

## Protocol for Judging Certificate of Merit in 2020

(V3 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020)

As some lockdown restrictions have been eased, you can now volunteer as an individual (alone) or in groups of up to six people from different households, however you must still follow social distancing guidelines. You can volunteer (if you are aged 18 years or over) and subject to the conditions below, undertake certain activities.

### **Please read the guidance below carefully, especially the requirements if you are over 70yrs**

You can volunteer if:

- You are well
- You are under 70 – however see note below\*
- Nobody in your household has coronavirus symptoms.
- You are not pregnant
- You do not have any long-term health conditions that make you vulnerable to coronavirus
- You are not subject to 'Shielding' rules

\*Certain local authorities are relaxing the under 70 rules as the restrictions are eased. Bury in Bloom request that, if you are over 70 years you take note of the **Risk Assessment** (See 'Risk Assessment')

**This year we will not hold a briefing meeting before judging and we will communicate with you by email or post.**

### **Protocol for Judging in 2020**

1. Judges, working as pairs, should always follow social distancing guidelines.
2. Married couples, working together is preferred, as they pose no risk to each other.
3. Similarly, unmarried yet close friends, that remain in social contact, may elect to work as a pair.
  - a. Please make your pairing preference known to Jane Hamblin at [Certificates@buryinbloom.org.uk](mailto:Certificates@buryinbloom.org.uk) or 07946 465572
4. Unless already living together, Judges should not travel in the same car. When travelling to the judging area they should do so separately.
5. Once in their judging area, Judges should always maintain social distancing.
6. Awarding a Certificates should be done with minimum contact by posting through door for example.
  - a. If the resident opens the door as the certificate is awarded/posted, the judge should immediately step back to ensure distancing is maintained and tell the owner why they are at the property.
7. Judges must/should only approach the property when awarding a certificate: Judging is subjective and done so from the front of the property in a walk by manner.
8. If moving in the area, judges should do so in the same way they arrived (for example in two cars).
9. Judges should consider the use of Hand Sanitiser Gel: After they touch anything like a gate or post box flap. (This is preferable to disposable gloves, which (other than to protect a cut) can create a false sense security and still allow virus transfer from source to face)
10. Judges should consider the time of day when judging to avoid the busier period.
11. Judges should wash their hands before and after Judging and consider arrangements for hand washing during judging (a hot water flask and bowl in the boot of the car for example)
12. If the government regulations change and lockdown rules are resumed before w/c 13<sup>th</sup> July Bury in Bloom will postpone or sadly cancel the 2020 scheme.

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