

# VILLAGE

Electoral population 301-1,000 (Judging time 1hr 15 minutes)

## General Comments

*Milford is a first time entrant into East Midlands in Bloom but shows a lot of promise to become a strong candidate in the future. The whole visit was well organised and informative from the presentation to the tour.*

**Judges – Geoff Spate and Simon Lucas**

**Milford Silver Award –142 points**

**Judged 11th July**

### \* Judges Award:

The Hopping Mill development, its design, layout and inclusion of heritage features and the well maintained front gardens

### The judges were particularly impressed by:

#### SECTION A

Sponsored planters through Belper Town Council and displays by the war memorial. Hopping Hill gardens and allotments. New Hopping Mill meadows and pro active approach to adopt and develop this area and the work to 'pull' the invasive balsam. High level of community involvement especially school children with bulb planting.

#### SECTION B

Planting of wildflower plugs in Milford park. Support from Amber Valley Borough Council. Community herb garden.

#### SECTION C

Good communication with residents by notices in shops and 'Well Done' handouts to front garden entrants. Blog on the herb garden encouraging use of the herbs by residents. Involvement with the local school.

### Areas suggested for future development:

#### SECTION A

Continue research to find owners and work with them to tidy up the private car park opposite the village shop. Consider adding an appropriate sized sign, near the bus stop?, to inform people of your work on the allotments next to the church. Is it possible to add wildlife friendly planting in the Milford Park?

#### SECTION B

Encourage more improvements to the allotments. Are there opportunities to collect rainwater? We hope the plans to adopt the phone box can be fulfilled. Proceed with plans to add information to the herb gardens. Is it possible to include school children on the tour? If not at their allotment perhaps by displays and examples of produce in the school?

#### SECTION C

Continue to work with Belper Town Council to replant the Triangle. Use the presentation to show more evidence of the sponsorship. Add a calendar to the portfolio highlighting the year round work; look at other examples at the awards ceremony for more ideas. There is no need to tell judges about vandalism unless you can use it to demonstrate a positive outcome. Judges are prepared to meet with you to offer further advice.

**A=74 B=33 C=35 TOTAL 142**