

Wakes Colne Parish Council wins Quality Gold Award

Wakes Colne Parish Council in North Essex has become one of the very few small parish councils to achieve the National Quality Gold Award in recognition of best practice in the operation of the council. Last Monday the award was presented by The Mayor of Colchester, Cllr Peter Chillingworth, with the Mayoress, at Colchester Town Hall to the Wakes Colne Parish Clerk, Diane Jacob, supported by Councillors Kathy Brown, Monica Taylor and Acting Chairman, Stephen Scrase. The award is one of the highest accolades for Councils and the citation commending Wakes Colne Parish Council was read out by Joy Darby of The Essex Association of Local Councils.

‘The Quality Gold Award demonstrates that a council is at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence in governance, community leadership and council development and has excellent business planning processes, ensuring value for money as well as constantly seeking new innovations and opportunities to improve. Wakes Colne Parish Council highlight the very best we, as a sector, can achieve for our communities.’ A recent solar-lit walkway to the village station was commended.

‘For such a small parish council [electorate 425 in 2012], with limited resources, the website exhibits evidence of considerable work that has successfully built on the two previous accreditations and appears to epitomise the purpose of the accreditation system. The level of work and presentation is highly commendable and Wakes Colne Parish Council should be an inspiration to other small Councils, all credit to the Clerk and Councillors’, Joy Darby said.

Wakes Colne Parish Council is the sixth in Essex to have achieved this award, and one of only forty that have managed to obtain the Quality Gold award in the country.

