

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**CABINET
25TH JANUARY 2011****Draft Areley Kings Conservation Area Appraisal – Consultation Proposals**

OPEN	
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	A Better Environment for Today and Tomorrow
CORPORATE PLAN AIM::	A Sustainable Environment
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor S J M Clee
DIRECTOR:	Director of Planning and Regulatory Services
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APPENDICES:	Appendix 1 - Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal for the Areley Kings Conservation Area <i>The appendix to this report has been circulated electronically and a public inspection copy is available on request. (See front cover for details.)</i>

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

2. 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.
- 2.2 The Director of Planning and Regulatory Services be given delegated authority to make any final amendments as suggested at paragraph 4.3 of this report.
- 2.3 Officers be authorised to undertake a public consultation on the Appraisal before reporting back with a further recommendation.

3. 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 Areley Kings Conservation Area was designated in 1991 but until now no formal Character Appraisal has been prepared.

4. 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 letter 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 period will be for 6 weeks, from February 2011 to March 2011.
- 4.3 At the time of writing, there remains one paragraph to be finalised for the Draft Appraisal, referencing trees and their impact on the area. However, it is felt that this will not significantly alter the document, and that this will be finalised prior to being released as a consultation document.
- 4.4 Local Ward Members and Members of the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee have been consulted on the draft Appraisal (any comments received will be included in this report).

Method of Public Consultation

- 4.5 If the consultation is authorised, the period will be for six weeks from February 2011 to March 2011.
- 4.6 The consultation will consist of a small pamphlet being sent to each of the owners and occupiers of all the properties within the Area, the Parish and Town Councils, the Civic Societies, and other interested groups.
- 4.7 A web-version of the Appraisal will be published on the Council's web-site, and facility to comment on the proposals on-line will be made available.
- 4.8 The draft Appraisal will also be held in the Worcestershire Hub in the Town Hall in Kidderminster for public reference, during the period of public consultation.
- 4.9 Results of the consultation will be the subject of a future report to Cabinet.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

6. 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. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 There are no risk management issues arising from this report. The Conservation Area has already been designated, and the Appraisal is a statement analysing the special character of the Area.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment Screening has been undertaken for Conservation Area Appraisals. This identified that Conservation Area Appraisals have no discernable impacts on the six equality strands.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 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.

10. CONSULTEES

- 10.1 Director of Legal and Corporate Services.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1 Planning Policy Guidance Note 15.
11.2 Adopted District Local Plan (January 2004).
11.3 Guidance On Conservation Area Appraisals : English Heritage (August 2005).