



The Best Kept Churches Competition

1. The competition is open to all Christian places of worship in Herefordshire and is non-denominational.
2. Entries will be judged by a panel whose members will preclude an individual who has any direct interest in a church entering.
3. Judging will be by a two-stage process. Entrants reaching the short list will be notified and visited by the judging panel.
4. The judges' decisions will be final.
5. Prizes will be awarded at an awards ceremony

Closing date: TBC



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Assessment Criteria

(Stage Two - after the selection of a shortlist)

Those churches, chapels or meeting houses included in the short list will be assessed for further consideration on the following criteria:

1. **Maintenance Plan.** The existence of a maintenance plan for the church and the allocation of responsibilities for monitoring and supervising any action required.
2. **Roof.** The general appearance and condition of the roof including any issues with its fabric.
3. **Gutters & drains.** State of repair and effectiveness of gutters and drains.
4. **Walls.** Condition of the walls including evidence of cracking and damp penetration. Any remedial work should have been undertaken with appropriate materials.
5. **Floors & ceilings.** General state of repair and any damp problems.
6. **Tower/Spire.** Condition of the fabric and serviceability of any bells.
7. **Windows & doors.** The good working order of all windows and doors.
8. **Furnishings & fittings.** General appearance and condition of the interior of the church and evidence of regular cleaning/maintenance.
9. **Utilities.** Standard of electrical wiring and plumbing etc. Performance and regular testing regimes.
10. **General.** Overall appearance of the church and evidence of regular care and maintenance.