

**STONELY CONSERVATION AREA:
MANAGEMENT PLAN
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT
(Report by Planning Policy Manager)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Cabinet is asked to consider the attached draft document and approve it for consultation purposes. Once representations have been received and considered, it is intended to seek Cabinet's endorsement of the documents for use as material considerations in the context of planning proposals and as a future strategy for the enhancement of the Conservation Area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The District Council is already committed to the production of Conservation Area Character Statements to provide an analysis of the special interest of all the district's 63 Conservation Areas. These documents will be used to guide decisions on planning matters and other changes to the fabric of Conservation Areas to ensure that the character and appearance of Conservation Areas is not diminished.
- 2.2 A Character Statement for Stonely was produced in 2003 and it complies with English Heritage's recent guidance on conservation area appraisal. However, at that time, national guidance had not advanced to explain what was required in terms of the future management of the area. This has now been rectified with the publication of *Guidance on the management of Conservation Areas* by English Heritage in March 2006, and further onus has been placed on the District Council through BVPI 219c which requires the production of Management Plans for each designated Conservation Area on a rolling five year programme of review.

3. THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 3.1 The Management Plan has been developed as a partner document to the existing Character Statement. It identifies a series of key issues which influence the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and recommends methods or solutions for improvement.
- 3.2 The intention is for the Management Plan to form a basis for on-going discussion with the local community and, jointly, to bring about enhancement of the Conservation Area through policy refinements and physical works. The Plan can evolve during its use, and will be formally reviewed every five years.

- 3.3 Management Plans are considered to represent best practice and are intended to engender a spirit of joint-working between the local planning authority and the local community.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That Cabinet approves the Draft Management Plan for the Stonely Conservation Area for a period of public consultation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Stonely Conservation Area Character Statement 2003

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