

**MATHERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**BEST KEPT GARDEN (as seen from the road)**

**Last update June 2023**

**RULES**

The garden will be judged as seen from the road.

A judge will score the gardens on the following criteria, scoring out of 25, 20 or 15 depending on the criteria. The score will be totalled out of 100. The garden with the highest score is the winner, the second highest score will be the runner-up.

The organisers of the competition will arrange for a judge, independent of the council.

Criteria for judging – please see Annex A

In the event of a tie scores the scores for criteria 1 and 2 will be added together and the garden with the highest score will be the winner. If there is still a tie, then each criteria will be added on until a winning score is reached. If there is still a tie when all scores have been taken into account, then the prize will be split between the two gardens. The judging will take place in the last two weeks of July.

The winner will be presented the Vaughan Hughes cup which they retain for a year, the winner will also be presented with a small cup to keep, and a small financial prize in the form of a voucher.

The runner up will receive a small financial prize in the form of a voucher.

Prizes will be presented to the winners just prior to the opening of the Mathern Village Fete.

A property can win the prize two years in a row and then will be exempted from entry for one year.

Residents who employ a gardener are ineligible.

Community Councillors are excluded from the competition.

Those residents who do not wish to take part to inform MCC Clerk.

**Annex A**

**Criteria for Best Kept Garden (as seen from the road).**

- Pleasing first impression and overall suitability of design and best use of space. (25)
- Use of plants and planting methods (e.g. pots, flower beds, hanging baskets) to give year-round interest. (25)
- Evidence of consideration of sustainable and biodiverse approach e.g. planting for birds and insects, water conservation, mulch, re-use of materials. (20)
- Healthy and vigorous plants. (15)
- Maintenance of garden (structures, paths and general cultivation). (15)

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