

## **Local Heritage List for Bromsgrove District –**

### **Overview and Scrutiny Board April 2024 update**

1 At the meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Board on the 11<sup>th</sup> March officers presented a report detailing the proposed changes to the Local Heritage List (LHL) strategy, and confirmation of the consultation arrangement for the local heritage list going forward.

2 As part of the discussion that followed members questioned the arrangements for member involvement in the LHL and the timescales for the completion of the LHL. Two recommendations we put forward for the Cabinet to consider, these recommendations were subsequently discussed and agreed at the Cabinet meeting of the 13<sup>th</sup> March.

1) That District Ward Councillors be directly involved in the consultation process for the Local Heritage List (LHL) in their respective ward areas.

2) That the final Local Heritage List (LHL) for Bromsgrove, covering the whole district, be completed and published within the next 18 months.

3 It was agreed that officers would prepare an update report for the next Overview and Scrutiny Board which set out the progress to date and set out how the LHL could be completed in 18 months.

### **Progress on the LHL to date**

Parishes/areas completed and ready to go out to consultation.

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Number of buildings surveyed</b>	<b>Number of buildings proposed for the draft list</b>	<b>Number of buildings rejected for the draft list</b>
Alvechurch	164	42	122
Belbroughton	280	40	240
Beoley	80	18	62
Dodford	136	29	107

4 As can be seen four the parishes have been surveyed and draft LHL's for these areas have been compiled and are ready to be consulted on in late spring 2024. This has involved the assessment of 660 buildings and structures resulting in 129 building and structures being proposed for the list.

## Parishes/areas currently being compiled

5 Three areas are currently being surveyed, Bromsgrove Town, Lickey and Blackwell Parish and Wythall Parish. Bromsgrove is the area which more than likely contains the highest number of buildings and structures of all of the areas we will survey. As it stands we have currently assessed 251 buildings and structures in Bromsgrove town of which there are a possible 89 for inclusion on the LHL at this point. The work on Bromsgrove town is still to be completed.

The breakdown of these buildings and structures by ward is as follows.

Ward	Number of buildings surveyed	Number of buildings proposed for the draft list	Number of buildings rejected for the draft list	Number of buildings which require further analysis
Aston Fields Ward	11	5	5	1
Bromsgrove Central Ward	37	18	16	3
Hill Top	3		3	
Charford Ward	2	2		
Lowes Hill Ward	20	9	8	3
Marlbrook Ward	3	1	1	1
Norton Ward	22	7	9	6
Perryfields Ward	2	1	1	
Rock Hill Ward	5	1	4	
Sanders Park Ward	104	29	64	11
Sidemoor	12	4	6	2
Slideslow	7	3	3	1
Tardebigge	23	9	11	3

We have also surveyed 170 and 150 building and structures in Lickey and Blackwell Parish and Wythall Parish respectively

## Completion of the local list and ward member involvement

6 It was agreed that officers should look to complete the LHL within 18 months of the 11<sup>th</sup> March overview and scrutiny board. This gives a target date for completion of September 2025. The following table identifies the timeline for how this can be achieved, we have programmed the remaining areas to be completed in alphabetical order. The completion of the LHL is a high priority for the conservation team and completion by September 2025 could be possible although it is a very tight timetable to follow.

7 As can be seen below requires constant uninterrupted work on the LHL over that 18 month period. The ability to meet the 18 months deadline will be very dependent on a number of factors remaining constant, such as staffing levels, conservation officer requirement to input into the development management process, Conservation Officer input required on the local plan review, and as yet other unknown factors which will require management of priorities.

8 It also cannot be overlooked that it impossible to accurately predict how long each area will take because, we simply have no way of knowing how many buildings and structures will need to be assessed, how much research time we will need to invest in each building or structure, and how much interest we generate and consultation responses we receive, all of these factors will take a different amount of time per building or structure and per area, and do not necessarily relate to the size of the area being surveyed.

9 A large very rural area with only a few buildings or structures to survey could on the face of it could take a fraction of the time of a more urban area where there are significantly more building and structures to assess. Although if those more urban areas have already been the subject of significant research by others then the workload can be significantly reduced, whereas the more rural area with less structures to look at but less existing data to reply on could actually generate a significant amount of work in undertaking primary research.

10 As the work progresses officers committed to providing quarterly updates on progress to the Overview and Scrutiny Board, these will contain any suggested changes to the program of completion.

The timing below are approximate

Spring = March / April / May

Summer = June / July / August

Autumn = September / October / November

Winter = Jan / February /March

Area to be surveyed	Survey	Publication of draft LHL	Adoption of area LHL
Alvechurch	Complete	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Belbroughton	Complete	Spring 2024	Summer 2024

Beoley	Complete	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Dodford	Complete	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Bromsgrove Town	Currently being completed	Summer 2024	Autumn 2024
Wythall	Currently being completed	Summer 2024	Autumn 2024
Lickey and Blackwell	Currently being completed	Summer 2024	Autumn 2024
Barnt Green Parish	Summer 2024	Autumn 2024	Winter 2025
Bentley Paucefoot Parish	Summer 2024	Autumn 2024	Winter 2025
Bourneheath Parish	Summer 2024	Autumn 2024	Winter 2025
Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish	Summer 2024	Autumn 2024	Winter 2025
Clent Parish	Autumn 2024	Winter 2025	Spring 2025
Cofton Hackett Parish	Autumn 2024	Winter 2025	Spring 2025
Finstal Parish	Autumn 2024	Winter 2025	Spring 2025
Frankley Parish	Winter 2025	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
Hagley Parish	Winter 2025	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
Hunnington Parish	Winter 2025	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
Romsley Parish	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Autumn 2025
Rubery	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Autumn 2025
Stoke Parish	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Autumn 2025
Tutnall and Cobley	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Autumn 2025

## **Ward Member involvement**

11 How individual ward members are involved in the process was discussed at the Overview and Scrutiny board. It is proposed that Ward members are contacted a minimum of three times in the process.

Contact 1 – when officers begin surveying the members of a ward, the intention of this initial contact is to explain the process and the likely outcomes. At this stage if the Ward member has suggestions for buildings and structures to be included in the survey then we'll happily accept them.

Contact 2 – on completion of the draft LHL for the ward, the intention of this contact is to provide the ward member with prior notification as to what we have surveyed and what we are proposing to consult on. This is also an opportunity to suggest further buildings to be surveyed if it is felt that we have missed something.

Contact 3 - prior to adoption, the adoption of the list is a cabinet procedure therefore there will be formal reporting around this element, which will include not only the actual list itself but also information on the consultation undertaken and the outcomes from that consultation. We will contact the ward member prior to the report being published to run through the suggested final LHL before the cabinet formally considers it.

12 For those areas where we have begun work already we propose to contact those ward members immediately to update them on the work that has been undertaken and explain the process going forward. All members will be given sufficient time both to understand the process, and input as required irrespective of where their ward sits in the completion timescales.

Mike Dunphy  
Strategic Planning and Conservation Manager  
April 2024