Objectives and Activities

As set out in the Colne.in Bloom Constitution the group continues to promote horticulture and floriculture for the benefit of the public by the creation of floral displays in the town's planters and beds. It aims to increase the education of the public in conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment. The group organises gardening sessions throughout the year, encouraging the whole community to be involved in planting, weeding and caring for the town's floral displays. It helps to attract a greater variety of wildlife into the built environment and supports members of the community to create wildlife welcoming environments.

Achievements and Performance

The importance of being an environmentally sustainable organisation has been given a boost again this year with the help of Asda. The store's manager agreed that we could again have the plants that were no longer fit for sale. We gained 100s of plants that were able to be revived and planted in our town's flower beds and given to schools and community groups. Throughout the year we have gained a massive amount of soil that has topped up troughs, towers, containers and community gardens. We have a good supply of a range of plant pots, hanging baskets and containers that have again been donated to other community groups.

As usual, in the autumn, we planted the town's barrier troughs and towers using the spring bulbs and polyanthus from previous years. The polytunnel provided by the Town Council has helped to overwinter plants that were susceptible to frost.

In May the town's summer floral displays and public spaces were planted and again attracted new helpers. Volunteers have reported a boost to their mental health and raised fitness levels after undertaking gardening related activities. Visitors to the town also express their appreciation and thanks needs to go to Colne Town Council for purchasing the plants and arranging the watering of them.

Pupils from Park and Lord Street Primary helped with planting and weeding activities and were given plants to take back to their school gardens.

One of our bus station flower towers has been relocated to the outdoor space outside the new market Hall. The taxi drivers have again grown herbs and peas for the community to use in the Hartley Square beds.

With the Waterside Neighbourhood Action Group, we held the annual Daisy Chain and Growing Together Environmental Competition, where nominated community groups and residents were presented with certificates and prizes of bulbs, seeds or chocolates for their commitment to promote environmental/gardening activities. The Citadel was presented with The Derek Gascoigne Cup and the Maureen Arnold Trophy was won by the Friends of Alkincoates Woodland and Nature Reserve. This year school gardens were visited and Primet, Lord Street, Park Primary and High Schools all received prizes and certificate for their environmental and gardening activities. Local schools and youth originations participated in an environmental poster competition with the winners receiving a book token at the award ceremony in the Town Hall.

We raised funds for possible future new projects, not funded by the Town Council or grants, and to promote the group's activities in a bid to gain more volunteers.

Report by Alice Mann

Chair of Colne In Bloom

Colne in Bloom banking/accounts: as at 30/10/2025

Treasurer Mary Wooltortan

Barclays	**£3,414.70**
Skipton	**£ 191.11**
	£3,605.81

Statements up to date :

Total amount of finance: £3,414.70 Barclays
£ 191.11 Skipton
£3,605.81 Total funds

Monies paid in: Nil
Monies paid out: Daisy Chain £40 (from float)

Tombola £175.00 Christmas

Float at 30/10/2025 £175.00