

PRESS RELEASE

Moor Pool Garden Suburb.

RHS Britain in Bloom It's Your Neighbourhood Award

Resident's efforts to restore the Moor Pool Estate paid off with an excellent first time result in the Royal Horticultural Society Britain in Bloom competition. Moor Pool entering the competition for the first time scored a level 3 out of 5 in the Neighbourhood Award section. Liz Muir and Rob Sutton collected the certificate at a ceremony at Leominster Priory from Sir William Lawrence.

Liz Muir who has co-ordinated the project said: "This is the first year we have entered and we could not have achieved this fantastic result without the help of the many residents who got involved."

Rob Sutton said "This shows just how much everyone cares about Moor Pool and wants to put right the years of neglect. There's much hard work ahead but this is a great start and hopefully we can carry it on next year."

Originally the Residents efforts known as Moor Pool in Bloom were simply to brighten up the Estate after years of neglect and build upon the tremendous community spirit created by the battle to save the Estate from developers Grainger plc. Building on bulb planting in the spring of 2009 the plans expanded to restoring open spaces around the Estate which celebrates in November being Birmingham's first garden suburb built on co-partnership principles in 1907 to 1912 by John Sutton Nettlefold. At that time Moor Pools open spaces and allotments were a radical departure from the typical poor housing conditions of the time and health improved dramatically. With this first year's success behind the group, residents have ambitious plans to carry out further improvements. Open space in Carless Avenue has been cleared and attempts are being made to try and secure permission to clear and restore overgrown allotments which resulted from tenants being evicted prior to planning applications for housing. Plans to form a Trust are being supported by BCC and Council Leader Mike Whitby with the efforts by residents an indication of their commitment to the Estate. The resident's website has details of future plans and anyone who would like to get involved is very welcome.