throughout the judges tour they showed a keen interest in the many environmentally friendly things we do in Winshill as was demonstrated by the numerous questions that they asked.

We would also like to thank *Jules Hair Design, Winshill Village Chippy, and Lifestyle Express* for sponsoring our planters outside the shops on Bearwood Hill Road and our main sponsors, *Planters at Bretby* for their very generous sponsorship of all our planting. Our thanks also go to A & M Gardening who look after the shrub beds, water our planters and hanging baskets and are on call for odd jobs at all times.

We would like to thank East Staffs Borough Council's Open Spaces Team and particularly Paul Steed at the Horticultural Centre for all the help and advice we have received over many years.

Finally, we would like to thank Winshill Parish Council who support every community group and every aspect of Winshill in Bloom. Without the Parish Council *In Bloom* in Winshill would not exist.

We look forward to hearing the results from Heart Of England In Bloom in September and Britain In Bloom in October.