

## **Elloughton and Brough in Bloom Annual Report 2025**

2025 has been another busy year for Elloughton and Brough In Bloom and the town continues to look well cared for thanks to the efforts of all our members.

In Brough, Judy and her team have planted a variety of bulbs, flowers and shrubs and have regularly weeded and tidied the Myrtle Meadow, Centurion Way and Humber Crescent areas as well as a variety of pots and planters. Planters have been made or refurbished. The Spring, Summer and Autumn displays were beautiful. They have also built and installed two compost bins at Myrtle Meadow as well as two dead hedges and bird and bat boxes to encourage wildlife. These boxes have been fixed in Centurion Way and Myrtle Meadow. A special thanks good luck s to Paddy for his expert carpentry and to Dave for his handyman / painting skills. David planted 300 daffodil bulbs along the back fence of the new Lidl supermarket to provide some Spring colour.

Paula and her team of helpers redesigned and painted both bus shelters with a VE Day theme. Thanks to them for an excellent job.

In February Rajinder put forward the idea of creating a flower bed at the front of the Petuaria Centre, to which members of the Community could add plants in memory of a loved one. It was also thought that it would be a pleasant outdoor area for the Community Cafe users in Summer. It was decided that a raised bed would be easier to maintain and Men in Sheds were commissioned to build it. They provided the labour for free, we only had to pay for the materials. The construction team at Lidl kindly donated the soil to fill the bed. It was finished and planted up in time for the Yorkshire in Bloom judging in July. Bulbs were planted along the pathway outside the Petuaria Centre in Autumn.

We finally got planning permission in May to erect our sunflower sculpture at Loxley Way. Again Lidl were very kind and their construction team built the concrete base and erected the sculpture in July. We have planted a slow growing yew hedge around the sculpture to provide some protection and disguise the concrete base. We have also thinned out the borders at Loxley Way and have planted some new shrubs and spring bulbs.

In March, we were given a grant of £500 by the town Council to pay for the removal of old hedging at Brough Crossroads, in order to open up the space and put in new and more sustainable plants. In spite of the very dry summer and with the help of large amounts of mulch, most of the plants have survived and thrived. This area looks good but is still in a state of flux as the town Council would like to redevelop it.

In Elloughton we replanted the two outer rings at the crossroads with drought resistant perennial plants to replace the box hedging which we had removed in the previous Autumn. We used annual bedding plants to fill in gaps.

We planted the area around the pharmacy and Elloughton Green with annuals. As usual, we found that trailing begonias were very hardy and colourful and we used them in the planters at Elloughton, along the main road to Brough and in the planters at Brough Crossroads.

Throughout the dry summer months we relied on members to do regular watering and were very lucky to have some kind locals who watered for us.

In Spring we put some new plug plants in the wildflower Meadow and this continues to develop. In September we cut the wildflower meadow down as recommended and have planted a large amount of yellow rattle to try and control the grass in the area. The Wolds and Riverbank group donated some wildflowers, which we planted in Autumn.

In 2025, we have continued our links with the local community. After a year of prompting by our group, the broken planters at Brough Station were finally replaced and planted up.

In Spring a group of us went to Primrose House Care Home to garden with some of the residents.

We continue to work with young people completing the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. They did a variety of activities from weeding, planting and watering to painting. We went into Elloughton School on a regular basis throughout Spring and Summer to help them with their garden and their Yorkshire in Bloom entry. They thanked us by inviting us to a very enjoyable afternoon tea.

We have been helped in many ways. Arco kindly donated some high viz jackets. East Riding Council donated plants in Summer and Autumn. Local businesses, especially The Potting Shed and Ellerker Garden Centre have given us generous discounts and some free plants.

We have also received donations from individuals, including refreshments, money, plants, gardening gloves and other equipment.

As a result of all the work we have done this year, we have spent a lot of money and are very grateful for donations we've received, ranging from £5 to a grant of £500 from the town council. The successful quiz night in November raised £300.

Many thanks to all our members and the wider community who have helped throughout 2025 in so many different ways. As a result of all the hard work we again received a Gold Award in the Yorkshire in Bloom competition.