# Moor Pool Estate Conservation Area

Draft Character Appraisal and Management Plan

Newsletter



January 2011

Birmingham City Council welcomes your comments on the Moor Pool Conservation Area Draft Character Appraisal and Draft Supplementary Planning Policies.

This newsletter aims to:

- Explain the background to the draft character appraisal and draft supplementary planning policies for Moor Pool Conservation Area.
- Outline their contents.
- Set out the process and timetable for making your comments.

#### **Moor Pool Conservation Area**

Moor pool Conservation Area was designated in July 1970. It comprises the entirety of the Moor Pool Tenants Estate, situated approximately 3 kilometres (2 miles) west of Birmingham City Centre in the suburb of Harborne. To the west is Quinton, to the north is Bearwood and to the east is Edgbaston. Harborne High Street is located approximately 300 metres to the south of the Estate.

The Moor Pool Estate was designed following the principles of the Garden City Movement as a reaction to Victorian by-law terraced housing. Although constructed on the edge of what was then Harborne village, it is now totally surrounded by, and well ingrained into the fabric of Harborne, but at the same time provides an obvious contrast to the buildings immediately surrounding it. Overall the architecture of the development appears homogeneous but the varying sizes of houses, detailing, including the positioning of doors and windows, and materials introduce subtle variety, and follow principles related to the Arts and Crafts movement. The area is exceptionally green and semi rural in feel, partly due to the high number of trees but also due to the inclusion of allotments to give inhabitants extra green space and to allow as many properties as possible to back onto green space rather than a road. In addition with the exception of Ravenshurst Road, which was pre-existing, all the roads are relatively narrow with grassed verges. The layout of the estate also takes full advantage of the natural topography of the site with houses constructed to fit in with the rise and fall of land, which introduces a harmony between the built form and the landscape.

# Moor Pool Conservation Area draft Character Appraisal and Draft Supplementary Planning policies

The 1990 Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act defines a conservation area as '.....an area of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.' The Act places a duty on local authorities to designate conservation areas where appropriate and from time to time to review the extent of conservation area designation within their districts. It also requires them to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of these areas.

The Moor Pool Conservation Area Draft Character Appraisal and Draft Supplementary Planning Policies are written according to guidelines produced by English Heritage and the Planning Advisory Service.

The draft character appraisal identifies the special interest of Moor Pool Conservation Area and provides a definition of its character. It describes the history of the area's development and identifies its architectural style, building materials, estate plan and streetscapes, views, open spaces and local and national significance.

The draft supplementary planning policies provide the framework for the preservation and enhancement of the character of the Moor Pool Conservation Area as defined in the appraisal. They are designed to guide and manage change through the promotion of good new design which responds sensitively to historic context.

#### **HOW TO MAKE YOUR COMMENTS**

Public consultation on the Moor Pool Conservation Area Draft Character Appraisal and Draft Supplementary Planning Policies will run for a period of six weeks from Monday 10th January 10th 2011 to Friday 18th February 2011.

Officers from Birmingham City Council will be available to answer your questions and receive your comments on the document in the Small Hall at the Moor Pool Hall at the times shown below:

- Wednesday 19th January 10am until 2pm
- Thursday 20th January 2pm until 6pm

You can view the document on the council's website: www.birmingham.gov.uk/moorpoolca

You can make your views known by:

# Writing to:

Mary Worsfold
The Conservation Team
Planning Management
Birmingham City Council
PO Box 28
Birmingham
B1 1TU

## Email:

Planning.conservation@birmingham.gov.uk

#### Telephone:

The Conservation Team (0121) 303 1115

### Copies of the document can be obtained from:

The Conservation Team (0121) 303 1115

### What happens next?

All comments will be noted and reported to the relevant decision making bodies of the City Council for consideration. The final document will then be formally adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document to the Birmingham Plan.

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