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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 12</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	August 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2013	<b>CATEGORY: *see below DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	Head of Community and Planning	
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	David Hackforth, 01283 595821 <a href="mailto:david.hackforth@south-derbys.gov.uk">david.hackforth@south-derbys.gov.uk</a>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Melbourne Conservation Area	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	Melbourne	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS04</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Melbourne Conservation Area be extended to include the properties 60-92 (even and inclusive) Ashby Road, and the land lying between them and the present conservation area boundary to the east.
- 1.2 That the designation be documented in the required way by notification to the Secretary of State and English Heritage and by notices published in the London Gazette and a local newspaper, and additionally by notification to all owners and tenants.

## **2.0 Purpose of Report**

- 2.1 To consider the results of the public consultation exercise carried out between 7<sup>th</sup> June and 19<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

## **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 The committee agreed, by a resolution at the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013, to carry out a public consultation concerning the proposed extension of the Melbourne Conservation Area. The consultation was advertised in the local press, by a webpage on the Council website, by consultation material sent to all affected owners and tenants, and by the same consultation material sent to the Parish Council and Civic Society.
- 3.2 Responses to the consultation included representations from a majority of the landowners concerned, the Parish Council and the Civic Society. These responses are summarised in Appendix 1, along with a summary of replies to the salient points raised. There were two objections, which argued that the conservation area should not be extended to safeguard a building that has been de-listed by English Heritage and that land belonging to the Melbourne Estate should not be included because it was just "... *two isolated, sloping fields with some trees*".

## **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 The costs of statutory notifications and notification to owners can be drawn from existing budgets.

## **5.0 Corporate Implications**

5.1 The District's conservation areas are a key component of its vibrant communities. The effective protection of conservation areas, through analysis and good management, enhances quality of life for all and safeguards the environment. Protecting important buildings contributes to the Corporate Plan theme of Sustainable Development.

## **6.0 Community Implications**

6.1 The District's Conservation Areas are a key component of its attractive rural environment.

6.2 It is the District Council's normal practice, in line with best practice guidance, to consult the public and affected residents on alterations to conservation area boundaries. The Parish Council and Civic Society support the proposal, and a majority of representations from owners also support the proposal.

6.3 Buildings that are protected for their high amenity and historic value enhance the environment and character of an area and therefore are of community benefit for existing and future residents.

## **7.0 Conclusions**

7.1 As the summary of the responses in Appendix 1 shows, officers are of the opinion that there is no valid challenge to the assertion that the area possesses the special architectural or historic interest which is the necessary precursor to conservation area designation. The majority of the responses were supportive and some even suggested that the extension might be larger. The Parish Council and Civic Society both support the proposal. No convincing reasons for not proceeding with the designation were included in the responses.

7.2 The area meets the requirements for designation and was generally supported by the consultation.

## **8.0 Background Papers**

8.1 Consultation letter and supporting document.  
Consultation responses (as summarised in Appendix 1) and replies to them.  
"Understanding Place: Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management"  
(English Heritage, 2011)