

CPRE & MVF BEST KEPT VILLAGE IN DEVON COMPETITION



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Frithelstock and Frithelstockstone

Both villages are well kept and tidy generally. There was litter found – card board at the playing field entrance, a broken trolley and some litter at the Village Hall and an overflowing dog waste bin. Verges were tidy and growth appropriate for the season. The village sign arriving from the south east has a planter. There is no planter when approaching from the west.

Private dwellings and gardens were neat and well-kept in Frithelstock, although some garage doors needed washing and just two houses needed attention in Frithelstockstone, but were both in the throes of house sale. Hedges and walls were generally maintained.

The Village Hall is very well used and looks well cared for except for the barbeques stored at the rear. The car park was tidy. There is also a close mown walled garden, behind the hall, with a swing and a compost bin. This looked attractive. The telephone kiosk and bus shelter in Frithelstockstone were both clean and in good order. Notice boards there were in good condition and with up to date notices, but at times looked cluttered. The notice board at the pub in Frithelstock was in need of some care. No Best Kept Village poster was seen, to advertise the competition. The blackboard by the side of the road to advertise events to passing traffic is a good idea. The shed at the playing field has an insecure padlock and needs slats repaired. The bus shelter needs a wash and the unused telephone box needs to be adopted.

Frithelstockstone has a very good playing field. The grass was well mown but grass not picked up. The area has some small trees but could do with some shelter hedging. Some strimming was needed around the very good play equipment. The gazebo is very attractive and a good place for mothers to sit and watch the children. It is in good condition. The football posts are good but the hockey posts were rusty. The litter bin here is well used and a "No Dogs" notice is featured. Here the notice board was in good condition, information was up to date and the BKV poster was on display. The "Scrumpy Scramble" was well advertised. Most seats are serviceable but the one at the hall has flaky paint.

The Cemetery is not close mown so that the grass has thick thatch. There are no access paths cut so the in wet weather the grass would be impassable without welly boots. There is also a very dilapidated shed here, with a rotten door and windows with flaking paint or bare wood and a large pile of weedy earth just left. At the churchyard the verges along the path, in May, were left for the flowers to grow which looked very attractive and the graves were tidy. The church yard is not close mown but still looks well-kept and mown, with a good tarmac path. The grass around the war memorial was well cut and the area neat and tidy. The seat and the Jubilee Stone outside the church looked in good order.

The Clinton Arms looked tidy but not particularly welcoming. The planters look unattractive and the inn sign frame is broken and needs painting. The village green opposite the pub is used to serve meals and beer to pub customers. The grass was neatly cut and the edging stones are whitened. The picnic tables are old but serviceable. The area looked attractive.

A good map of each village was provided for the judges. The website has information about events coming up as well as useful public information for residents of both villages. People are proud of their community judging from the many photos posted on the site. The parish magazine had some articles about past events and future activities. There are several active groups in the community and on-going fundraising activities. The traffic survey and the good condition of footpaths shows there is care for aspects of the environment in Frithelstock. We look forward to visiting this tranquil area next year!