



IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD - MARKING SHEET

Name of group: Colourful Kilmacolm	Assessment date: July 2015
Name of assessor: Sandra Anton	
<p>Introduction: (Please give a brief bit of background about the group / project)</p> <p>Colourful Kilmacolm is a community group which began in 2013. It is made up of 95 members who are passionate about their village and are working to improve this environment through engagement with the local community. Also through planting of attractive flowers and carrying out plant and greenspace maintenance in and around the area and litter picks etc., this is bringing colour and vibrance to the village.</p>	
Section A - Community Participation (40% or 40 points)	
<p>The group is working towards things such as: (e.g. involving local people, working in partnership, gaining support)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group has a membership of 95, with a nominal fee per annum. • Successful grant application from Inverclyde Council of £950 which allows for planting and maintenance etc. • Successful Awards for All funding provided money for planters in the corner of the town and to buy other plants for the garden group to plant up. • The group applied to Keep Scotland Beautiful for a community grant to allow for two half barrelled planters at the Time Capsule area. • Flower shop offered water facility for watering plants. • Planters filled at Birkmyre Park which are maintained by members of the group. • Good partnership working with local Council (Inverclyde) and local Councillor. • Good partnership working with schools. Group gives bulbs to schools for planting. • Six planters outside Kilmacolm Community Centre are maintained by members of the group all year round. The group has good partnership working with the Centre, with colourful planters outside the Cargill Centre. • Publicise through the Greenock Telegraph. • Encourage local businesses to have flower displays outside. • The group has its own website to promote its work, which is very useful. 	
Total points assessed for Section A (out of 40)	25
Section B - Environmental Responsibility (30% or 30 points)	
<p>The group is engaged in environmental activities such as: (e.g. conservation, composting, improving green space, reducing litter and dog fouling)</p>	



- Peat free compost used in barrels.
- Members of the group carry out litter picks. The area was very tidy and free of litter.
- Adequate bin provision also.
- Council cuts shrubs back on spare/neglected ground. The group cleared the rubbish and the Council took it away. Plants were donated from villagers and members and planted up (herbatious plants also planted). Advertised for plants through the Gryffe Advertiser.
- Adoption and recycling of planters at Birkmyre Park.
- St Columba Primary had a competition in its garden club, and the group supplied judges in June. The group also has good relations with Kilmacolm Primary.
- Types of plants used are good for biodiversity. There was evidence of insects around the planters, e.g. bees.

Total points assessed for Section B (out of 30)	18
Gardening Achievement (30% or 30 points)	
<p>The group is employing good gardening practices appropriate to the area, such as: (e.g. good plant choice, creative design, maintenance of plants)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good mix of flowers being grown: herbatious, tulips, daffodils, snowdrops and crocuses etc. • Improvements being made to grass verges, with colourful planting, and well maintained by members of the group. • Grassed lay-bys at entrances to the village will be colourful during January and February. • Good community engagement and word of mouth has encouraged civic pride, and people are taking care of their local environment. Shop owners are also being encouraged to get involved. • Planters outside Cargill Centre give real colour to the centre of the village. It is very eye catching. • Planters outside Birkmyre Park and the school are also very well maintained and colourful. 	
Total points assessed for Section C (out of 30)	18
GRAND TOTAL POINTS ASSESSED	61
LEVEL ACHIEVED	Developing

Areas of achievement:

Well done to the group for all its hard work. I was very impressed with the commitment of the group and the members respect for the area in which they live.

The village is looking very colourful and it was impressive to see shop owners also taking a bit of responsibility by adding colour to the area by way of hanging baskets or raised planters outside their premises.

Planters maintained outside the Cargill Centre and Birkmyre Park are beautiful and well maintained. They are also attracting wildlife.





Impressed with the amount of community engagement taking place and it is good to see that the group is actively involved with the schools.

I was very impressed with the hilly grass verge at the car park which is being well maintained by group members. Again this is very eye catching.

Areas for development:

- The group is aware of the hard work involved in the maintenance of planters, raised beds, hanging baskets and grassed verges etc.
- The group is trying to identify other areas for future planting and maintenance.
- Good to see good relations with the Council, schools and local businesses etc. As a result you can see great improvements in the look of the town centre.
- Continue to update the website and apply for funding to assist with continuing your planting project in and around the surrounding area.
- Wildflowers are very colourful, and may look nice at the grass verges also –check out the free resources available from Keep Scotland Beautiful’s Community projects section on its website: www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/community-projects/
- May be beneficial to speak with other groups who are doing similar projects to share ideas and experience.

RESULTS

Level	Description	Points
Level 1	Establishing	0-35
Level 2	Improving	36-52
Level 3	Developing	53-68
Level 4	Thriving	69-85
Level 5	Outstanding	86-100

