

APPENDIX J

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 7 JULY 2009

Title:

THURSLEY VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

**[Portfolio Holder: Cllr Ms Denise Le Gal]
[Wards Affected: Elstead and Thursley]**

Summary and purpose:

The purpose of the report is to recommend that the Thursley Village Design Statement (VDS) be adopted by the Council as a material consideration when determining planning applications (in the Parish of Thursley). The document has been prepared by Thursley Parish Council.

How this report relates to the Council's Corporate Priorities:

The Thursley VDS supports the environmental priorities of the Council. The document not only sets out the distinctive character of Thursley, but it also encourages good quality design in new developments.

Equality and Diversity Implications:

There are no equality and diversity implications. The document will be used in determining planning applications across the whole of the parish of Thursley.

Resource/Value for Money implications:

There are no resource/value for money implications since all the work preparing the document has been undertaken.

Legal Implications:

The document will be a material consideration to be used by the Borough Council when assessing planning applications.

Background

The Thursley Village Design Statement

1. Thursley Parish Council began work of the Thursley Village Design Statement in 2006. A copy of the latest version of the document is attached as Annexe 1. The purpose of the document is to give guidance to residents, architects and builders when considering to undertake or whilst undertaking new development within the Parish. It is also intended to be used as a tool by both the Parish Council and Borough Council when considering planning applications.

2. The structure of the Thursley VDS is as follows:

Introduction
 A Map of the Parish
 Thursley's Design Statement
 Location and Setting
 History
 Architecture and Buildings
 Commerce & Agriculture
 Community
 Open Spaces and Landscape Features
 Highways, Roads, Byways, Bridleways & Footpaths
 The Future
 Conclusions

3. The VDS will directly relate to the Development Plan. In this case the policy to be amplified is Saved Policy D4 (Design and Layout) of the Waverley Borough Local Plan 2002.

The Consultation Process

4. The VDS has been subject to a comprehensive consultation process, ensuring that it will be a robust document and stand up through the planning process. The following table outlines the key dates and events in the consultation process:

Key Date	Event
March 2006	Invitation to all residents within Thursley Parish to contribute to the VDS
April 2006	Thursley Design Committee formed and first meeting
7 April 2008	Thursley Parish Council agree to formal public consultation
June / July 2008	Formal consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyers posted around the Parish • Article in the Parish magazine • Public Exhibition in Village Hall and at St Michael & All Angels Church (4 days – 12, 15-17 July 2008) • Email invitation to fifty-nine residents • Invitations sent to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South East Regional Community Council • CPRE • English Heritage • Surrey Hills Initiative • Surrey Community Action • Local planning agents • Waverley Borough Council (Local Councillor, Chief Executive, Head of Planning and the Conservation Officer) • Natural England • Press • Elstead & Hambledon Parish Councils • Article in Surrey Advertiser

3 November 2008	VDS approved by Thursley Parish Council
14 November 2008	Formal submission to Waverley Borough Council
February 2009	Final email consultation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal officers in Waverley Borough Council (Countryside & Development Control). • Planning Portfolio Member and local Ward Members alerted to the document. • Surrey County Council (Highways and Rights of Way) • Surrey Wildlife Trust • Natural England

5. At the public exhibition in July 2008, some twenty-two comments were received of which nineteen were very supportive. The remaining three responses provided comments for consideration. In addition a further seven responses were received following the exhibition including support from English Heritage and comments from CPRE (fully endorsing the conclusions).
6. No significant comments were received as a result of further consultation (February 2009).
7. Thursley VDS Working Group have co-ordinated all of the responses, and where practicable accommodated changes in the document. A number of small changes are yet to be made, but these do not change the scope or conclusions of the document.

Conclusion

8. The Thursley VDS is a well-constructed document providing a comprehensive study of the character of the parish. Whilst the Parish Council are already using the document, it will also be very useful for the Borough Council when considering planning applications and other proposals for enhancement or change within the Parish.

Recommendation

It is recommended to the Council that the Thursley Village Design Statement be adopted as a material consideration to be used when determining planning applications in the Parish of Thursley.

Background Papers (CSP)

There are no background papers (as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) relating to this report.

CONTACT OFFICER:

Name: Sarah Wells

Telephone: 01483 523488

E-mail: sarah.wells@waverley.gov.uk

Comms/exec/2009-10/052