

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING
THURSDAY 26TH JULY 2007

The Wolverley Conservation Area – Results of Consultation on Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Proposals

OPEN	
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	A Better Environment
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Enhancing Cultural Life
KEY PRIORITY:	Local Heritage
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Stephen Clee, Planning, Regeneration and Prosperity
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Head of Planning, Health & Environment
CONTACT OFFICER:	Simon Roper-Pressdee, Ext. 2536 simon.roper-pressdee@wyreforestdc.gov.uk
APPENDICES:	APPENDIX 1 – Responses arising from the Public Consultation, with Conservation Officer's responses and recommendations.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 For Cabinet to consider the results of the public consultation on the draft Management proposals, and the draft Character Appraisal for the Wolverley Conservation Area and to agree the final documents.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to DECIDE :

- 2.1 **The Wolverley Conservation Area Character Appraisal and the Management Proposals, as amended by the recommendations contained in Appendix 1 to the Cabinet report, be approved.**

3. 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 Appraisal, 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.
- 3.4 A report was submitted and agreed by the Cabinet on the 26th April 2007 seeking approval for a public consultation on the Wolverley Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Draft Management Plan.

4. KEY ISSUES

METHOD OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Following this approval, a public consultation was undertaken commencing on Friday 11th May 2007 and was closed on Friday 22nd June 2007.
- 4.2 The consultation consisted of a small pamphlet being sent to each of the land-owners within the Area, and all amenity groups with an interest in the Area and its infrastructure.
- 4.3 Displays were erected both in the Parish Rooms in Wolverley, and in the foyer of the Worcestershire Hub in Kidderminster Town Hall on Friday 11th May 2007, and were taken down on Friday 22nd June 2007.
- 4.4 The proposals were also published on the Council's web-site on Friday 11th May 2007, including hyperlinks to email to enable web-responses.
- 4.5 A public meeting was held on the 5th June 2007,

RESULTS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- 4.6 A total of 3 consultation responses were received via letter and by email.
- 4.7 Appendix 1 outlines the responses, and shows the Officer recommendations in respect of each response.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Proposed Management Proposals can be undertaken within existing agreed budgets.
- 5.2 There are no financial implications arising from the Conservation Area Appraisal.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

7.1 There are no risk management issues arising from this report.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 The consultation on the draft Management Proposals and the Conservation Area Appraisal for the Wolverley Conservation Area has not identified any significant issues, and Cabinet is asked to agree that these be approved, subject to the minor amendments recommended in Appendix 1.

9. CONSULTEES

9.1 Head of Legal and Democratic Services

9.2 Councillor M A W Hazlewood

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Cabinet Report 26th April 2007: Draft Wolverley Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Proposals

10.2 Planning Policy Guidance Note 15

10.3 Adopted District Local Plan (January 2004)

10.4 Guidance On Conservation Area Appraisals : English Heritage (August 2005)

10.5 Guidance on the Management of Conservation Areas : English Heritage (August 2005)

11.7.07