

# Chichester District Council

Planning Committee

6 April 2022

## Westbourne Conservation Area Appraisal including extension to cover Westbourne Cemetery

### 1. Contacts

#### Report Author:

Owen Broadway, Principal Conservation and Design Officer

Tel: 01243521152 Email: obroadway@chichester.gov.uk

### 2. Recommendation

#### 2.1 That the Committee:

- a) Note the contents of the report, and
- b) Approve for public consultation the updated Westbourne Conservation Area Appraisal (2022) including the recommendation for extending the conservation area to cover the site of the historic Westbourne Cemetery, Cemetery Lane,

### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Council has a duty under present legislation to designate those areas of Chichester District, outside of the South Downs National Park, considered to have outstanding historic or architectural interest as conservation areas and keep those designations under review.

### 4. Proposal

- 4.1 The original Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Westbourne was published in 2012. Historic England guidance recommends that conservation area appraisals should be subject to review to ensure that they are up to date and relevant. The more up-to-date an appraisal is the greater the weight that can be attached to it, for example at planning appeals.

- 4.2 As part of the appraisal process the existing conservation boundary was reviewed. Subsequently the Westbourne Cemetery on Cemetery Lane is recognised for its special architectural and historic interest and is recommended to be added to the Conservation Area.
- 4.3 The appraisal has been reviewed in compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and in accordance with guidance contained in Historic England Advice Note 1 (Second Edition): Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management (8 February 2019). The consultation draft of the revised appraisal document is attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.4 The following general updates and changes have been made to the character appraisal:
- a) Removal of previous recommendations that have since been adopted or are no longer relevant
  - b) Updating of legislation, policy and SPG references
  - c) Change in emphasis for installation of renewables in conservation area due to declaration of climate emergency and improved technical and visual characteristics
  - d) Addition of multiple references to non designated heritage assets to reflect significant change in emphasis within the NPPF and other national guidance
  - e) Change in emphasis of reference to contemporary design or materials to be more welcoming where appropriate
  - d) Addition of recommendation to include Westbourne cemetery within the conservation area boundary, including background and justification.

## **5. Proposed Consultation**

- 5.1 The draft appraisal and management proposals and recommendations for modification of the existing conservation area boundary are proposed to be the subject of public consultation between 7 April 2022 and 5 May 2022.
- 5.2 The consultation will comprise the following:
- a) The appraisal document will be sent as hard copies to Westbourne Parish Council
  - b) The appraisal document will be made available online and comments invited from:
    - i) Westbourne Parish Council
    - ii) Southbourne Parish Council
    - iii) West Sussex County Council

iv) Greening Westbourne

v) The Westbourne Local History Group

c) The consultation will be publicised on the Chichester District Council website and social media channels

5.3 Following consultation responses will be assessed against relevant criteria and a final report with recommendations will come back to this planning committee.

## 6. Resource and Legal Implications

6.1 The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 imposes duties on local planning authorities to designate Conservation Areas and from time to time to formulate and publish proposals for their preservation and enhancement.

6.2 The review of the appraisal has been undertaken in-house with existing staff. There will be costs in relation to advertising the conservation area changes.

## 7. Other Implications

<b>Crime and Disorder</b>	None
<b>Climate Change</b>	None
<b>Human Rights and Equality Impact</b>	None
<b>Safeguarding and Early Help</b>	None