

PLANNING COMMITTEE
26 JULY 2012

72 ADOPTION OF THE OXTON CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.

The Director of Regeneration, Housing and Planning informed Members of the completion of the Conservation Area Management Plan for the Oxtan Conservation Area. Wirral Council has prepared the Management plan in partnership with The Oxtan Society.

Members were advised that the Authority has a statutory duty to protect and enhance the character of conservation areas and to preserve its listed buildings in accordance with National Guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and other guidance. The Committee were informed that in order to meet those obligations, we need to develop policies which identify clearly what features of the area should be preserved or enhanced and set out how this can be done. Character appraisals provide a clear assessment and definition of an area's particular interest and management plans set out the action needed to protect it. Within this, the most important policy is a presumption against the loss of elements which have been identified in the character appraisal as making a positive contribution to the special interest for which the area was designated. Members were further advised that the Management Plan and Character Appraisal documents for Oxtan will eventually sit alongside the conservation policies contained within the Local Development Framework.

On a motion by Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Foulkes it was:

Resolved (10:0) That Members approve the adoption of the Management Plan as a material reference in planning and conservation matters, and that this report is referred to Cabinet for approval.