

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities held at
11.00 am on Thursday, 19 June 2025

Present:

Members: Councillor N Akhtar (Chair)
 Councillor S Agboola (Deputy Cabinet Member)
 Councillor R Bailey (Shadow Cabinet Member)

Employees (by Directorate):

Law and Governance: M Bajway
 C Sinclair

Regeneration and S Farey
Economy: A Lynch
 C Stranks

Apologies: None

Public Business

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

3. Local Listing Nomination and Recommendation (Post Public Consultation) - The Hearsall Church, Queensland Avenue

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities considered a report of the Director of City Services and Commercial which detailed a nomination for a new local listing to be included on Coventry's Local List of Heritage Assets. The nomination, if approved, would introduce additional considerations in the planning assessment of any future applications.

The report indicated that further to officers' assessment, the nomination was found to be valid and approved for a six-week public consultation between 8th July and 16th August 2024 to further inform decision making post public consultation, and the recommendation was now being made.

The Officer report setting out details of the Local Listing Nomination was appended to the report.

Also appended to the report was a copy of an e-petition which ran from 16th December 2023 to 17th February 2024, bearing 1033 signatures and which was supported by Councillor J Innes. The petition was in favour to Locally List and protect this section of Hearsall Baptist Church, including the spire and the Christmas Star from any future demolition and for the Council to work with partners to secure community use of the building. It was noted that the proposal was to locally list the building itself and not specifically the Christmas Star. The star was a moveable structure and not something that could be specifically included within the local list. It was also noted that adding a building to the Local List did not afford the same protection as a statutory Listed Building and could not prevent demolition if required but it would recognise its heritage value through the local list and any demolition of a locally listed building would require consent through prior notification or a planning application. It would not require Listed Building Consent for demolition.

Further to the findings of the public consultation, the overview of planning and planning policy context, and a review of the submitted information, the addition to the local list of heritage assets of the nomination was recommended.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities:

- 1. Notes the contents of the ePetition appended at Appendix 2 of the report.**
 - 2. Endorses the nomination for the Hearsall Church Hall (original building) for inclusion on Coventry's Local List of Heritage Assets, for the reasons set out in the report.**
 - 3. Delegates authority to the Strategic Lead for Planning, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, to finalise the details of the designation.**
- 4. Local Listing Nomination and Recommendation (Post Public Consultation) - Blacker Bombard Mortar Spigot, Land off Bennetts Road**

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities considered a report of the Director of City Services and Commercial which detailed a nomination for a new local listing to be included on Coventry's Local List of Heritage Assets. The nomination, if approved, would introduce additional considerations in the assessment of planning applications where such designations were affected.

The report indicated that further to officers' assessment, the nomination was found to be valid and approved for a six-week public consultation between 8th July and 16th August 2024 to further inform decision making post public consultation, and the recommendation was now being made.

The Officer report setting out details of the Local Listing Nomination was appended to the report.

Also appended to the report was a copy of a petition which ran from 6th August to 19th September 2024. The petition sought to protect the World War 2 artefacts within the developments planned for Keresley (the Pill Box off Bennetts Road, the

underground shelter, and the Spigot Mortar). The petition received 53 signatures and had been considered by Planning Committee at their meeting on 12th September 2024 in respect of planning application reference RMM/2022/0679 (Land at Fivefield Road and Tamworth Road) where the resolution was to grant planning permission subject to conditions. The Officer report noted comments from the Council's Archaeologist in respect of the Mortar Spigot and its proposals for Local Listing.

Further to the findings of the public consultation, overview of planning, and planning policy context and review of the submitted information, the addition to the local list of heritage assets of the nomination was being recommended.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities:

- 1. Notes the contents of the e-Petition appended at Appendix 2 of the report.**
- 2. Endorses the nomination for Blacker Bombard Spigot Mortar(s) for inclusion on Coventry's Local List of Heritage Assets, further to the reasons set out in the report.**
- 3. Delegates authority to the Strategic Lead for Planning, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, to finalise the details of the designation.**

5. Outstanding Issues

There were no outstanding issues.

6. Any other item of public business which the Cabinet Member decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved

There were no other items of business.

(Meeting closed at 11.10 am)