

### **Best kept Village. Judges Comments.**

Ivinghoe.

Judged 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

- 1a. The cemetery was a fine example of a traditional old churchyard, very well maintained and a quiet haven from the adjacent busy road. Of particular note was the ancient thatch removal hook and the adjacent commemorative brass plaque. The plaque would benefit from cleaning.
- 1b. The common, or upper lawn, is a real credit to the village core, it's very well maintained and was equipped with newly installed fitness aids and equipment. However, some cars were parked on the common and that detracted from its tranquillity.
- 1c. The play area was very well equipped and nicely set out and maintained.
- 1d. The lower lawn was a nice example of a natural landscape and wildlife area.
- 1e. The community hub is a superb example of a repurposed hall and was clearly a well-run, maintained and popular asset.
- 1f. The whole village gave a feeling of a cared for historic environment and showed a strong community engagement.
- 2a. The shops were tidy and well set in the village. Some litter was evident and the litter bin required emptying.
- 2b. The pubs were exemplary, very tidy and well looked after. There was no evidence of litter and the surroundings were tidy.
- 2c. The bus shelter was clean and well looked after, with no litter evident.
- 2d. The notice boards were up to date, displayed a BKV poster, although the interpretive notice board needed cleaning.
- 2e. The War memorial was in good repair and nicely maintained. It occupied a prominent position in the churchyard.
- 2f. This is a fine example of a busy village that has maintained its historic core despite some evidence of inappropriate new development on its fringes. The allotments were a good example of diverse use with livestock and some well stocked plots. There was no de fribulator within the village limits.