

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET
THURSDAY 26TH APRIL 2007

Wolverley Conservation Area –Draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Proposals

OPEN	
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	A Better Environment
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Enhancing Cultural Life
KEY PRIORITY:	Local Heritage
CANINET MEMBER:	Councillor Anne Hingley, Planning Health and Environment
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Head of Planning, Health & Environment
CONTACT OFFICER:	Simon Roper-Pressdee, Ext. 2536
APPENDICES	Appendix 1: Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal for the Wolverley Conservation Area; Appendix 2: Draft Management Proposals for the Wolverley Conservation Area The Appendices to this report have been circulated electronically. Public inspection copies are available on request.

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present Cabinet with a draft Conservation Area Appraisal, and draft Management Proposals, for the Wolverley Conservation Area, and to seek authority to undertake a public consultation on the proposals.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to **DECIDE:**

- 2.1 **The draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal, and the draft Management Proposals, as set out in Appendices 1 & 2 to the Cabinet Report, be supported and that officers be authorised to undertake a public consultation into the proposals before reporting back with a further recommendation.**

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990* places a duty upon every local planning authority, from time to time, to review and to determine whether any parts or further parts of their area are of special architectural and/or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance, and to designate them as Conservation Areas.
- 3.2 At present there are sixteen Conservation Areas in Wyre Forest District. The *Adopted Wyre Forest District Local Plan (January 2004)* advises that proposals for reviewing existing boundaries for Conservation Areas will be prepared and investigated; whilst the current *Business Plan for Planning Health and Environment Division* includes a commitment to publish draft management proposals, and a draft Conservation Area for the Wolverley Conservation Area, by April 2007.
- 3.3 The effects of designation of a Conservation Area include stricter planning controls over demolition, minor development, the protection of trees, and stricter regulation of new development to ensure it preserves and/or enhances the special character of the Area. In addition, Local Planning Authorities have a duty to draw-up schemes for the enhancement of Conservation Areas.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Wolverley Conservation Area was first designated in 1972, (and extended in 1993) and covers Wolverley village, from Bury Hall up to Wolverley High School, contains 13 statutorily Listed Buildings, and covers an area of 30.5 hectares. This is the first appraisal undertaken for this Conservation Area.
- 4.2 The Character Appraisal sets out the important elements of the Area, identifying the elements which assist to, contribute to, and detract from the special character and appearance of the Area. This has been prepared in accordance with the English Heritage guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals (August 2005).
- 4.3 The Management Proposals set out the policy framework within the Adopted Wyre Forest District Local Plan, for the management of the Area.
- 4.4 The draft Character Appraisal and Management Proposals were considered by the Prosperity Policy Panel on 4th April (update with Panel recommendation to Cabinet)

5. METHOD OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- 5.1 In order to progress the Conservation Area proposals, it is considered that a consultation process should be undertaken with all affected persons. This would include the local Historic Society, the owner and/or occupier of property within the boundary of the Area, the Parish Council, and any other interested parties. The consultation would take the form of public notification of intent, through public displays, and through a mail-drop to each individual property

and interested party, as outlined above, enclosing a leaflet describing the proposals, the effects on the owner/ occupier. The consultation would run for a period of 6 weeks, from mid May to the end of June 2007. There is also a requirement for a public meeting to be held during the consultation period.

- 5.2 The results of the consultation will be the subject of a future report to the Prosperity Panel, and Cabinet, in July 2007.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Arrangements for a public consultation on the draft Management Proposals, and the draft Conservation Area Appraisal can be undertaken within existing agreed budgets.

7. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The proposed Management Plan, and the proposed Conservation Area Appraisal have been drawn up in accordance with the guidance produced by English Heritage.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 There are no risk management issues arising from this report.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 A draft Conservation Area Appraisal and draft Management Proposals have been drawn up, and Cabinet is asked to support the proposals for taking these forward to a public consultation, the results of which will be the subject of a future report.

10. CONSULTEES

- 10.1 Head of Legal and Democratic Services

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Planning Policy Guidance Note 15
Adopted District Local Plan (January 2004)
Guidance On Conservation Area Appraisals : English Heritage (August 2005)
Guidance on the Management of Conservation Areas : English Heritage (August 2005)