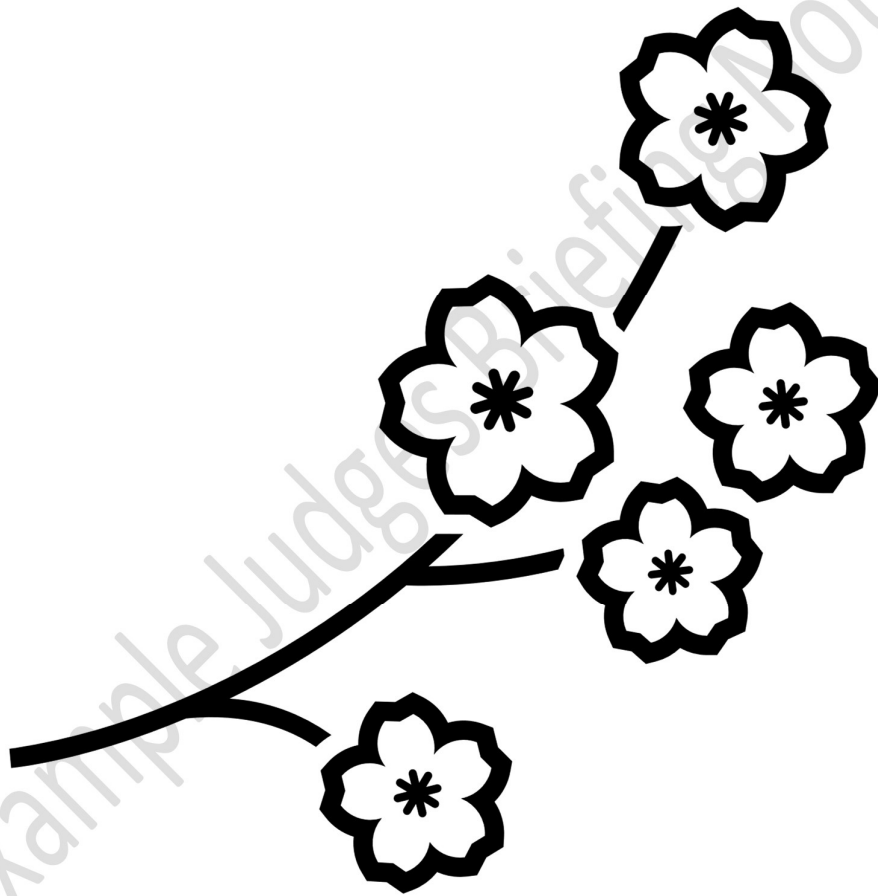


Example
Judges' Briefing Notes for
Metropolis in Bloom
2025



Note: this report is all fictional and any resemblance to real life events is not intentional

The Metropolis in Bloom Team 2024/25

Committee	Key tasks and/or links to other community organisations
Chair	Town Council liaison
Meeting Secretary	
Volunteer Co-ordinator	School's liaison
Treasurer	
A. N Other	Litter Pickers
A. N Other	Road Verges
A. N Other	Park Group
A. N Other	Town Team

Photo Credits – St Ives in Bloom

Metropolis is sandwiched between two motorways. It has multiple hotels used by commuters as an overnight stop off. The town has been subject of much new building and has a sprawling industrial area. However the town has been fortunate to receive significant funding to update the town centre.

2015: Metropolis in Bloom (MiB) started with two volunteers dismayed by the litter and wanting to add colour to their town.

2020: Metropolis in Bloom entered Anglia in Bloom achieving Silver Award

2020: Town regeneration grant resulted in a pedestrian zone, benches and planters in the town centre

2025: 200 volunteers, 5 subgroups

Schools Campaign – organise grow your own clubs in primary and secondary schools

Litter Pickers – organise weekly litter picks and have a group who respond at short notice to litter in the town.

Road Verges – encourage wildflowers by sowing seeds in the grass verges, putting up signs to inform residents and plant bulbs for spring colour.

Park Group – advise on new trees/shrubs to plant as well as the addition of bulbs.

Town Team – plant up and maintain the town planters

A year In Bloom

Autumn 2024: MiB volunteers remove summer bedding from town planters. Where possible these are moved to other areas in the town. Winter bedding is added. The Park and Road Verge teams organise bulb planting. A general call for volunteers from across the town is put out to help with the bulb planting.

MiB write a summary of their activities to apply for a grant from the Town council to support their activities in 2025

Winter 2024: weeding as required and planning for 2025

Spring 2025: removal of winter bedding (planting these elsewhere where possible). Planting of summer bedding. Plants chosen for bright colours and open flowers to encourage pollinators. All the plants are grown in peat free compost and the team have access to a shed where plastic pots are kept for reuse.

Summer 2025: Regular weeding and deadheading.

The Carnival 3rd June 2025

MiB made a special effort with litter picking and general tidying of the town for the annual carnival. This year is the centenary of the foundation of the Primary School. MiB prepared a competition with the children to grow sunflowers. On the day of the carnival the winner of the tallest sunflower was announced. This was included in the local television news programme about the carnival.

2024-2025 Special Project – The Town Centre Main Carpark

Before 2024 the car park was an uninviting area with weeds, brambles and litter.

Summer 2024 – local Youth Group wanted to support the ‘In Bloomers’ with a specific project, the Town Carpark was identified as a suitable project site. The ‘In Bloomers’ contacted local industry and office-based companies if they could help. The response was huge. Companies were happy to sponsor their workforce to volunteer for the project. Both week days and weekend dates were set for the start of the project

Autumn 2024 - With the help of a local building company, the borders around the carpark were cleared, cutting back the brambles.

October 2024 – Daffodils planted mainly on weekdays with the support of staff from local companies.

Winter 2024 – habitat piles created for wildlife and as a practical way to deal with some of the brash.

Spring 2025 - soil improver delivered and the task of digging over the borders began.

Spring 2025 – initial planting of shrubs and tough hardy plants which withstand the conditions in the carpark.

Spring 2025 – initiation of a town competition to paint the fence neighbouring the carpark with a mural.

Summer 2025 – looking forward to showing Anglia in Bloom judges the project so far.

Conclusions

MiB are proud of all the towns residents and companies involved in improving their town.

In 2026 MiB want to explore more unusual plants to extend the dynamic mix of plants within the town whilst bringing a disused rundown area back into the community and creating a relaxing space.



a)



b)



c)



d)



e)

- a) Drought tolerant planting, July 2024
- b) Seasonal bedding sold to raise funds. March 2025
- c) Primroses in the Parish churchyard. February 2025
- d) Growing plants from seed. May 2025.
- e) Daffodils. February 2025