

COMMITTEE:	PLANNING
DATE:	27 SEPTEMBER 2011
SUBJECT:	Draft Meads Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan
REPORT OF:	The Planning Policy Manager
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Ward(s):	MEADS
Purpose:	To seek authority to go out to public consultation on the draft Meads Conservation Area Appraisal.
Contact:	Rhiannon Rhys, Conservation Officer, Planning Policy, Unit, 1 Grove Road, Eastbourne Tel no: (01323) 415251 E-mail: rhiannon.rhys@eastbourne.gov.uk
Recommendation:	Members are asked to authorise public consultation on the draft Meads Conservation Area Appraisal.
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Council has a duty to review, formulate and publish appraisals and management plans for the preservation and enhancement of the Borough's 12 Conservation Areas. The draft Meads Conservation Area Appraisal sets out the special interest of the area and reviews the boundary of the existing Conservation Area, with a recommendation for the boundary to remain as it is. The Meads Conservation Area Appraisal is the third of a rolling Programme of Appraisals (Upperton Conservation Area was adopted in December 2010 and Warrior Square Conservation Area Appraisal was adopted in March 2011) to cover all the remaining Conservation Areas in the Borough. The next Conservation Area on the Programme of Appraisals is Torfields.

2.0 Draft Meads Conservation Area Appraisal

2.1 The purpose of the draft **Meads Conservation Area Appraisal** is to define the special architectural and historic interest of the designated area in the form of a detailed character analysis. The Character Appraisal includes a review of the Conservation Area boundary. The draft Appraisal also contains a Management Plan, which aims to manage change in ways that maintain and strengthen the area's special qualities.

3.0 Consultation Plan

3.1 Internal consultation has been carried out on the draft appraisal; the Conservation Area Advisory Group has also been consulted.

3.2 Subject to approval of the recommendations in this report, it is proposed to carry out public consultation on the draft Meads Conservation Area Appraisal. Consultation will be carried out with residents and occupiers of the area through advertising with local community groups. Copies of the document will be available

to view and download on the Council's website at www.eastbourne.gov.uk and at the Council's main office at 1 Grove Road, Eastbourne, during office hours for the 12 week consultation period. Copies of the relevant documentation will be sent to all statutory consultees and any other targeted groups where appropriate. A notice will be placed in the local newspaper (Eastbourne Gazette) and on the Council's website at www.eastbourne.gov.uk. This will advise where and when the document can be inspected, how copies can be obtained, the opening and closing date of the public consultation, and where to send representations. The consultation will take place for 12 weeks, starting on the 3rd October 2011 and running until the 23rd December 2011. This will be done in compliance with the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement.

- 3.3 Comments will be invited on the areas' special architectural and historic interest, the appropriateness of the boundary and the content of the draft Appraisal and Management Plan.
- 3.4 Any suggested boundary extensions will be reviewed after the public consultation on the draft document. The review of the boundaries will be assessed against the criteria set out in the Eastbourne Borough Council's Guidance Manual for Designation and Review of Conservation Areas, and adopted into the final Meads Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as part of the final recommendations.
- 3.5 A further report will then be brought back to this Committee, outlining the results of the public consultation and making final recommendations.

4.0 Financial and Staffing Implications:

- 4.1 The cost of the consultation will be met from within existing budgets and will largely consist of staff time.

5.0 Sustainability Implications

- 5.1 The conservation of heritage assets, which are a finite and diminishing resource, is an integral aspect of sustainable development. The designation and extension of the conservation areas will assist in the conservation of heritage assets.

6.0 Other Implications

- 6.1 There are no youth, anti-poverty, equality or community safety implications as a direct result of the draft documents.

7.0 Conclusion

- 7.1 The draft Meads Conservation Area Appraisal has been prepared according to English Heritage guidance and aims to set out, in a clear and concise manner, the special architectural and historic interest of the area and to provide information on the best approach to managing change, in order to conserve or enhance the special interest of the area.

Background Papers:

The Background Papers used in compiling this report were as follows:

Planning Policy Statement 5

Eastbourne Borough Plan (2001 – 2011)

Draft Meads Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

English Heritage: Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals

English Heritage: Guidance on the Management of Conservation Areas

English Heritage: Conservation Area Practice

Eastbourne Borough Council: Guidance Manual for Designation and Review of Conservation Areas