

CONSERVATION ADVISORY GROUP

WEDNESDAY, 28 MAY 2003

RECOMMENDATIONS

Set out below is a summary of the recommendations made at the meeting of the Conservation Advisory Group held on Wednesday, 28 May 2003. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this recommendation summary please contact Ian Senior.

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**
RESOLVED that Councillor SJ Agnew be elected Chairman of the Conservation Advisory Group for the coming year.
2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**
RESOLVED that Councillor NN Cathcart be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Conservation Advisory Group for the coming year.
3. **PRESERVING AND ENHANCING OUR HERITAGE RESOURCES: A CONSERVATION STRATEGY FOR SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE**
The Conservation Advisory Group endorsed the draft Conservation Strategy in principle, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Portfolio Holder for Conservation support its further development on the basis of the framework contained in Appendix 1 of the report, and comments made by Members, with a view to publication in due course.
4. **DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE BIO-DIVERSITY POLICIES**
The Advisory Group **RECOMMENDED** that the Portfolio Holder for Conservation
 - (1) authorises the development of detailed biodiversity policies, based on the draft consultation document attached as Appendix 1 to the report; and
 - (2) instructs the Ecology Officer to report back to the Conservation Advisory Group on the results of the consultation.
5. **DESIGNATION OF EVERS DEN AND WIMPOLE WOODS AS AN SSSI AND CANDIDATE AS SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION - UPDATE**
The Advisory Group **RECOMMENDED** that the Portfolio Holder for Conservation
 - (1) support the proposed designation of the Special Area of Conservation in responding to English Nature's consultation letter, on the understanding that there would be no restrictions to existing rights of access or public enjoyment of the woods; and
 - (2) instruct the Ecology Officer to draft appropriate planning guidance for use by Members and staff.
6. **ST DENIS CHURCH, EAST HATLEY**
The Advisory Group **RECOMMENDED** that the Portfolio Holder for Conservation:
 - (1) urges Cabinet to authorise officers to draw up a specification and invite tenders to implement Option E as set out in the Conservation Manager's report, allowing short-term repairs to stabilise the structure, subject to (3)

below;

- (2) authorises the Conservation Manager to explore options for additional grant funding to support possible implementation of Option F contained in the report, with a view to securing the long-term fabric of the building such that it may be available for a new use; and
- (3) instruct the Conservation Manager to consider, as alternative options, disposal of the church either to the owner of the surrounding land or to an individual or organisation interested in using the building for small-scale commercial or community purposes.

7. CONSTITUTION OF THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY GROUP

The Advisory Group **RECOMMENDED** that the Portfolio Holder for Conservation support a proposal to increase the number of Members on the Conservation Advisory Group from seven to nine, and that the Cabinet identify two Members who had expressed an interest in Conservation-related issues.