

North Wiltshire DC



Date Of Meeting : 13/12/2004



Time Of Meeting : 19:00

Agenda Item No : 10

Page Number :

Report (Joint Report) Of

PURPOSE OF REPORT

REPORT NO. 10

Chippenham Conservation Area Statement

1. Purpose

1.1. To inform the Committee of progress to the production of proposals for the preservation and enhancement of Chippenham Conservation Area, in accordance with Section 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

2. Recommendations

2.1. The Chippenham Conservation Area Statement 'Consultation Draft – December 2004' be approved for the purposes of consultation in accordance with Section 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

3. Links to the corporate/business area objectives

3.1. Community Aim 3.4: Conservation Area designation and Conservation Area Statements conserve and enhance the District's built environment and landscape setting, to protect and promote the local distinctiveness of North Wiltshire's heritage.

3.2. Business Area Common Objectives: Progressing the Chippenham Conservation Area Statement will maintain performance against the agreed Urban Design work programme 2004-5.

4. Background Information

4.1. A Chairman's announcement regarding the Chippenham Conservation Area Statement was circulated at the 7th February 2000 Area 3 Committee, and which included the following:

"The Planning Authority has a duty to prepare proposals for preservation and enhancement for its designated Conservation Areas which North Wiltshire District Council does through its Conservation Area Statements work is shortly to commence on producing a Conservation Area Statement for Chippenham, which will identify an action plan of prioritised enhancement schemes throughout the Conservation Area and contain guidance

recommendations to secure the preservation of important features of the Conservation Area. "

4.2. A voluntary Working Group was first set up in 2000 to progress research and analysis. The research carried out to produce Conservation Area Statements often provides new information and analysis that suggests that the Conservation Area boundary should be altered. Proposed boundary changes were presented to the 12th July 2004 Area 3 Committee and, following consultation with Chippenham Town Council, a revised boundary was recommended by the 16th November 2004 Public Spaces and Local Plans Panel for designation by the next Executive Committee, which is due to meet on 2nd December 2004. A plan of the recommended Chippenham Conservation Area is attached as Appendix 1.

5. Current Position

5.1. It is considered that the document is now sufficiently finalised for the purposes of a consultation draft; to take account of further comment from the public, utility companies, County and Town Councils, English Heritage, other local and regional amenity bodies and representatives. This will take the form of distributing the document to interested parties, an exhibition at a local public venue for the week prior to the holding of a public meeting in Chippenham. Copies of the statement will be made available for viewing at the District and Town Council offices and the library. A poster and press release will be produced to advertise the exhibition and public meeting. Following this, a revised Statement is intended to be presented to the Public Spaces and Local Plans Panel for adoption as a relevant document relating various policies within the Local Plan..

5.2. A full colour copy of the proposed Consultation Draft document (which is over 200 pages in length) will be available for inspection in the Members Resources Room at the District Council offices from Monday 6th December 2004. Copies will also be distributed to the Committee Chairman and Chippenham Town Council.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. The Action Plan within the Conservation Area Statement identifies and prioritises a number of enhancements. It is intended that some of these may form the basis of future bids to the Area Committee and/or other bodies for partnership funding.

6.2. Graphic design for the final printed Statement and associated leaflet will be prepared in-house. The proposed design and format will be able to be viewed as part of the exhibition. Printing of the statement is expected to be done in-house with existing printing facilities from team revenue printing budgets.

7. Human Resources and Equal Opportunities implications

7.1. Progressing the Chippenham Conservation Area Statement is within the Urban Design work programme and therefore progressing them will have no impact upon internal human resources. Reduced membership of the Working Group has meant more officer time than originally programmed has been needed to produce the first draft. The Design and Estates Team have appointed new staff to the Urban Designer post, which was vacated in December 2003.

8. Community and Environmental Implications

8.1. Conservation Area Statements contain proposals to conserve and enhance the District's built environment and landscape setting, to protect and promote the local distinctiveness of North Wiltshire's heritage for the community.

Documents Used in Preparing this Report

Reports and Minutes of previous NWDC Committees.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Recommended Chippenham Conservation Area Boundary

**report FROM the DESIGN AND ESTATES TEAM LEADER to AREA 3 COMMITTEE 13TH
DECEMBER 2004**

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