

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

**CABINET MEETING**  
**20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2007**

**The List of Buildings of Local Architectural and/or Historic Interest**  
**(The Local List) – Bewdley Parish**

<b>OPEN</b>	
<b>COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:</b>	<b>A Better Environment</b>
<b>CORPORATE PLAN THEME:</b>	<b>Enhancing Cultural Life</b>
<b>KEY PRIORITY:</b>	<b>Local Heritage</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	<b>Councillor Stephen Clee</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	<b>Head of Planning, Health &amp; Environment</b>
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<b>APPENDICES</b>	<b>Appendix 1: Methodology and Criteria for Local List Properties</b>  <b>Appendix 2: The Draft Local List for Bewdley</b>  Appendix 2 has been circulated electronically and a public inspection copy is available on request (see front cover for details)

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To present Cabinet with a draft List of Buildings of Local Architectural and/or Historic Interest (The Local List) for the parish of Bewdley, and to seek authority to undertake a public consultation on the proposals.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

The Cabinet is asked to **DECIDE** that:

- 2.1 **The draft Local List for the Parish of Bewdley, as set out in Appendix 2 to the Cabinet Report, be supported and that officers be authorised to undertake a public consultation on the Draft List before reporting back with a further recommendation.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment states that there are many buildings which are valued for their contribution to the local scene, or for local historical associations, and are not protected through Statutory Listing. It

advises that it is open for planning authorities to draw up lists of such locally important buildings, and to formulate local plan policies for their protection.

- 3.2 In line with this advice, the Adopted District Local Plan states (in paragraph 8.11), the District Council's intention to compile a Local List of Buildings and Structures.
- 3.3 Objective 33 of the Local Plan is to "safeguard the particular characteristics of the District's urban and rural environments that are unique, or commonly associated with the District." This reflects the Council's corporate plan objective of preserving our local heritage to enhance the cultural richness of the District.
- 3.4 The criteria and methodology for the Local List of Buildings of Architectural and/or Historic Interest, was adopted by Council in October 2004 along with the initial Local List for Kidderminster. Further to this, an initial Local List for Stourport-on-Severn was adopted in June 2006.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 In order to be able to assess and justify properties for inclusion on the Local List, a set of criteria were adopted by Council October 2004 and are included in Appendix 1 of this report. One of the principle points is that whilst a property does not need to meet all criteria, it should meet at least one, and needs to be of a definite quality and character.
- 4.2 An initial survey of Bewdley Parish has been undertaken, and an initial draft Local List has subsequently been drawn up, included in Appendix 2. This forms the third phase of the Local List, and future surveys will progress to outlying areas of the District, as staff resources permit.
- 4.3 The initial survey of Bewdley parish has identified about 170 buildings of either of local architectural or historical note, varying from walls originally forming the boundaries of large houses, such as Springhill House, to Arts and Crafts houses forming the pattern and position of later settlements including Highclere. Several sandstone cottages and buildings have also been identified, constructed in a local vernacular style, and in locally quarried materials.
- 4.4 All local Ward Members for both Bewdley & Arley, and Wribbenhall have been consulted on the draft List proposals.

#### **Method of Public Consultation**

- 4.5 In order to progress the Local List it is considered that a consultation process should be undertaken with all affected persons. This would include the local Civic Society, the owner and/or occupier of the property, the Town Council, and other interested parties. The consultation would take the form of public notification of intent, through advertising, and through a mail-drop to each individual property, enclosing a leaflet describing the proposals, the effects on the owner/ occupier, and a list of properties recommended for inclusion within the Local List. Details of the proposals would also be published on the Council's web-site. The consultation would run for a period of 6 weeks.
- 4.6 The results of the consultation will be the subject of a future report to the Community and Regeneration Committee, and Cabinet, in March 2008.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Arrangements for a public consultation on the draft Local List for Bewdley Parish can be undertaken within existing agreed budgets.

#### **6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The proposed Local List for Bewdley Parish has been drawn up in accordance with the guidance produced by English Heritage, and the Adopted Criteria and Methodology, which can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.

#### **7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

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

#### **8. CONCLUSION**

- 8.1 A draft List of Buildings of Local Architectural and/or Historic Interest (Local List) has been compiled for Bewdley Parish, 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. CONSULTEES**

- 9.1 Head of Legal and Democratic Services
- 9.2 Ward Members for Bewdley & Arley, and Wribbenhall.

**10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10.1 Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 Adopted District Local Plan (January 2004)

30.11.07