



Medlar with Wesham Small Town Entry

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INTRODUCTION

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At the start of this handbook we would like to pay tribute to Councillor Tom Cawley on his untimely death in the Summer of 2004.

Obituary

Our committee started up with just a handful of volunteers including Cllr Tom Cawley. We were shocked and saddened by the death of Tom, who was at the time holding the office of Mayor of Medlar with Wesham.

Apart from being a friend, he was a dedicated and supportive member of our group who is greatly missed. As a tribute we arranged for the provision of a garden seat in St Josephs' Church Grounds with a named plaque in memory of Tom, and also we have a trophy in his name to be used for presentation at the local garden competition.



'Wesham Community Pride Trust' is now in its' second year and we have benefited from being given feedback from last years judging panel. We have paid particular attention to the Judges comments especially to provide wildflower areas to attract butterflys etc.

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

Objectives

- ◇ In conjunction with the Town Council, Fylde Borough Council and other statutory agencies. To foster, promote and develop pride in the appearance of Wesham.
- ◇ To plan, develop and execute :
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 competition.
- ◇ To train and educate residents and especially young people to care for the environment in which they live.

Continued

WESHAM HISTORY

Medlar-with-Wesham is an example of a small rural township that was transformed by the advent of industry in the mid nineteenth century. The township lies in the Fylde, immediately north of the ancient market town of Kirkham. The transformation of Medlar-with-Wesham is to be related to the construction of the Preston and Wyre railway. The major reason for the growth of Medlar-with-Wesham is the establishment of the Cotton industry in the 1850's, prior to which there was a small farming community of around 200 people. Today's population is over 3000.

The construction of the M55 motorway and the bypass has led to a significant increase in commuter traffic, both from and passing through Wesham.

Redevelopment of the Memorial area and the provision of a mini roundabout has improve road safety at the Weeton road/ Station Road junction.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The group has had regular meeting throughout the year during which time they have had many discussions to further the objectives of the Wesham Community Pride Trust. Examples:-

- The organisation of a successful and well attended Garden Competition presentation evening was held and enjoyed by all.
- A newsletter was produced and delivered to every household together with a publicity poster designed for local shops and businesses in Wesham.

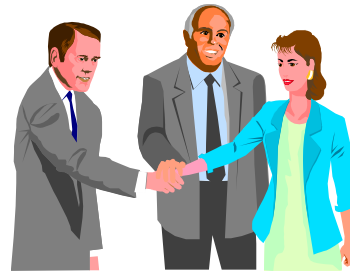
The distribution of the newsletter has led to a significant increase in membership and 'supporters'. A detailed list is contained at the end of this handbook, together with a copy of the newsletter and poster.

- New 'wild flower' beds were constructed.

ACTION PLAN

The committee have drawn up an action plan.

- ◇ Enter North West in Bloom Competition
- ◇ Produce competition Handbook
- ◇ Monitor and liase with Contractor
- ◇ Continue collaboration with the two Primary schools
- ◇ Seek sponsorship from Wesham businesses
- ◇ Produce and distribute Newsletter
- ◇ Attend FBC Co-ordinator Meetings
- ◇ Arrange Regular WCPT Meetings
- ◇ Liase with Doorstep Green Group
- ◇ Explore Fylde Community Project Fund
- ◇ Seek continued improvement on Station Rd involving residents
- ◇ Explore Railway Bridge renovation
- ◇ Continue to use 'Working Parties' for litter picking/weed control etc



- ◇ Consideration for the provision of a wild ecology area to include nesting boxes and a butterfly release project.
- ◇ The use of a 'Control Sheet' for the reporting of environmental standrds shortfalls, eg, potholes, dirty / missing streetnames, overgrown hedges etc

FLORAL DISPLAYS



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



The group have been in close consultation with Wesham Town Council, Fylde Borough Council to gain valuable local knowledge.

The natural focal point of Wesham is at the War Memorial where a recent traffic management scheme has increased safety at the road junctions. The installation of permanent flower tubs has improved the visual impact of the area and has also had a secondary benefit of preventing parking on the newly block paved area.

The old fire station appearance has been improved by the current owner and further enhanced by the provision of tubs and hanging baskets, adding to the general appearance of the war memorial



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.



FLORAL DISPLAYS

Throughout the Town, the Council have endeavoured to provide colourful floral displays which have been supplemented by the provision of additional displays by local businesses such as 'The Stanley Arms'



Stanley Arms Garstang Rd South



Raised bed at the Fleetwood Road Playing

The frontage to the playing fields is an example where the Town Council have been instrumental in continuing to provide pleasing raised flower beds.

Also in this location the WCPT have developed two specific areas for wild flower development. Whilst there is little to show at the moment, the two areas has had a large number of wild flower seeds sown by the members of WCPT. It is hoped that this will provide a permanent feature and attract butterfly's etc



Medlar with Wesham War Memorial



'Experimental' Wild Flower Bed at the Playing Fields

FLORAL DISPLAYS



Hanging Baskets and Pergola at Everest Court



Hanging Baskets and beds at Meadow Park

Towards the end of the season the committee arranged for judging of residential gardens culminating in the presentation of certificates and prizes at a 'Presentation Evening' This was well attended by the Town Councillors, the winners and the committee. The evening was enhanced by the serving of wine and light refreshments and also acted as a publicity platform to reinforce the groups aims.

A typical example of the certificate is shown below, and it is intended that this public involvement will continue for this year. As stated earlier we will also be making a presentation of the new trophy in memory of the late Councillor Tom Cawley.



In addition to the traditional type of gardens, the local judges were impressed by the number of residents who used imaginative ways of providing pleasing appearances to their gardens. An example of which is shown below.



A winning residential garden on Weeton Rd

Maintenance Achievements

The Group continue to use the Wesham Town Council contract as a working guide for the monitoring of scheduled maintenance to be carried out by the contractor. This included grass cutting, hedge cutting, strimming, bedding plant provision, hanging basket provision and the associated maintenance.

A good example where liaison has continued is the attention to the 'hedge' alongside the field on Weeton Road.

The picture shown below indicates the condition of the boundary hedge before consultation. The hedge can be clearly seen spilling over onto the highway, thus reducing the usable portion of the road.

A monitoring procedure has been put into place for WCPT members to provide feedback on specific areas that they consider requires attention. This information is used at regular meetings with the Contract Manager from the Barton Grange Garden Centre.



Weeton Road close to Bypass junction
'Before and After' attention by
Contractor

NORTH WEST IN BLOOM WESHAM



ITINERARY/JUDGES ROUTE

Delegates on Judging Tour:

To be named

Time to be decided Presentation to Britain in Bloom Judges of Wesham entry by the Wesham Trust Volunteers ?

Time to be decided Commence Judging Tour of Wesham

1. Wesham Offices flower beds.
2. Derby Road Park with diamond beds, hanging basket tree and troughs. Meet representative of Doorstep Green Partnership ? *Geoff Dixon / Ann Whitby*
3. Derby House, Permanent Landscaping
4. Everest Court
5. Salisbury's Business
6. Wesham Cenotaph with window boxes and planters.
7. Garstang Road North Bus Stop with hanging basket tree, tubs and hayracks.
8. Garstang Road tubs fronting the allotments.
9. Garstang Road Fire Station with Roman Centurion feature
10. Garstang Road Playing Field with raised flower beds.
11. Wesham roundabout, Wesham Stone bed and new annual beds. Proceed down bypass to Weeton Road.
12. Weeton Road junction, raised beds both sides.
13. Meadow Park junction with hanging basket tree and tubs
14. Weeton Road Bus Shelter hayracks.
15. Station Road hanging baskets to residential properties.
16. New window boxes to railway bridge Kirkham and Wesham border.

