

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM KIRKBYMOORSIDE IN BLOOM

- Don't be hidebound and tied into other organisations initiatives. Whilst the NYMNPs are very commendable, the vast proportion of Kirkbymoorside is not in fact in the NYMNP. Be creative, do your own thing!
- A170 is undoubtedly the shop window for Kirkbymoorside, far more so than the neighbouring towns of Helmsley and Pickering, so it is important to keep that looking its best to entice people to turn off up the High Street. This group welcome the council's decision to revert to the original grass cutting schedule. This does set off the existing tub and tree planting to its best advantage.
- The Rotherham Initiative, whilst very commendable, is not the answer for Kirkbymoorside as a small parish council and its resources. However, it does highlight the importance of thorough preparation of the land; wildflower areas do not happen without that. It also provides an excellent source of purchasing the right combination of seed from the outset.
- Do not embark on schemes that will ultimately rely on the goodwill of a town clerk in terms of management, unless that is specifically identified in a job description. Councillors are the voluntary community members who need to be physically prepared to undertake roles.
- The original design of the roundabout by the In Bloom group has certainly stood the test of time and it is still as relevant today as it was at its inception. Climate change would indicate a review of the planting there in terms of drought resistant planting.
- There have been signs of tidying up the area outside Grace Lane vets in the immediate vicinity of the buildings. Do we know of any initiatives for the verges there?
- There are 2 patches of land outside the Fire Station where some efforts have been made, largely by one person, to enhance the area. In Bloom have acted as advisors in the past and created planting schemes but is not in a position to take on any further physical commitment. Water is a ready supply at that location. An approach from the TC with support could be well received.
- There is an unsightly area of land at Waind's Field, clearly visible through the hedge on the A170. This would be worthy of further exploration.
- The town's historic Pound has benefitted from attention in the past, chiefly from the town clerk weeding it. A review of the possibilities and commitment there is indicated.
- There is private land in Keldholme, adjacent to A170 that could be available for a properly managed strip of wildflower meadow.
- In terms of biodiversity and ecological awareness, we would strongly recommend that Councillors attend the Open Gardens event to see for themselves how committed, efficient and knowledgeable many residents in the Town already are, and to pick their brains! Many communities struggle for participants; this year we will be limiting to 20 gardens, with a waiting list.
- There has been a suggestion of relocating the recently removed planters to Dale End to deter parking there. However, upon reflection, there is a risk of creating a hotchpot of planting that will still not address the root issue. One resident is very adept at squeezing between 2 of the existing planters. This is a matter that may be better addressed using powers of NYCC and the town council in terms of parking infringements
- Final word of advice; KEEP IT SMALL, BUT DO IT PROPERLY!