

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

**CABINET MEETING
20TH DECEMBER 2007**

Churchill Conservation Area –Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal

OPEN	
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	A Better Environment
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Enhancing Cultural Life
KEY PRIORITY:	Local Heritage
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Stephen Clee
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Head of Planning, Health & Environment
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APPENDICES	Appendix 1: Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal for the Churchill Conservation Area The Appendix to this report has been circulated electronically and a public inspection copy is available on request (see front cover for details)

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present Cabinet with a draft Conservation Area Appraisal for the Churchill 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, as set out in Appendix 1 to the Cabinet Report, be supported and that officers be authorised to undertake a public consultation on the Appraisal before reporting back with a further recommendation.**

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Adopted Local Plan states (in paragraph 8.27), the District Council's intention to prepare appraisals for all Conservation Areas.

- 3.2 A Conservation Area Character Appraisal sets out the special architectural and historic characteristics of a Conservation Area and is intended to provide guidance for planning decisions.
- 3.3 The Churchill Conservation Area was designated in 1991 but until now no formal Character Appraisal has been prepared.

4.0 KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal has been undertaken in line with guidance from English Heritage published in February 2006.
- 4.2 In order to progress the Conservation Area Character Appraisal, it is considered that a consultation process should be undertaken with all persons and bodies with an interest in the Area. This would include the owner and/or occupier of properties within the boundary of the Area, the parish Council, and other interested parties. The consultation would take the form of public notification of intent, including a press release, a mail-drop to each individual property and interested party, the publication of the Appraisal on the Council's website and a display at the Worcestershire Hub, Kidderminster Town Hall. The consultation would run for a period of 6 weeks, from early January 2007 to mid February 2007.
- 4.3 In line with the approach taken recently for Upper Arley and Harvington Conservation Areas no Management Proposals have been produced for Churchill Conservation Area.
- 4.4 The draft Character Appraisal was considered by the Community and Regeneration Committee on 5th December 2007.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Arrangements for a public consultation on the draft Conservation Area Appraisal can be undertaken within existing agreed budgets.

6.0 LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The proposed Conservation Area Appraisal has been drawn up in accordance with the guidance produced by English Heritage.

7.0 RISK MANAGEMENT

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

8.0 CONCLUSION

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

9.0 CONSULTEES

- 9.1 Head of Legal and Democratic Services
- 9.2 Local Ward Members for the Churchill area

10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 Adopted District Local Plan (Jan. 2004)
- 10.2 Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals: English Heritage (Feb. 2006)

30.11.07