**LANCASHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION**



 **Judges Report 2021**

**Judges –** please reflect on your two visits and fill in a report so that it can be sent to the village you have visited. Your names should not be given to the village – just indicate whether you are Judge 1 or 2.

Ideally it is completed, a paragraph under each of the first three headings given below as, a word document but a handwritten report on the back of this sheet is OK if you do not have a computer. Please don’t send PDF copies.

*(The Committee reserves the right to edit the report prior to forwarding it to the village)*

**Villages –** please accept the report written by your judges who will try to give constructive criticism as well as praise to help you to improve your entry next year.

**1)Overall Impressions** (Include comments on: tidiness, amount of litter/weeds/graffiti and whether there was a sense of pride and community involvement)

**2)What makes it Best Kept?** (Includecomments on: any areas or features where the village or the owners of the property or business had taken special measures to improve or enhance the appearance of the village.)

**3) Areas of Improvement** (Include comments on: any area which may be improved and how this could be done so that they do not detract from the rest of the village.

 **Village map** (Include comments on: whether the print was clear, whether the area to be judged was clear and things like bus shelters, benches etc where indicated and whether all the outstanding features were clearly marked.

**Name of Village \_\_\_Chapeltown\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date of Visit 1 18/6/2021**

**Date of Visit 2 08/07/2021\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Judges Report – Chapeltown**

**Overall Impression**

A pleasant and attractive village, with no sign of litter or graffiti. The planters around the village show good community spirit.

**What makes it Best Kept**

The houses and gardens are kept to a high standard. Commercial premises too are mostly good, although Mercers has a broken window boarded up, and weeds in the concrete. The garden of remembrance was nicely maintained, with no weeds visible on the plots themselves, but weeds were visible in the paving. The sports ground looked good, although access was not available.

**Areas of Improvement.**

Weeds were evident in most of the roads, growing in the gutter, or alongside the hose walls, and the local council needs to be prompted to get on top of these.

While part of the churchyard is nicely mown, there is an area at the back which is completely overgrown, Additional strimming is needed around the church itself and around some of the graves.

There are two areas marked on the map as being ‘Public Gardens’. The one with the monument needs a lot of work to the benches, and weeding. The monument itself looks as if it could collapse at any time. The second area looks to be just a field with waist high grass, with a narrow footpath between, although there are a few flowers near the entrance.

The play area needs weeding as well.

The notice board itself is in good condition, but is obscured by foliage which needs trimming back, so that it is more prominent. The bank on the other side of the road from the notice board could be planted up to form a feature, or sown with wild flower seeds.

More thought can be given as to what is put forward in the outstanding feature category. There were far better commercial premises than Mercers.

**Map.**

While the map was adequate it would have been helpful to have had a map showing the boundary of the area to be judged.