
Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities

16th April 2024

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities – Cllr David Welsh

Director approving submission of the report:

Director of City Services

Ward(s) affected:

Bablake

Title:

Bennetts Road Mortar Spigot Local Listing Nomination – Public Consultation

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive summary:

The City Council has an established nomination process for the nomination of additions to the Local List of Heritage Assets, available to the public via the authority's website at https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/23529/local_list_criteria

Further to a report to the Local Authority by a member of the public, and confirmed during archaeological works undertaken by University of Leicester Archaeological services, a Second World War era mortar spigot has been identified within a hedgerow aside Bennetts Road, Keresley.

The City's Archaeology advisor has reviewed the information available and noted the contribution to the story of Coventry's Second World War defences, proposing that recognition of the item through the Local List of Heritage assets may further understanding of this important part of the city's modern history.

In order to make a future recommendation upon any inclusion onto the Local List of Heritage assets, it is now recommended a public consultation be undertaken to further inform decision making.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member is requested to:

- 1) Approve the commencement of public consultation on the mortar spigot and its potential for inclusion on the Local List of heritage assets.
- 2) Delegate authority to Head of Planning Policy and Environment, to finalise the details of public consultation (including the period of consultation) in line with established processes.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix One – Urban Design and Heritage Manager Report - Bennetts Road Mortar Spigot

Background papers:

City of Coventry Local List of Heritage Assets – criteria
https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/23529/local_list_criteria

Other useful documents

N/A

Has it or will it be considered by scrutiny?

No - However, the role of Locally Listed Heritage assets in the planning system was presented to Scrutiny Panel 6th October 2022

Has it or will it be considered by any other council committee, advisory panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Bennetts Road Mortar Spigot Local Listing Nomination – Public Consultation stage

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 Locally listed buildings are buildings and sites within the local planning authority's area which make a positive contribution to its local character and sense of place because of their heritage value.
- 1.2 Whilst these buildings or sites may not be nationally designated, the Local List identification of these sites and their significance then merits consideration in future planning decisions.
- 1.3 A Local Listing designation however does not however serve to restrict development of a site or building which holds the designation, rather any application for redevelopment would need to evidence impacts to the designation, and where any loss is proposed, demonstrate that the benefits of a proposal outweigh any loss.
- 1.4 Coventry City Council have maintained a Local List of Buildings of Special Architectural and Historic Interest since (at least) June 1974. The list has evolved over time as nominations have been considered and if endorsed, placed onto the register.
- 1.5 The creation and maintenance of a Local List is a way to identify and celebrate historic buildings and sites which enrich the area, this identification and publication of designations also contributes to the Coventry Plan in the promotion of Coventry as a visitor destination and centre for the arts and culture.
- 1.6 The process establishes key assessment criteria of received nomination for consideration of inclusion to the Local List, in order that a nomination be valid and proceed to further stages of evaluation, applicants must demonstrate the nominations alignment with the articulated criteria.
- 1.7 A nomination for the Mortar Spigot beside Bennetts Road has been made by the City Archaeologist further to findings established by works by the University of Leicester Archaeology service.
- 1.8 The Urban Design and Heritage Manager has assessed the application and found that the nomination may be able to fulfil the criteria for local listing – subject to further research and findings of public consultation.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 Do Nothing (Not Recommended)

The Cabinet Member could choose to not progress the nomination to public consultation, however noting the potential for alignment to the criteria for Local Listing this is not recommended.

2.2 Commence a public consultation

Further to an initial review of the received applications, officers recommend that a public consultation is undertaken to further assess the nomination, in order to make a future recommendation to Cabinet Member in regard to any addition to the Local List of Heritage Assets.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1. This report seeks authority to commence the consultation exercise.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 The decision will be implemented at the earliest opportunity, with public consultation currently anticipated to take place during May 2024.

5. Comments from the Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer) and the Director of Law and Governance

5.1. Financial Implications

The recommendation will have no financial impact.

5.2. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications associated with this report at this stage.

6. Other implications

6.1. **How will this contribute to the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/)?**

Assessment of Local List nominations contributes toward raising the profile of Coventry through promoting Coventry as a visitor destination and centre for the arts and culture, sports and leisure, music and events.

6.2. **How is risk being managed?**

There is no risk identified associated with the recommendation

6.3. **What is the impact on the organisation?**

The undertaking of public consultation will be deliverable within current resource.

6.4. **Equalities / EIA?**

A full Equality and Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken as part of developing the Local Plan. As part of that analysis, the Council had due regard to its public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act (2010).

6.5. **Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?**

There is no direct impact from the recommendations of the report.

6.6. **Implications for partner organisations?**

None

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Legal: Oluremi Aremu	Head of Legal and Procurement Services	Law and Governance	28.03.2024	03.04.2024
Director: Andrew Walster	Director of Streetscene and Regulatory Services	-	28.03.2024	02.04.2024
Members: Name		-		
Cllr David Welsh	Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities	-	04.04.2024	05.04.2024

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