

Draft Worsthorne Conservation Area Appraisal – Consultation Report

February 2017

The draft appraisal was available for public comment during a six week consultation period starting on the 22nd September 2017 and finishing on 3rd November 2017. However, further comments received after the closure of the consultation period were also taken into account. An electronic copy of the draft appraisal was made available on the Council's website with clear signposts at www.burnley.gov.uk Hard copies of the appraisal were available to view at Burnley Town Hall, the Council's Contact Centre and Burnley Central Library.

Letters/emails were sent to external consultee together with hard copies of the Draft Appraisal where necessary:

Historic England	Lancashire County Council
Lancashire Gardens Trust	Briercliffe Society
Worsthorne with Hurstwood Parish Council	Church of Saint John the Evangelist
Burnley Civic Trust	Burnley Wildlife Conservation Forum

Elected Members for the area and internal officers (Development Control, Greenspaces and Streetscene) were informed of the Draft Conservation Area Appraisal by email.

The consultation exercise was promoted more widely through the Council's website and Facebook page.

This consultation reports outlines the comments received and the response that has been made to each; and any subsequent amendments to the final version of the Conservation Area Appraisal.

Consultee	Comment	Response
K Spence	Lower and Higher Bottin Farm are not included in this area yet are listed buildings along Extwistle Road dating back to approx 1642 and are of historical interest. Please could you let me know why they have not been included?	<p>Worsthorne Conservation Area was designated in 1978 following public consultation on the extent of the boundary. The purpose of the Conservation Area Appraisal is to describe those elements that are key to its special character and does not present an opportunity to review the boundary. Proposals for boundary changes are required to go through a quite separate, statutory process which would involve extensive public consultation.</p> <p>The Conservation Area boundary has been drawn tightly to reflect the extent of the village in 1890 taking in the principal streets, key buildings</p>

		<p>and green/open spaces that existed at that time and is deemed to be appropriate at present.</p> <p>Higher and Lower Bottin Farms have significance in their own right, and at a national level, and this is recognised in their status as Listed Buildings. They are vernacular farmhouses and have a character and appearance that is similar to the pre-eighteenth century buildings in the Conservation Area however Higher and Lower Bottin Farmhouse are not considered to contribute to the special interest of the Conservation Area due to being physically located some distance from the village.</p>
Cllr. David Heginbotham	<p>I have been involved with the development of Burnley and its surroundings areas for over 30 years. During that time, there have been several instances where development of a Rural Village has in my opinion been over stepped. As we cannot turn back the clock, we must ensure that in the future we preserve as many of our Rural Villages as is possible. Worsthorne Village, being an historical industrial village, and a stopping off place when the pack horse trails were in regular use, is an example of Burnley's Heritage. There have been in the past, applications to develop Worsthorne, which have been refused by the Planning Inspectorate. The reason given, was that further development along the roads leading into Worsthorne would change the character of it, and would become just another suburb of Burnley. Worsthorne must be preserved as a village, and I wish to add my support to that need which will ensure the conservation of WORSTHORNE AS A VILLAGE, and that the ancient and historical past of its Character be embedded in the proposals.</p>	<p>Comments are noted. Whilst conservation area status does lead to some additional planning constraints and considerations it should be recognised that Conservation Areas are not designated to stop change and future development but rather to ensure that change is managed in a controlled and sensitive manner so that the special character of the area and its setting is preserved or enhanced. The positive characteristics defined by the appraisal should be the starting point for further discussion with the local planning authority for development proposals that are being considered within or adjacent to the Conservation Area boundary.</p>
Historic England	<p>Although we are not a statutory consultee for Conservation Area Appraisals, our Historic Places Adviser has looked at this and has no comments to make.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
D Walker	<p>May I congratulate Burnley Council for the recognition given to the village of Worsthorne in the appraisal. However, despite the numerous references to residents being respectful and considerate in the submission of planning applications, very little enforcement is shown when people flaunt the rules.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Burnley Wildlife Forum	<p>Although not specifically mentioned in Section 3 there is also the significant area of green space in the south east of the Conservation Area in the Wallstreams area shown in green in the Townscape Appraisal Map.</p> <p>All of the areas of greenspace referred to in the appraisal have remained unchanged for a long time, comprising the traditional green space mix of mature specimen trees and formal close mown areas of grass. The areas of close mown grass are in need of being imaginatively improved so that they become more attractive features in the Conservation Area for the benefit of both people and wildlife conservation. Where appropriate the mown grass could be interspersed with visually attractive and wildlife friendly flowering plants and shrubs and areas of wildflower meadow. Good examples of potential are shown in fig 23 and fig 24 where these more attractive plants, shrubs and wildflower areas could be located as appropriate in the mown grass plots not planted up with daffodils and secondly in the graveyard of the former Wesleyan Chapel and St Johns Churchyard. With regards trees there is a predominance of two species, lime and sycamore and any opportunities for planting a more diverse range of native tree species such as Silver Birch, Alder, Rowan and especially Oak would not only benefit a wider range of wildlife species but also make for a more attractive arboreal features.</p>	<p>Comments noted. Additional paragraph added at 5.10 to read <i>Existing open/green spaces that are important to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area provide an opportunity for enhancement including planting of native trees, shrubs and plant species.</i></p>
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