

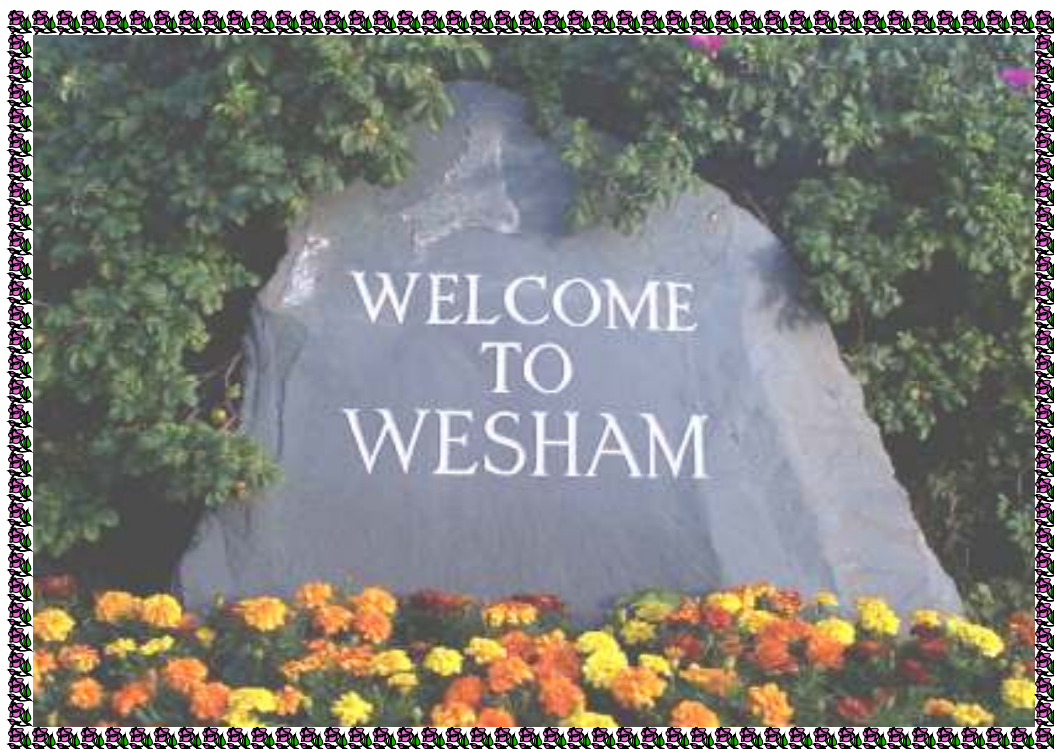
# WESHAM IN BLOOM



Wesham  
Community  
Pride  
Trust

## 2009

# JUDGES HANDBOOK







# Medlar-with-Wesham Small Town Entry July 2009

Co-ordinator Alan Clayton



## INTRODUCTION

The 'Wesham Community Pride Trust' is now in its 5th year having been established in February 2004.

The committee, supported by several organisations has remained at the same level and is made up of dedicated like minded individuals who wish to maintain the aims and objectives of the North West In Bloom principles.

In line with the objectives of developing pride in the appearance of Wesham, the committee have also played a significant role in the production of a Parish Plan.

During the process a questionnaire was sent to every householder and after being analysed formed the basis of the final document.

The final Plan Document was completed in the Autumn of 2008 and circulated to every household in Medlar-with-Wesham.

Many of the resultant 'Actions' identified in the Plan coincide with 'Our Objectives' and in many cases have already received attention.

The Parish Plan document can be viewed at the Wesham Community Web Site at:  
[www.wesham.org.uk/parishplan.html](http://www.wesham.org.uk/parishplan.html)

**"TO FOSTER, PROMOTE AND  
DEVELOP PRIDE IN THE APPEARANCE  
OF WESHAM"**

We are delighted to have worked in partnership with several organisations and groups, the details of which appear throughout this hand-book.

### OUR OBJECTIVES

- ◆ To foster, promote and develop pride in the appearance of Wesham.
- ◆ To plan, develop and execute environmental improvement schemes in the Town, including:-  
Spring and summer planting schemes  
Clean streets and alleys  
Graffiti and dumped rubbish removal  
Open space management
- ◆ To seek backing and sponsorship
- ◆ To enter local, regional and national competitions, in conjunction with the support from the Town Council, Fylde Borough Council and other statutory agencies.

#### CONTENTS *Introduction*

#### *Wesham History & Summary*

#### *Committee Activities & Achievements*

#### *Floral Displays*

#### *The Doorstep Green Partnership*

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#### *Annex A (Station Project)*

## **The Parish of Medlar with Wesham**



Medlar-with-Wesham ward is in Fylde local authority in the North West region. Wesham, first recorded as 'Wethusum' meaning 'The westerly houses' from the Old English words 'west' and 'hus'. Wesham is situated in the heart of the rural Fylde adjoining the town of Kirkham to the south and having convenient rail and road transport facilities. The Parish comprises Medlar, a comparatively large rural area, and

Wesham which, though smaller in size, is semi-urban in character, and has a total of over 2500 inhabitants.

The Abbot and Brethren of Cockersand Abbey possessed this township, until the dissolution of the monasteries, when the Manor of Medlar passed to the Westby's of Mowbreck Hall. During the Commonwealth, the manor was confiscated by Cromwell and was only redeemed on payment of £1,000. It remained the property of the Westby's until its was purchased by the Earl of Derby. Another ancient landed property was that of Bradkirk, held by a family taking their name from the estate in the reign of Edward III. The original Bradkirk Hall has long since disappeared, the present building having been constructed in 1764 by Edward Hurst.



The foundation stone of the Roman Catholic Church of St Joseph was laid in 1884, and the building was completed in 1886.



The Parish Church was built in 1894 through the efforts of Canon Morris, then Rector of Kirkham. The Church school has been in existence since 1880.

The Methodists met in the Chapel in Station Road, but services ceased in the late 1970's, when they joined with the Methodists in Kirkham.

The Chapel has now been converted to apartments.



## Schools

There are two primary schools located within the parish, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and Wesham Church of England Primary School.



**Wesham C.E. Primary**



**St Joseph's RC Primary**

## Community Centre and Bowling Green



A well used Community centre is located within the parish offering many activities including full day-care Playgroup and pre-school. Facilities for older people, education classes, and social gatherings. A well kept and used bowling green is located on the same site adjacent to the Community Centre.

## Recreation Grounds

Wesham has two recreation grounds and a number of 'Public Open Spaces'.

At the Fleetwood Road site there is a combination of play equipment and a football field with a changing room.

At 'Doorstep Green', Derby Road, there is play equipment and a dedicated dog walking area.

The public open space at Bowland Grange is also home to ducks on a pleasant pond.



**Bowling Green**



**Fleetwood Road Swings**



**Doorstep Green Play Area**



**Fleetwood Road Skateboard Park**

During the last 5 years the WCPT committee have met on a regular basis. Accurate minutes are kept of the proceedings and 'News' posters are issued regularly.

In addition to the floral attributes of the Town, the committee have looked wider at environmental issues. This includes the following projects:-

- The completion of the painting of the Railway Bridge, being followed up with the station enhancement project detailed later.



- The granting of permission for the provision of hanging baskets on lamp-posts.

- Via the Town Council, the provision of a SPID (Speed Indicator Device) now deployed by WCPT members.



- The repainting of street benches by the Lancashire (Blackpool) Probation Service.
- The provision of a new Town Notice Board.



- The provision of a Town Clock at the old Fire Station.



- WCPT were particularly proud to be presented with the **'Respect for Taking a Stand'** in 2007.



- WCPT members in partnership with the local Police, Fire Service, and young people were delighted to participate and organise again in 2009 the Annual 'Operation Cleansweep'.



- A local Best Kept Gardens competition presentation evening.



- Liaison with Local Schools
- Close co-operation with Wesham C.E. and St Joseph's School Travel Plans.



## 'HMS' Medlar-with-Wesham !



A combined effort of WCPT members, The Prison Service, 'Woody's' and Wesham Gardening Group have enabled the provision of a floral boat at the bypass roundabout. The boat, supplied and painted by the Prison Service, installed by WCPT members and planted up in conjunction with Wesham's Gardening Group, run by Wesham Interact, which is funded by the Catholic Caring Society. The group had a setback at the beginning by the action of vandals who removed the boat from its' original 'mooring' and breaking the fixings before we were able to fill it with gravel and soil.



Soil and Gravel Delivery



After a temporary home was found the boat was returned to its 'moorings' and after the joint efforts of the various groups the planting up was achieved creating a colourful and pleasing effect.



WCPT are pleased with the final overall effect created and in particular are delighted at the level of 'Community' involvement. To get the boat where it is now has involved a lot of input from many sources as detailed above, for which we are most grateful.



Almost ! ?? >>>



## THE STATION PROJECT



The previous year's handbook contained details of the then proposed enhancement to the Kirkham and Wesham Railway Station. The attached annex 'A' includes the detail which shows the joint working arrangements between the two respective 'In Bloom' groups for Kirkham and Wesham. Wesham's Community Pride Trust were successful in obtaining funding for the project and during the past few months work has been completed by a combination of Kirkham and Wesham volunteers along with the Prison Service.

The work to date:-

1. The successful application for funding.
2. Long and detailed meeting with the rail authorities to obtain the necessary permissions.
3. Joint meetings with WCPT/ Kirkham in Bloom and the Prison Service.
4. Scraping off of **16 Tons** of spoil to reveal tiles at the far end of the station.



Part of Removed Spoil

Original condition before removing spoil to expose tiles.



5. The strimming and weed killing of the tiled area.



6. The procurement and installation of 29 Hayracks and the planning of the automatic watering scheme.



7. The purchase of wooden sleepers to make up the planters by the Prison Service. The provision of 26 tons of top soil for the planters. (Manually carried from the road to the station platform by the Prison Service).





## 8. The planting up of the 29 Hayracks



## 9. The preparation of the water supply (WCPT and Kirkham In Bloom volunteers) in readiness for the installation of the automatic irrigation system. Prior to full installation (anticipated to be completed by July 10th) the hayracks have been manually watered.



## *Work to be done .....*

Whilst it can be seen that a significant amount of work has been done, the group recognise that more work is required on the station platform which has been neglected over the years by the rail authorities. Weeds in the original beds and at the far end of the station are a particular problem because of the weeds on the track sides which are blown across and easily germinate on the platform. This year the group have concentrated on the hayracks, the watering system and the planters. The next phase is to weed kill the troublesome areas and seek alternative coverings of the tiled area to reduce the spread of weeds. This project has been a major time consuming exercise to establish the fabric but the materials are of a high quality and will have a long life expectancy.

## *Work Completed ....*



## COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES and ACHIEVEMENTS ... 5

- The gaining of Sponsorship from local businesses
- Liaison with the Doorstep Green Group
- Co-operation with the Kirkham Prison Service
- The establishment of a dedicated web site [www.wesham.org.uk](http://www.wesham.org.uk)
- Direct liaison with Fylde Borough Council Grounds Maintenance Dept
- The establishment of a new floral bed at Weeton Road to replace two lost due to the building development
- Successful application to the Fylde Community Projects Fund for Kirkham and Wesham Railway Station enhancement . See Annex A
- Close co-operation with Northern Trains
- Continued co-operation with the Probation Service



WEETON ROAD BED BEFORE



WEETON ROAD BED AFTER

## FLORAL DISPLAYS

*Floral displays enhance the Town, together with a combination of hanging baskets/tubs and hayracks. Many houses and businesses are brightened up by hanging baskets, many of which are supplied and maintained by the Town Council. Recent additional hanging baskets are now a feature of installations on lampposts.*



HANGING BASKETS GARSTANG RD NORTH

*Stalwart Supporters of the Wesham Community Pride Trust play a key role in keeping the floral displays free from litter and help to beautify Wesham.*



WCPT VOLUNTEER LITTER PICKER



## FLORAL DISPLAYS *continued ...*



*Volunteers from the Wesham Gardening Group have planted up the three tier planter at Ash Bend.*



**BEDS OUTSIDE THE RECREATION GROUND**

*Raised beds at the Fleetwood Road Recreation Ground bring superb colour in the Spring.*

*Also, in readiness for the reinstallation of the benches, the bases are surrounded with spring flowers.*



**3 TIER PLANTER AT ASH BEND**



**THE WAR MEMORIAL PLANTERS**

*With the co-operation of the National Probation Service (Blackpool) the 7 white planters have been renovated and planted up to surround the War Memorial.*



## FLORAL DISPLAYS *continued ...*

*Many local residents take a great deal of pride in the appearance of their properties throughout the year. During the Christmas festivities, long after the growing period, many houses adorn their homes and gardens with decorations and lights to bring colour to the Town. Whilst many gardens are conventionally cultivated there are others that bring colour and aesthetically pleasing designs to add to the value of the area. A good example of a conventional garden is shown below.*



A WINNING LOCAL COMPETITION GARDEN



A COMPETITION WINNING  
LOCAL BUSINESS



The 'BEST OVERALL' WINNING LOCAL  
COMPETITION GARDEN

*Each year the WCPT has hosted a local 'Best Kept Garden' competition. A presentation night is held annually during which time certificates and prizes are presented, normally by the Mayor. The event has grown in popularity because we try to involve the 'Community'.*

*Wesham Town Councillors, Fylde Borough Representatives, Headteachers, Local Police Officers, Sponsors and Prize winners are invited and, after the presentations, a social evening follows with light refreshments. We also celebrated being awarded a runners up certificate in the North West in Bloom competition.*



THE NORTH WEST IN BLOOM  
AWARD 2008

# *The DOORSTEP GREEN PARTNERSHIP*

*The Wesham Community Pride Trust is again delighted to include in its itinerary the 'Doorstep Green Partnership' Park located at Derby Road.*

*The scheme is the direct result of the work done by a handful of dedicated individuals. Reproduced below is a report from the committee Chairman on the current status of the scheme.*



## ANNUAL REPORT OF WESHAM JUBILEE DOORSTEP GREEN

### REPORT FROM CLLR ANN WHITBY JUNE 2009

This year we have continued to maintain the Green, regularly litter picking and weeding the borders. The litter picking takes place on a weekly basis and is done by volunteers.

The dog walking area is still much used and is a boon to all dog lovers and its' use is appreciated by other users. The wild flowers that the schoolchildren planted last year have flourished. We have been greatly helped in our planting by the two local Primary Schools and by volunteer groups e.g. Scouts.

We were also helped by the Probation Service and the Prison Service during the year for which we are most grateful. The Green continues to be very well used by all ages, providing a meeting place for the elderly and a playground for the very young.. Groups of teenagers use the open space area for ball games and it has proven to be a much needed asset for the Town.

*Ann Whitby*

Chairman Doorstep Green



Dog Walking Area with suitable waste collection



Beds located on Derby Road at Doorstep Green



## *The DOORSTEP GREEN PARTNERSHIP* continued ...

*Wesham Community Pride Trust continues to work closely with colleagues from the Doorstep Green project which is located at Derby Road. The project was officially opened by the Mayor in 2005 and well attended. It has proved to be a very attractive facility for the residents. In addition, dog owners make full use of the dedicated dog walking area. Whilst the Doorstep Green committee is relatively small they have all worked extremely hard to achieve this success for the benefit of the Town.*



The 2005 Opening Ceremony by Cllr Ann Whitby

### DOORSTEP GREEN

Wesham Jubilee Doorstep Green is a partnership between the Countryside Agency and The New Opportunities Fund (Lottery Distribution Body), with support from Wesham Town Council and local residents. A committee was formed to find out what could be done with the land at the corner of Derby Road and Park Lane. After public consultation it was decided to create a park area, open spaces and, a dog walking area. Funding was obtained from The Countryside Agency, upto 70% of the cost of the project. The balance of 30%, 20% being provided by voluntary labour and 10% in cash.

Donations were received from Wesham Town Council, Fylde Borough Council and Local Businesses. The committee of 6 started to do fund raising work in July 03. On what was just an open field progress took place throughout 2004.

In May 2005 the green was opened by the Mayor of Medlar with Wesham Town Council, Cllr Mrs. Ann Whitby. In excess of 300 people attended the event.

Various local groups had fund raising stalls and there were donkey rides a Fair Ground Organ and a Fair Ground for the younger children of the town. The day was such a success that many residents have asked if it would be an annual event?

Wild Flowers have been planted along the back of the site with over 1000 daffodil bulbs planted by The Scouts and Volunteers."



Cllr Ann Whitby with the Committee at the opening.



**".....with over 1000 daffodil bulbs planted by The Scouts and Volunteers"**



## PERMANENT LANDSCAPING

*The Derby House Sheltered Housing accommodation at Derby Road features a permanent rockery, which has been further enhanced on the opposite side of the road by the provision of the 'Doorstep Green' park providing a pleasing area for both young and old.*



Permanent Planting at Derby House

*Wesham plays host to both the Fire and Ambulance Stations, both of which have permanent landscaping to enhance their appearance.*



Wesham Fire Station



Permanent Planting at Derby House



"Doorstep Green" Derby Road Park



## PERMANENT LANDSCAPING

*The Bowland Grange estate contains a well established pond surrounded by attractive greens, new tree planting and established shrub areas providing a natural home for several ducks !*



Bowland Grange Pond



Bowland Grange Pond



## LOCAL AGENDA 21 Recycling

*Recycling has been very well received by the residents of Wesham and the provision of the Green and Grey wheely bin scheme has been very well used. This has been further enhanced by the provision of the 'blue bag' paper recycling collection together with the 'Green Box' for glass bottles, plastic bottles and tin cans. In addition, Fylde Borough Council have a recycling site conveniently situated at the Community Centre and Derby Road for other recyclable items. This is proving to be well used by residents.*



A typical Recycle collection



## LOCAL AGENDA 21 Recycling



*On 'Green' collecting days very many residents can be seen to place the range of recycling containers outside their home for collection, now including, glass, tin cans, plastic and newspaper.*



Green Bins, Blue Bags and Green Boxes  
Ready for Collection



Recycling Site at the Community Centre for  
Paper, Glass, Clothes and Plastics



OPERATION CLEANSWEEP 2009

## Local Environmental Quality



Doorstep Green Dog Walking Area  
with suitable dog waste bins

Wesham Town Council employ the street cleaning services of Fylde Borough Council to maintain the cleanliness of the local area. One off 'Operation Cleansweep' days are arranged from time to time by WCPT in co-operation with FBC, The Police and local volunteers.

The provision of 'Dog Waste Bins' has significantly reduced the amount of pavement fouling and close contact with the 'Dog Warden' helps to maintain this situation.

The provision of the dedicated dog walking area at the Doorstep Green site has proved to be very popular with dog owners and it has been put to good use helping to keep the footways clear.



# Local Environmental Quality...

## Wesham C.E. & St Joseph's Schools' contribution



Wesham Community Pride Trust are delighted to have maintained close links with both primary schools and have made financial contributions to encourage and assist with individual projects. In addition, strong links exist with the schools to further the aims detailed in their School Travel Plans of reducing car journeys helping to make a contribution to global warming problems. Both schools demonstrate their concern for the environment and have 'ECO' groups who meet weekly encouraging all pupils to "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle". Wesham C.E have achieved the Eco School Bronze Award Status and St Josephs have been awarded a prize from the Blackpool Gazette for their recycling initiatives.



### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle !



St Joseph's Composting Bins



St Joseph's Water Collection



Fylde's ECO Logo



Wesham C.E.'s ECO Area 'Mini Beasts'



St Joseph's Planting



Wesham C.E.'s Playground Planting

## Local Environmental Quality

### STREET FURNITURE

At various locations throughout the Town seats are provided and are mostly enhanced by floral arrangements.



Seating at Fleetwood Road Playing Fields



Seating at Meadow Park



Provision of a Town Clock formally switched on by the Mayor of Wesham

## Public Awareness and Publicity

'Fylde in Bloom' is now a well established concept throughout the Fylde. Local input being through residents via groups such as our own 'Wesham Community Pride Trust'. Through the FBC 'Fylde in Focus' publication, a wider audience is reached to further publicise 'North West in Bloom'.

During the year the group have continued to pay particular attention to publicising the work and objectives of the WCPT, and also to involve a wider cross section of the community. E.g. Operation Cleansweep, Police, Schools, Presentation Night for Local Garden Competition etc.

Regular news posters are displayed at prominent locations. Contacts with the local press are maintained and updates are provided regularly. A 'Wesham Community' Web Site has been established which is edited and registered by WCPT.

[www.wesham.org.uk](http://www.wesham.org.uk)



Example of News Posters

Wesham Community Pride Trust Committee wish to place on record  
a special thank you to all those involved in supporting our Aims and Objectives.

*Medlar with Wesham Town Councillors and Town Clerk  
Elaine Hartley (Member and Volunteer Litter Picker)  
Lyn Cardwell (Member and Volunteer Litter Picker)  
Darren Bell, Phil Morley and all Grounds Maintenance Staff at FBC  
Adam Nagy, Fylde Borough Council Parks Development Officer  
Kirkham in Bloom Committee  
Wesham C.E. Primary School  
St Joseph's Primary School  
Kirkham and Wesham County Primary School  
Kirkham Prison Community Service  
Wesham Interact's Gardening Group  
The National Probation Service (Blackpool)  
The Doorstep Green Partnership  
Wesham Community Centre  
Woody's Warehouse*



**WESHAM COMMUNITY PRIDE TRUST SPONSORS**

***'Fresh Food Corner', Station Rd***

***'Bach to Bebop', Station Rd***

***Co-op Late Shop, Weeton Rd***

***D.E Pickervance & Sons***

***Mowbreck Park Ltd***

***Fox's Biscuits***

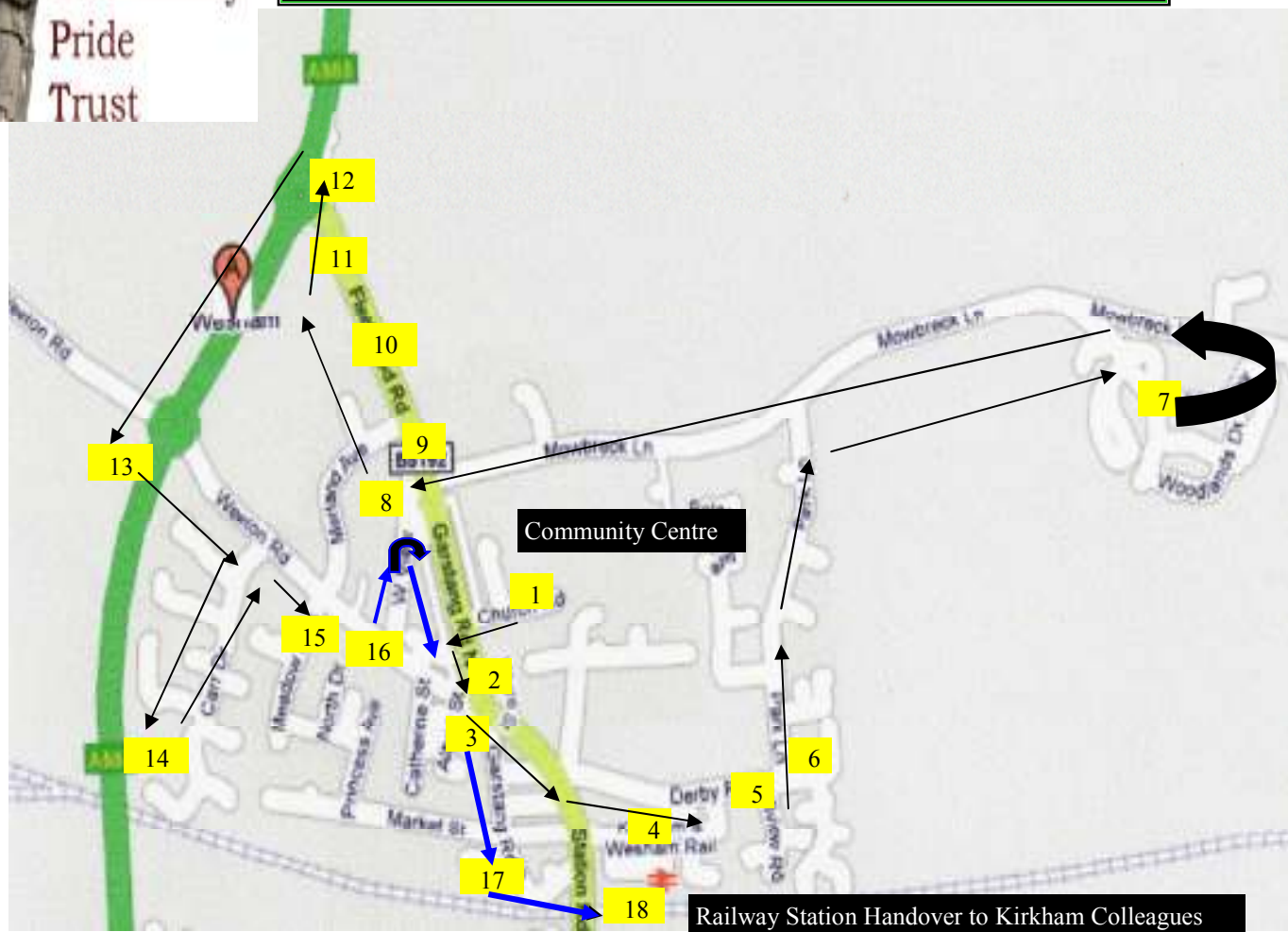
**Wesham Community Pride Trust  
Members and Supporters**

**[www.wesham.org.uk](http://www.wesham.org.uk)**

And all those who helped in any way.....Thank you !



## Wesham Judges Route 21st July 2009



## WESHAM JUDGING ROUTE 21st July 2009

### START

1. **Community Centre and Bowling Green, Church Road. Waste Recycle Site (1)**  
*Leave Community Centre Turn Left onto Garstang Rd Nth*
2. **Wesham C.E. Primary School (on Left)**  
*Continue towards War Memorial*
3. **Wesham War Memorial with tubs, planters and hanging baskets.**  
*Bear Left onto Station Rd Turn Left at Derby Rd (mini roundabout)*
4. **Recycling site at Old Council Offices(2)**  
*Across road to Doorstep Green*
5. **'Doorstep Green' with beds, hanging basket tree, children's play area and dog walking enclosure.**  
*Turn left into Park Lane*
6. **Derby House, Permanent Landscaping**  
*Continue along Park Lane then turn Right at Mowbreck Lane to:*
7. **Mowbreck Park Residential Caravan Park**  
*Retrace steps back along Mowbreck Lane to Garstang Rd Nth*

8. **Garstang Road North Bus Stop with hanging basket tree, tubs and hayracks.**  
*Turn Right into Fleetwood Road*
9. **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School**  
*Continue to the Playing Fields*
10. **Fleetwood Road Playing Fields/ Skate Board Park and beds/ tubs**  
**Permanent Landscaping at the Ambulance and Fire Stations**  
*Continue towards Bypass*
11. **Three Tier Planter (Interacts Wesham Garden Group) + 'Diamond Bed'**  
*Turn into Layby*
12. **"Welcome to Wesham" Stone**  
*Take bypass Left at Second Roundabout Park on Right*
13. **'HMS' Medlar with Wesham**  
*Across Bypass to :*
- 13A. **Raised Bed and Development landscaping**  
*Take Weeton Road....Turn Right at Carr Drive*
14. **Bowland Grange Pond**  
*Retrace route to Weeton Road...Turn Right*
15. **Meadow Park Metal Tree and Seat area on Right**  
*Continue along Weeton Road*
16. **Lane Ends Public House and Bus Stop Hayracks**  
*Turn Left into West View*  
**Metal Tree on Island + Hayracks**  
*Turn Right at St Joseph's Church into Garstang Road North*  
**Hanging Baskets on lampposts**  
*Continue to Mini Roundabout ...turning Right at Old Fire Station Clock, turn into Garstang Road South*
17. **Everest Court Pagoda (on right)**  
**'The Stanley' Public House**  
*Turn left into Segar Street towards Railway Station*
18. **Kirkham & Wesham Railway Station Platform, Joint Project ...**

END

Meet up with representatives from 'Kirkham in Bloom'

# The Fylde Community Projects Fund

## GRANT APPLICATION FORM

### STATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

**Name of organisation/ group:**

WESHAM COMMUNITY PRIDE TRUST (WESHAM IN BLOOM)  
also on behalf of KIRKHAM IN BLOOM

**SECTION 1: BASIC DETAILS**
**In which area(s) of Fylde will your activity take place?**

Kirkham and Wesham

**Name of contact:** Richard Nulty

**Address:** Demmingfield  
Greenhalgh  
PR4 3BE

**Telephone No:** 01772 683929

**Email Address:** demmingfield@talktalk.net

**When is the best time to contact you?** Anytime - message service available

**Please let us know whether you have any communication needs.**

**'Does your organisation/ group have a constitution or similar document?'**

Yes -enclosed

**When was your organisation/ group established?**

Established as Kirkham and Wesham in Bloom in 1980's-  
re-organised into separate bodies for each town in 2004.

**How many people are involved in your organisation/ group?**

**No. of Committee Members** 11

**No of Volunteers** 18

**No. of Paid Staff**

None

**Kirkham in Bloom have similar numbers of Committee members and volunteers**

**Please give a brief description of what your group's current activity is:**

- Planning and delivery of Wesham in Bloom
- Inter-generational planting, environmental and art projects with the local Primary schools
- Projects to enhance townscape eg Railway bridge repaint
- Town clock and nightlight enhancement
- Current plans are to improve the Old Fire Station facade and (subject to finance)in conjunction with Kirkham in Bloom and other partners to enhance the railway station at platform and booking hall levels
- Periodic Operation Cleansweeps
- Assistance in the preparation of the Parish Plan



## SECTION 2: THE PROJECT

Please give a brief description of your project and how it links to the fund objectives.

### KIRKHAM AND WESHAM RAILWAY STATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Unfortunately in today's economic climate, rail and train operators do not have the resources to enhance their infrastructure, and maintain only to a basic operational level. In the case of Kirkham and Wesham, station, this means that whilst wood and stonework is in acceptable condition, the paintwork is poor, there is unchecked

vegetation on the unused areas of platform, and there is no decorative planting undertaken. Some of the brick structures beyond reasonable repair have been replaced with modern shelters, but these do nothing to improve the basic environment. The Booking Hall is a cheerless place and its frontage poor.

Some 18 months ago, the Wesham Community Pride Trust embarked on an improvement plan for Station Road, the main street of the town, and a large number of hanging baskets, tubs and planters were installed with help of the local residents. The rusty cast iron railway bridge was cleaned and repainted as part of the scheme.

As the Station and railway line form the boundary between Wesham and Kirkham, the two (now) separate voluntary groups have tackled Northern Trains, the station operators, to see what improvements can be made to make the approach to both communities better for residents and commerce alike. Whilst they are keen to see improvements, they have made it clear that in the present circumstances, they can only make limited funding available to voluntary partners to achieve these ends.

Both In Bloom groups are keen to see a project delivered over the next 9 months which will:

- > **Clear all vegetation from the unused platform length.**
- > **Construct and install raised shrub/planting beds on the platform.**
- > **Fabricate and install hanging basket positions at the foot of the stairway, along the used platform and at the entrance to the booking hall.**
- > **Install an automatic watering system - essential as steps preclude use of existing water bowser.**
- > **Prepare the Booking Hall and display murals of aspects of Kirkham and Wesham. life painted by the primary school children of the two towns.**
- > **Remove graffiti, paint and generally spruce-up the wood and stone-work, timetable boards and furniture.**

The longer-term maintenance of the beds, baskets and artwork etc, will be undertaken by the two voluntary groups.

During the project stage, Wesham have agreed with the Probation Service that they will provide a significant labour input (as they did on the bridge painting project) and Kirkham, who have a similar arrangement with the Open Prison, will get support from them in fabricating basket supports and stands and other infrastructure. Wesham. Community Pride Trust has previously worked under Railway Safety rules and procedures and has established the necessary operational working relationship with the Engineers of Network Rail.

It is estimated that the material cost of the project is -The labour input, whilst having a value of approximately £3,000 at Minimum Wage levels, can be achieved through a partnership of the volunteers of the two 'In Bloom' groups, together with time from Prisoners at Kirkham, and others serving Community Service sentences supervised by the Probation Service.

Thus, with the Northern Trains contribution ceilinged at £2,000, the shortfall now sought from the Fylde Community Project Fund is £4,750.

The project meets a number of the criteria of the Fylde Community Plan

The currently dilapidated appearance of the station encourages graffiti and general youth attention This will be less likely when improved.

The environmental impact on users and passers-by will improve, thus lifting residential and business aspirations in 2 super-output areas high in deprivation indices

The inter-generational link between children and older volunteers will assist in wider education ( life-long learning) and help community cohesion

The use of prisoners and (generally) younger offenders on the Community Service Programme will be beneficial to them and the wider community

Enhancement of the environment will tend to reduce youth nuisance and petty crime and improve safety and its perception.

In addition, the project will:

Promote links between the two towns and older and younger citizens

By making the station more attractive, increase the likelihood of promoting rail use

Assist in the regeneration of both residential and employment areas in the towns

Give excellent value for money

**What is the proposed project start date?**

April 2008 - subject to finance, Health and Safety and Railway Inspectorate risk assessments and project management approvals.

**How have you assessed the need for the project?**

Self-evident to all rail users and the stated concerns over the frontage and

Booking Hall fed back from residents of both towns

NW In Bloom judges specifically identify shortcomings at the station

### **What support have you received from other local groups?**

The station is currently operated under franchise from Network Rail by Northern Trains who have met with representatives of both volunteer groups and have agreed to a series of enhancement proposals as set out in the report.

They have agreed that the groups will act as 'Friends of Kirkham and Wesham Station' in the same way a group does at Clitheroe Station and Northern trains has indicated that subject to Board approval, it will contribute some of the costs of the improvements to a maximum of £2000. Maintenance of the planting will, thereafter, be the responsibility of the In Bloom Groups.

The Wesham Group will bring in the Probation service with capacity for the project from those serving Community Service sentences, while the Kirkham. Group will bring construction and fabrication support from the Kirkham Open Prison.

So far, three of the local Primary Schools have agreed to prepare the murals and it is expected that the other two will agree to join the project shortly.

### **How will the progress of the project be recorded and ultimately evaluated?**

Once the project plan has been agreed with the Station Operator and Network Rail has issued appropriate Permits to Work, the partners in the project will deliver their contributions as agreed. A copy of the plan will be available and progress reports will be submitted as required, together with photographic evidence etc.

The end of project evaluation will show how well the partnership has worked, but the result will be evident in the quality of the station environment once completed.

### **How many people do you expect will benefit from the project?**

The thousands who are station users, visitors and those passing the station buildings, together with those who will live in an improved environment.

### **What will be the total cost of project?**

£9,750

### **How much money are you applying for?**

£4,750

### **Please give details of where matched funding for the project is coming from?**

	Northern Trains	£2,000
<u>Labour</u> -	HM Prison Kirkham	£1,000
	Probation Service	£1,000
	Wesham CPT	£500
	Kirkham in Bloom	£500
TOTAL MATCHED FUNDING		<u>£5,000</u>





