

URBAN COMMUNITY

General Comments

There were three entrants in this category, Littleover being a first time competitor in the Bloom. The pleasing feature in each case was that they were all led by local community groups and that there appeared to be good support in the community for their efforts.

Judges – Frank Constable, Barry Bedford and Geoff Spate

SPONDON: Silver Gilt Medal Award – 158 points

Judged on 14th July 2009

***Judges Award:** Spondon - The Wastefields Allotments for their exceptional neatness and high productivity

Spondon Springs Back. That was the theme of Spondon's entry into this year's competition. It was evident that the Bloom group had retained all the skills and enthusiasm that they had developed in previous years. Having been warmly welcomed and supplied with refreshments the judges were entertained with a slick IT slide show of Bloom/community activities. Throughout the display the "Spondon Shopping Bag" supporting a cleaner, greener Spondon appeared in photographs taken around the world as distant as the Sidney Opera House and the Statue of Liberty. An excellent portfolio restated their terms of reference as set out in 2002 and recognised the disappointment of many in the community of their break from formal competition in 2008.

This was a very competent entry from a capable and enthusiastic team. The judges would like to complement them on their achievement.

Judges – Frank Constable, Barry Bedford and Geoff Spate

The judges were particularly impressed by:

SECTION A

- The production of their own bedding plants.
- The splendid Wastefield Allotments.
- The maturing sensory garden.

SECTION B

- The West Park Meadows Nature Reserve.
- The high level of recycling achieved with help from the City Council.

SECTION C

- The commitment of the Bloom team and the support from the community in what is clearly a year round programme of activities.
- The teachers and children at the village's schools in embracing gardening and environmental related activities.

Areas suggested for future development:

SECTION A

- Consider being a little more adventurous on the choice of plants for floral displays.
- Look at creating greater impact and interest. Attention to quality and content of planting schemes will pay dividends.

SECTION B

SECTION C

A=75 B=41 C=42

TOTAL 158