

CABINET

12 NOVEMBER 2021

REFERENCE FROM THE PLANNING POLICY & LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE

A.5 CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER APPRAISAL AND MANAGEMENT PLANS AND CRITERIA FOR LOCAL LISTING OF 'NON DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS'

(Report prepared by Ian Ford, Committee Services Manager)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To enable the Cabinet to give consideration to recommendations made to it by the Planning Policy & Local Plan Committee in relation to the first five in a series of 'Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plans' that had been prepared for the Council by Essex Place Services, as well as proposals for the inclusion of buildings and structures on a 'Local Heritage List'.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Planning Policy & Local Plan Committee ("the Committee"), at its meeting held on 19 October 2021 (Minute 16 refers), gave consideration to a comprehensive report (and appendices) of the Acting Director (Planning) which had reported to it the first five in a series of 'Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plans' that had been prepared for the Council by Essex Place Services, as well as the proposed criteria for the inclusion of buildings and structures on a 'Local Heritage List'. The report had also sought the Committee's recommendation to Cabinet that they be published for public consultation purposes and that proposals for a Local List of non-designated heritage assets be invited.

The Committee's decision at its meeting held on 19 October 2021 was as follows:-

"RESOLVED *unanimously that the Planning Policy and Local Plan Committee –*

- (a) approves, in principle, the new Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plans for: Clacton Seafront (Appendix 1); Dovercourt (Appendix 2); St. Osyth (Appendix 3); Thorpe-le-Soken (Appendix 4); and Thorpe Station & Maltings (Appendix 5); as well as the proposed Criteria for assessing buildings and structures for inclusion on a 'Local Heritage List' of non-designated heritage assets (Appendix 6);*
- (b) recommends to Cabinet that the above documents (forming Appendices 1-6) be published for consultation with the public and other interested parties;*
- (c) recommends further to Cabinet that a six month exercise be undertaken to invite suggestions from the community and other interested parties for structures to include on the Local Heritage List of non-designated heritage assets; and*
- (d) notes that Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plans for the District's other Conservation Areas will be brought before the Committee in due course over the next 12 months."*

RECOMMENDATION

That, subject to Cabinet's consideration of the recommendations of the Planning Policy & Local Plan Committee arising from its meeting held on 19 October 2021, Cabinet resolves:

- (a) that the new Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plans for: Clacton Seafront (Appendix 1); Dovercourt (Appendix 2); St. Osyth (Appendix 3); Thorpe-le-Soken (Appendix 4); and Thorpe Station & Maltings (Appendix 5); as well as the proposed Criteria for assessing buildings and structures for inclusion on a 'Local Heritage List' of non-designated heritage assets (Appendix 6) be published for consultation with the public and other interested parties; and
- (b) that a six month exercise be undertaken to invite suggestions from the community and other interested parties for structures to include on the Local Heritage List of non-designated heritage assets.

CURRENT POSITION

Cabinet is now requested to consider the recommendations submitted to it by the Planning Policy & Local Plan Committee.

The Acting Director's (Planning) Report and accompanying Appendices which were considered by the Planning Policy & Local Plan Committee at its meeting held on 19 October 2021 are attached as Appendices to this report.

FURTHER INFORMATION BY WAY OF BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

At the meeting of the Planning Policy & Local Plan Committee on 19 October 2021, Members were aware that the District of Tendring contained a wealth of 'heritage assets' which included over 900 listed buildings, 20 Conversation Areas, four Registered Parks and Gardens and a variety of scheduled monuments for which the Council had a duty to preserve, or enhance, through its decision making as the Local Planning Authority.

Members had further recalled that, following its recommendation by that Committee, the Cabinet had agreed to formally adopt the Council's 'Heritage Strategy' in March 2020. That Strategy had contained a number of recommended actions for the Council and its partners which included reviewing and updating Conservation Area Appraisals and preparing a 'Local List' of non-designated heritage assets within the District.

It had been reported to the Committee that Officers had worked with Essex Place Services to review and update the Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans for all 20 of the District's Conservation Areas and that it was now proposed that those were published for consultation before being finalised and formally adopted by the Council.

The Committee was also informed that the first five of the new Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plans proposed for publication related to the:-

- Clacton Seafront Conservation Area;
- Dovercourt Conservation Area;
- St Osyth Conservation Area;
- Thorpe-le-Soken Conservation Area; and

- Thorpe Station and Maltings Conservation Area.

Members had been informed that those Conservation Areas had been put forward for consideration and publication first because they had been identified on Historic England's Register of Conservation Areas at Risk. It was proposed that the appraisals undertaken for the remainder of the District's Conservation Areas would be presented to the Committee and, subject to Cabinet approval, published for consultation in batches over the course of the next 12 months.

The Committee was reminded that, throughout the District, there were also many historically important buildings which were not 'Listed' i.e. protected through their formal identification on Historic England's National List'. However, Local Planning Authorities had the power to prepare their own 'Local Heritage List' of 'non-designated' heritage assets which would give them a level of protection through the planning system when they were the subject of, or affected by, development proposals.

It had been reported to the Committee that the first stage of preparing a Local List was to agree a set of Criteria against which all proposed Locally Listed buildings and structures would be assessed against. It was also proposed that those criteria were also published for consultation before the Council began compiling the Local List, for which suggestions from the community would be invited in due course.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are no background papers (as defined by the Local Government Act 2000) arising from this report.

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Report of the Acting Director (Planning) (item A.2) to the meeting of the Planning Policy & Local Plan Committee held on 19 October 2021.

Appendix 1 - Clacton Seafront Conservation Area Appraisal

Appendix 2 – Dovercourt Conservation Area Appraisal

Appendix 3 – St Osyth Conservation Area Appraisal

Appendix 4 – Thorpe le Soken Conservation Area Appraisal

Appendix 5 – Thorpe Station and Maltings Conservation Area Appraisal

Appendix 6 – Local Heritage List