

**RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 16 APRIL 2015
title: HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS – STONYHURST COLLEGE
AND ENGLISH HERITAGE- UPDATE REPORT
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
principal author: JOHN MACHOLC

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To update Committee in relation to the work with Stonyhurst College and English Heritage on the establishment of a Heritage Partnership Agreement (HPA), in relation to minor listed building proposals at the Stonyhurst College site and to request that decisions relating to HPA applications and future alterations to the contents of the HPA, be delegated to the Director of Community Services and the Head of Planning Services.

1.2 Relevance to the Council’s ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives - }
 - Corporate Priorities - }
 - Other Considerations - }
- To be a well managed Council providing efficient services based on identifying customer need.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Heritage Partnership Agreement has recently been given statutory basis in April 2013 in the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act. A Heritage Partnership Agreement is between an owner, the relevant local authority and English Heritage. The agreement can specify that certain works which normally require listed building consent would no longer need a formal application. It is based on a thorough assessment of the importance of the heritage asset. Heritage partnership agreements are based on the key tenant that listed building consent is only needed for works that affect the architectural and historical significance of the building. If the significance for the asset is understood and the future works are also known from the schedule of permitted works, then a schedule of permitted works can be drawn up to avoid repetitive listed building applications.

2.2 In September 2013 Planning and Development Committee authorised the Head of Planning Services to work with English Heritage and Stonyhurst College to draw up a Heritage Partnership Agreement in relation to the Stonyhurst College campus site. The Head of Planning Services met with both English Heritage and representatives from Stonyhurst College on the 18 August 2013 to discuss the establishment of a heritage partnership agreement, in line with the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act and to consider whether or not it is appropriate to proceed with a Heritage Partnership Agreement for Stonyhurst College. This involved the discussions on a Conservation Management Plan, a designation review and a Heritage Partnership Agreement.

- 2.3 Since then significant work has been carried out on behalf of Stonyhurst College working closely with both English Heritage and the Council, with both the Design and Conservation Officer and the Head of Planning Services heavily involved with the details. Part of the output of the work has been a re-designation of the buildings within the Stonyhurst College, which has resulted in some parts of the complex being designated Grade 1, some Grade 2* and others a Grade 2. A new listing record was updated on the 14 January 2015. Work has also been carried out on the revisions to the Conservation Management Plan.
- 2.4 Recently the Head of Planning Services and the Design and Conservation Officer met with all other interested parties to discuss the Draft Heritage Partnership Agreement and its contents. As a result it is hoped that the document will be ready for formal consultation this summer with an aim to adopt the document later this year. This is likely to be the first HPA in the North West and one of the first in England.
- 2.5 In order to facilitate the successful implementation of the HPA, it is essential that any Consented Works applications, Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Works and future contents of the HPA are Delegated to the Director of Community Services and the Head of Planning Services.

3 ISSUES

- 3.1 Committee have previously authorised the Head of Planning Services to enter into a Heritage Partnership Agreement and it will still be necessary for the final details of any HPA to be subject to a formal consultation exercise. It is worth reminding Members that any significant development would still require listed building consent.
- 3.2 It is difficult to assess the resource implications but I would anticipate over time there would be a resource saving to all parties. One example for the Council would be in relation to a reduction in the costs of advertising the applications.
- 3.3 One of the important benefits of a Heritage Partnership Arrangement is that it could give stakeholders certainty and clarity over future works and establish whether or not listed building consent is required. I consider that this would be of significant benefit for the stakeholder but it should be noted that Heritage Partnership Agreements would be subject to review and would be monitored to see whether or not they are effective and if necessary be amended.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications
- Resources – Members have been previously advised that initially there would be a requirement for a significant resource in relation to the Design and Conservation Officer and Head of Planning Services in the creation and successful implementation and this has been the case. However, it is hoped that once the consultation exercise has been undertaken there will be less resource implications.
 - Technical, Environmental and Legal – No implications identified.
 - Political – No implications identified.

- Reputation – The successful implementation of one of the first HPA could have a positive reputation.
- Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Continue to authorise the Head of Planning Services to work with English Heritage and Stonyhurst College to draw up a Heritage Partnership Agreement in relation to the Stonyhurst College campus site.
- 5.2 Endorse the minor alterations to the Delegation scheme dated 10 October 2013 to include reference to all Heritage Partnership Applications and authorise changes to the HPA to the Director of Community Services and the Head of Planning Services.

JOHN MACHOLC
HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

JOHN HEAP
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013
P&D Committee Report 26 September 2013 Heritage Partnership Arrangement
Delegation Scheme 10 October 2013.

For further information please ask for John Macholc, extension 4502.

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