



BASSETLAW

DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON GROUP

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in
The Ballroom,
Town Hall, Retford,
on
Wednesday, 13th October 2010
at
7.00 p.m.

(Please note time and venue)

**(Please turn off mobile telephones during meetings - In case of emergency
Members can be contacted on the Council's mobile telephone)**

Bassetlaw - Serving North Nottinghamshire

District Council Offices, Potter Street, Worksop, Notts. S80 2AH.

PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON GROUP

Membership 2010/11

Councillors H. M. Brand, R. B. Carrington-Wilde, D. Challinor, G. Freeman,
M. T. Gray, D A Hare, F. Hart, J. B. Rickells, Miss M. Stokes

Substitute Members: Any Member

Quorum: 3 Members

Lead Officer for this Meeting

Mr. S. B. Brown - Ext. 3767

Administrator for this Meeting

Mrs. J. A. Hamilton - Ext. 3146

PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON GROUP

Wednesday, 13th October 2010

AGENDA

1. SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES FOR 15 MINUTES TO ALLOW QUESTIONS
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS
(Members' and Officers' attention is drawn to the attached notes and form)
 - (a) Members
 - (b) Officers
4. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14TH JULY 2010 * (pages 1-5)
5. MINUTES FOR ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION * (page 7)
6. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST * (page 9)

SECTION A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PUBLIC

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

7. CENSUS 2011 – Presentation from the Census Area Manager +
8. ITEMS FROM PARISH COUNCILS
 - (a) Anti-Social Behaviour – Mattersey Parish Council +
(Response from the Community Safety Team who will be in attendance to answer any other questions)
9. ITEMS SUBMITTED BY BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL
 - (a) Local Development Framework Update – October 2010 * (page 11)
 - (b) New Conservation Area Designations – Briefing Note * (pages 13-16)

Exempt Information Items

The press and public are likely to be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

SECTION B - ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None

Other Decisions

None

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

- * Report attached
- + Verbal presentation

NOTES:

1. The papers enclosed with this Agenda are available in large print if required.
 2. Copies can be requested by contacting us on 01909-533146 or by e-mail julie.hamilton@bassetlaw.gov.uk
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DECLARATION OF INTEREST

COMMITTEE

DATE

NAME OF MEMBER :

Levels of Interest

- 1. Personal
- 2. Personal and prejudicial

Agenda Item No.	REASON *	Level of Interest (1 or 2)
Signed		
Dated		

Note:

* When declaring an interest you must also state clearly the reason for your declaration.

Completion of this form is to aid the accurate recording of your interest in the Minutes. The signed form should be provided to the Minuting Clerk at the end of the meeting.

A nil return is not required.

It is still your responsibility to disclose any interests which you may have at the commencement of the meeting and at the commencement of the appropriate Agenda item.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

HOW TO USE THIS FORM

There are now only two types of Declaration of Interest:

Level 1 – Personal)	Details can be found in the Councillors
)	Code of Conduct which is contained in
)	the Council's Constitution (a summary is
Level 2 – Personal and Prejudicial)	printed below)

Upon receipt of the attached form you will need to enter the name and date of the Committee and your own name. By looking at the Agenda you will no doubt know immediately which Agenda Items will require you to make a Declaration of Interest.

Fill in the Agenda Item number in the first column of the form.

Enter the subject matter and any explanations you may wish to add in the second column.

In the third column you will need to enter **either** level 1 if you are declaring a personal interest, **or** level 2 if you are declaring a personal and prejudicial interest.

The form must then be signed and dated. Please remember that if during the actual meeting you realise that you need to declare an interest on an additional Agenda Item number please simply amend the form during the meeting.

The form must be handed into the Committee Administrator at the end of the meeting.

NB. The following is a summary prepared to assist Members in deciding at the actual meetings their position on INTERESTS it is not a substitute for studying the full explanation regarding INTERESTS, which is contained in the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for Councillors, which is legally binding.

Members and Officers are welcome to seek, PREFERABLY WELL IN ADVANCE of a meeting advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer on INTERESTS.

Personal Interests

May relate to employment or business interests
May relate to property interests
May relate to contents
May relate to interests in other bodies
OR if a decision on the matter to be discussed:
MIGHT REASONABLY BE REGARDED AS AFFECTING (A MEMBER OR OFFICER) TO A GREATER EXTENT THAN OTHER COUNCIL TAX PAYERS, RATEPAYERS OR INHABITANTS OF THE AUTHORITY'S AREA, the well being or financial position of himself, a relative or a friend or any employment, business, interest, etc. of such a person.

Prejudicial Interests

A Member with a personal interest **ALSO** has a prejudicial interest if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Members judgement of the public interest.
(Note – there are special provisions which may exclude the above provisions in certain circumstances.)

Action to be Taken – Personal Interests

Must disclose to the meeting
- existence of the interest
- the nature of the interest

Action to be Taken – Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Must:-
- declare existence and nature
- withdraw from the room
- not seek improperly to influence a decision on the matter.
(Note – there are some exceptions when acting in a scrutiny capacity.)

DRAFT

PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 14th July 2010 at Worksop Town Hall

Present :

Councillor F Hart (Chair)

Councillors: H M Brand, R B Carrington-Wilde, D Challinor, G Freeman, M T Gray, D A Hare, Miss M Stokes and Mrs K Sutton.

Parish Council Representatives: G Brown, H Burton, C Fraser, L Jefferies, B Marchant, P Nicholson, L Perry, J Rickards, H Wright and others.

Officers in attendance: S Brown, J Burley, L Dore, S Pearson, K Tarburton

Members of Standards Committee: Councillor Mrs V A Bowles, Mr G Law and Mr B Letherland.

1. NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillors F Hart and Miss M Stokes were proposed for the position of Chairman.

RESOLVED that Councillor F Hart be appointed Chairman of the Parish Councils Liaison Group for the ensuing year.

(Councillor Hart took the Chair.)

2. NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillors H M Brand and M T Gray were proposed for the position of Vice-Chairman.

RESOLVED that Councillor H M Brand be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Parish Councils Liaison Group for the ensuing year.

3. COUNCILLOR M BENNETT

As this was the first Council meeting since the announcement had been made, a one-minute silence was held in respectful remembrance of Councillor M Bennett who had died earlier that morning following a short illness.

4. SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES FOR 15 MINUTES TO ALLOW QUESTIONS

(a) Wind-Farms

A statement was made by a representative of Sturton-le-Steeple Parish Council to advise that they were strongly opposed to any wind-farm being established in that parish or any adjacent parishes. They were writing to all Trent-side parishes, including those in Lincolnshire, in order to co-ordinate opposition with clear objective criteria for any future proposals for wind-farms.

(b) New Conservation Areas

Concern was raised that the new Conservation Areas, proposed and agreed at Planning Committee on 16th June, had not been consulted upon with the respective Parish Councils.

There had been no notification or information about the decisions proposed or any information about how an appeal could be made. They had expected there would be consultation afterwards if not before but had heard nothing. Parish Councils had only found out about the new Conservation Areas via the Retford Times newspaper. A request was made for the new Conservation Areas to be discussed at the next Parish Councils Liaison Group meeting.

The Senior Support Services Manager advised that the Council's Planning Policy Unit would be happy to attend any Parish Council meeting to discuss any concerns such as this or other matters relating to the Local Development Framework.

(c) Notification of Parish Councils Liaison Group Meetings

A Parish Councillor advised that lack of notification of what date questions should be raised prior to Parish Councils Liaison Group meetings was causing frustration.

The Senior Support Services Manager confirmed that the information was sent to each Parish Clerk, however, this same information could also be sent to the Chairman of each Parish Council if a name and address was supplied.

AGREED that a request be made to all Parish Council Clerks to provide name and contact details for their Chairman.

5. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J B Rickells and the Clerk for East Markham and Elkesley Parish Councils.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

(a) Members

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

(b) Officers

There were no declarations of interest by officers.

7. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH FEBRUARY 2010

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2010 be approved.

8. MINUTES FOR ACTION

With reference to 37(a), Bulky Refuse Collection Service, the Senior Support Services Manager advised that at Cabinet on 13th July 2010, it had been agreed that the six-weekly service should cease from 7th August 2010 and that a reduced charge service of £5 per collected item, be introduced across the District.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Minutes for Action be received.
2. The matter of the six-weekly waste collection service be further discussed under 'Any Other Business'

9. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

At Minute No 18(i), the Senior Support Services Manager advised that there were a number of issues awaiting clarification regarding a review of Safer Neighbourhood Groups. He proposed to invite the Police for a full discussion at the next meeting.

A Ward Member advised that correspondence about the review had been sent to Ward members if they were linked to Safer Neighbourhood Groups and also to Parish Councils if they were involved.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Outstanding Minutes List be received.
2. The Police be invited to attend the next meeting of the Parish Councils Liaison Group to discuss the review of the Safer Neighbourhood Groups.

SECTION A - ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PUBLIC

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

10. ITEMS REQUESTED BY PARISH COUNCILS

None.

11. ITEMS SUBMITTED BY BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL

(a) Presentation on the Corporate Plan 2010 - 2013

The Head of Community Engagement and Performance presented the Council's new Corporate Plan which sets out the Council's priorities for the next three years. The document is the result of a six-month project and details the Council's four priorities: to improve customer satisfaction; to regenerate the area and improve the environment that people live in; to support a vibrant local economy; to improve the quality and choice of housing.

Questions raised by the Group included antisocial behaviour, communication between the County and District Council, countryside fly-tipping and a request for the Council's Corporate Plan to be forwarded to the Chairman of each Parish Council.

AGREED that:

1. The presentation be received.
2. A copy of the Council's Corporate Plan 2010/2013 booklet 'This is Bassetlaw: Building a Confident Future' be sent to each Parish Council for the attention of the Chairman.

(b) Presentation on LEADER Funding

The Local Action Group Manager presented a slideshow detailing information about the North Notts LEADER project, which is a European and Government funded project to increase and support the rural economy. He advised on the type of projects that the funding could support, the eligibility criteria and the process of application.

In answer to a query he advised that the project funding is available until 2013.

RESOLVED that:

1. The presentation be received.
2. A copy of the slideshow presentation be forwarded to all Parish Councils.

(c) Rural Play Scheme

The Rural Officer passed on the comments of disappointment from the Council's Parks and Open Spaces management team that the conference on rural play due to be held on 15th July has had to be cancelled through lack of support.

Funding is available to help provide new play facilities through the Rural Playbuilder Scheme and application forms have already been forwarded to each Parish Council. To date, only three completed applications have been received.

The Rural Officer advised that the deadline for receipt of completed applications is 31st August 2010 and that if any assistance is needed in completing the forms, she is more than happy to help.

RESOLVED that:

1. The report be noted.
2. Contact details for the Rural Officer and brief details of the Rural Playbuilder Scheme be forwarded to all Parish Councils.

(d) Local Development Framework

The Senior Support Services Manager presented a report from the Planning Policy and Conservation Manager which provided an update of the Local Development Framework relating to the Council's Core Strategy document.

Following events around the District, all representations are to be collated and along with any new research will be used to produce a 'pre-submission' document. This will be consulted on for a further six weeks prior to a formal submission to the Secretary of State with an anticipated adoption by Spring 2011. There is, however, still the opportunity at the moment for formal responses to be made and Parish Councils should contact the Planning Policy and Conservation Manager direct.

The report also advised that work is to begin shortly on the Site Allocations document which will consider new sites for development. Parish Councils will be consulted on the methodology for selecting potential development sites, as well as on the 'long list' of sites. The process from start to finish is likely to take twelve months.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

SECTION B - ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

None.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

(a) Six-Weekly Waste Collection Service

Concern was raised about the lack of consultation with and notification of the new arrangements regarding the cessation of the six-weekly waste collection service. There was confusion as it had been thought by some that following the last Parish Councils Liaison Group meeting, there was much more consultation time. However, it was now reported that a decision to remove the provision had been made at the Cabinet meeting on 13th July 2010 that the service would cease in early August.

The Senior Support Services Manager advised that discussion had commenced in November 2009 when it had been agreed that consultation would commence. At the Parish Councils Liaison Group meeting in February 2010, the Director of Community Services had attended and a lengthy discussion had taken place. It had been recorded in the Minutes that Parish Councils should continue to consult with the Council on the issue.

He added that: the decision was subject to the 'call-in' period; the bulky waste collection service was to be reduced in cost from £11 to £5 per item; waste from the six-weekly service had to go to landfill as it could not be recycled; the £65k saving from the service was to be re-invested into educational programmes about the importance and benefits of recycling.

In response, Parish Council representatives considered that: they were against losing the service which was well used; they did not see how it was going to save money; the consultation was a 'sham' as information in the Budget Book indicated a decision had been made before the Cabinet meeting; Councillor Burton should be thanked for working tirelessly in support of the six-weekly service being retained; it is a further reduction in services for people living in rural areas; the District Council should put further pressure on the County Council to upgrade the household waste recycling amenity at Hallcroft.

The Senior Support Services Manager advised that the Council had made representations to the County Council regarding access to and upgrading of the Hallcroft site and that it had been raised at Leader and Chief Executive Officer level. The County Council had advised that the matter was still under review.

RESOLVED that concerns of the Parish Council representatives about the loss of the Six-Weekly Waste Collection Service be noted.

As there was no other business to be discussed the Chairman closed the meeting.

MINUTES FOR ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION SHEET

PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON GROUP

14/07/10

FROM: Senior Democratic Services
Officer

TO: SSSM = Senior Support Services Manager
DSO = Democratic Services Officer

The following decisions are brought to your attention for action by the appropriate officers within your Service:

9. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

18(i) Future of Safer Neighbourhood Groups

RESOLVED that:

- (2) The Police be invited to attend the next meeting of the Parish Councils Liaison Group to discuss the review of the Safer Neighbourhood Groups.

SSSM

11. ITEMS SUBMITTED BY BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL

(a) Presentation of the Corporate Plan

RESOLVED that:

- (2) A copy of the Council's Corporate Plan 2010/2013 booklet 'This is Bassetlaw: Building a Confident Future' be sent to each Parish Council for the attention of the Chairman.

DSO

(b) Presentation on LEADER Funding

RESOLVED that:

- (2) A copy of the slideshow presentation be forwarded to all Parish Councils.

DSO

(c) Rural Play Scheme

RESOLVED that:

- (2) Contact details for the Rural Officer and brief details of the Rural Playbuilder Scheme be forwarded to all Parish Councils.

DSO

PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON GROUP

Wednesday, 13th October 2010

OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

Members please note that the updated positions are shown in bold type following each item.
(SSSM = Senior Support Services Manager)

<u>Min. No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Officer Responsible</u>
18(i)	14.10.09	Future of Safer Neighbourhood Groups	Agreed that the Community Safety Co-ordinator be invited to a future meeting to discuss the work of the Council's Community Safety Unit The Community Safety Co-ordinator be invited to a future meeting when the future direction of the Safer Neighbourhood Groups is known	SSSM
9.	14.7.10	Outstanding Minutes List	2) The Police be invited to attend the next meeting of the Parish Councils Liaison Group to discuss the review of the Safer Neighbourhood Groups.	SSSM

Verbal update to be given at the meeting

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK UPDATE
October 2010

Core Strategy Document

The final formal public consultation on the Core Strategy, which will replace the Bassetlaw Local Plan, will commence in November. Letters will be coming out to all Parish Councils shortly, seeking views on the final content and asking for endorsement of the document or for comments on possible final changes.

We are particularly keen to ensure that the proposals are reflective of local opinion and provide Parishes with the flexibility to address the 'localism' agenda in relation to planning. We believe that we have responded sensibly to local concerns to date (e.g. in relation to village housing numbers and drainage requirements) but this will be the last chance for Parish Councils to comment on a document that will set planning policy for the District for the next 10-15 years. It is very important, therefore, that any outstanding concerns are voiced at this stage.

Experience from the previous two consultations has suggested that some Parish Councillors are not receiving relevant information from their Clerks until some way into the six-week consultation period. I would, therefore, like to take this opportunity to suggest that, where necessary, Councils discuss their internal mechanisms for passing on information relating to the LDF process as, clearly, we have little control over what happens to information once it is posted out at the beginning of the consultation period.

Following this consultation, the Core Strategy will be formally submitted to the Secretary of State, probably in very early 2011, ready for examination in public by an independent Planning Inspector. He/she will then test both the legal compliance of the Core Strategy and its 'soundness' in relation to national planning requirements. Anyone who has made representations on the Core Strategy will have a right to speak at the Examination and will be allocated a time by the Inspector.

Once the Examination is closed, and the Inspector's Report received by the Council, it is expected that the Core Strategy will be adopted (and replace the Local Plan) by Spring 2011 at the latest.

Site Allocations Document

The Core Strategy does not allocate new sites for development (be that for e.g. housing; employment; or retail). Such sites are set out in the Site Allocations Document. Work on this has already begun and Parishes will be contacted over the next couple of months as we seek to get your views on the levels of new development that you believe to be appropriate for your area and the specific sites that you believe to be most suitable. The whole process is likely to take at least 12 months from start to finish.

Should you have any further queries, please contact Richard Schofield (Planning Policy and Conservation Manager), on 01909 533403 or by email to richard.schofield@bassetlaw.gov.uk .

PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON GROUP - 13th OCTOBER
NEW CONSERVATION AREA DESIGNATIONS

Introduction

This report addresses queries raised by some Parish Council's regarding the lack of public consultation on designations of new conservation areas within the District, approved by Planning Committee in June 2010.

Background and legal framework

The Council has a statutory duty under section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to review the District's historic assets, and where it identifies areas of special architectural or historic interest, to designate them as conservation areas. The Conservation Team at Bassetlaw DC is constantly reviewing the historic environment of the District. The designations made in June 2010 arose from detailed survey work carried out during 2009 and 2010 and further designations are possible in the future.

Designation brings certain duties and controls to the local planning authority:

- Proposals will need to be formulated from time to time for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas in the form of a management plan;
- In exercising their planning powers, the local planning authority must pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas;
- The local planning authority is able to carry out urgent works to preserve unoccupied unlisted buildings in a conservation area.

The implications for property owners include:

- Greater restrictions to Permitted Development rights (what you may or may not do without permission);
- Conservation Area Consent is required to demolish any structure over 115m³, or any wall over 1m on a highway, waterway or open space, and 2m anywhere else;
- Notice must be given to the Council of any works to a tree.

The statutory definition of a conservation area is: "an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance" (s.69 (1)).

The Act does not specify to whom the preservation or enhancement of the area must be desirable, but it is clear that the local planning authority is obliged to determine which parts of its area are of special interest. This approach is echoed by Charles Mynors, a Barrister and practitioner at the

planning bar who specialises on heritage legislation¹. In addition, case law has affirmed that in fulfilling their statutory duty to determine which parts of their District are special, the weight given to any particular factor is for the authority to decide (see, for example, *R v Surrey C.C. ex p. Oakimber Ltd 1995*).

At Bassetlaw, the Conservation Team has utilised national guidance from the English Heritage publications *Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals* (2006) and *Guidance on the Management of Conservation Areas* (2006) to provide a framework for considering what is special about the District's environment. Factors considered, for example, include:

- Archaeological and historic sites/monuments/buildings (this covers a wide range of designated and undesignated heritage assets, including, for example, listed buildings, registered and unregistered parks and gardens, scheduled monuments, areas of archaeological interest, buildings of local historic or architectural interest)
- Architectural and artistic interest
- Social, economic and demographic background
- Current and past land use
- Geological and topographical mapping
- Building types, groups of buildings, density of buildings
- Plot layout/building orientation and the importance of gaps between buildings and any wider open spaces
- Place names and historical references (e.g. road and transport evolution)
- Aerial photos
- Important views, vistas and landscapes
- Historic Environment Record (HER) data

Where officers feel that a character area is composite in terms of historic and/or architectural interest, it will seek approval from Planning Committee to formally designate under section 69 of the Act.

There is no statutory right of appeal against a building being included in a conservation area, although there is nothing stopping an individual owner or amenity group asking the authority to cancel the designation or amend it. Individuals or groups may contact the Conservation Team at anytime to discuss this.

More significantly, there is no statutory duty to consult with the local community (although the local planning authority must notify the Secretary of State and English Heritage of designations. The authority must also advertise the designations in the London Gazette and at least one local newspaper, as there often is in relation to the production of local development plans or certain planning applications.

¹ Mynors, C. (2006) *Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Monuments (4th Ed.)*. London: Sweet & Maxwell. Pages 132-139 detail designation procedures.

Whilst public consultation is always an aspiration, giving advance notice could trigger works to sensitive buildings or parts of an area, which will require permission when the designation comes into force, that then undermine the very character that the designation is trying to preserve.

Support for new Conservation Areas

In October last year, the Council's Planning Policy Team held a series of road show events to allow for consultation on the LDF Issues and Options Core Strategy and Development Management DPD. The Conservation Team also attended these events, asking consultees and members of the public whether greater protection was needed in historic areas, whether further conservation areas should be designated and, if so, where.

The results of this process, as well as from follow up questions during the more recent consultation event on the Preferred Options Core Strategy, were used to inform our ongoing review of the District's heritage assets (e.g. which areas to look at in detail). There was an overwhelmingly positive response to the questions posed and a number of the areas now designated were flagged up as being worthy of conservation area status.

Future consultation - Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans

The best way of engaging with conservation area issues is through the consultation that will take place on the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Proposals, which are produced for each individual area once it is designated. These documents set out in detail what is special about the area and provide detailed management proposals to help conserve and enhance the character of the area. This process allows us to ask the questions, 'have we got the boundary correct? If not, where and why not?'

Experience would suggest that most criticism tends to be that the Council has not included enough of an area in a new designation. We will, however, take all comments very seriously, and if justified, amend the area. It should be noted that whilst a conservation area boundary as a whole is regarded to be of special interest, it is possible that not all parts of it are of equal value². It is unlikely, therefore, that the Conservation Team would support the creation of 'islands' within a conservation area to exclude specific sites or buildings.

Given the numbers of conservation areas in the District, and the small staff resource to 'manage' them, the production of Appraisals is not a swift process³. We do, however, have a rolling programme of Appraisal production and aim to produce as many as possible each year.

² This has been reflected in a number of legal cases; see Mynors (2006), pg 138.

³ To date, the Council has consulted on and published 2 Appraisals, and has a further 3-4 planned in the next 6-12 months. In the case of Retford South, public consultation led to a significant increase of the conservation area boundary.

Conclusion

Conservation areas are not there to prevent development. The main function of conservation area status is to control demolition and works to trees, although new development is rightly held to stricter design standards to help conserve and enhance the quality of the conservation area. There are also, furthermore, opportunities for potential enhancement schemes and grants, and mechanisms for tackling redundant/ derelict buildings at risk. The Conservation Team is always happy to meet Parish Councils to discuss all conservation matters, and/or provide on-site advice to property owners contemplating development proposals. Detailed advice on the implications of designation, as well as design guidance and copies of the maps are available on our website.

For further information, please contact Oliver Scott (Conservation Officer) on 01909 533191 or at oliver.scott@bassetlaw.gov.uk .