



**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**REF: PNF29Oct2021**

**SUBJECT:** Heritage Conservation Assessment (HCA) Project Update Meeting with CPRE  
**DATE:** 3:00pm Friday 29 October 2021  
**VENUE:** Pyrford Village War Memorial Hall  
**PRESENT:** **For PNF:** Geoff Geaves (GG), Andy Grimshaw (AG) Joy Sachak (JS), Ian Whittle (IW), Pauline De Marco (PdM)  
**For CPRE:** Tim Harrold (TH), Janet Ashton (JA)

**APOLOGIES:** N/A

**MEETING OBJECTIVE:** Whilst the pandemic disrupted Pyrford neighbourhood Forum (PNF) work on the HCA project considerable progress has been made and the point has now been reached where assessment of heritage conservation opportunities identified will start very shortly. Of particular interest to the Forum is improving the status of land on the Pyrford escarpment and around The Old House and this meeting is initiated to investigate what mutual interests may exist in the Forum’s work.

ACTION	Ref	MINUTE
	1.0	<p><b>Introductions</b>  <b>GG</b> welcomed everyone and thanked TM and JA for sparing the time for the meeting.</p>
	2.0	<p><b>Progress To Date</b>  <b>GG</b> reviewed the papers circulated in advance pointing out progress to date:</p> <p><b>2.1 Outline Plan</b> – In terms of work completed the project was about to start Task 5</p> <p><b>2.2 Project Definition</b> – attention was drawn to summary statements used at a recent tour of work being undertaken at The Old House.</p> <p><b>2.3 Heritage Catalogues</b> pertaining to Pyrford – These have been compiled over the last 2 years and cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History bibliography covering Pyrford</li> <li>• Local historians</li> <li>• PNF and SHC map (Surrey History Centre) archives dating back to 1575</li> <li>• SCC HERs (Surrey County Council Historic Environment Records) for Listed Buildings</li> <li>• SCC HERs for Monuments</li> <li>• SCC HERs for Parks &amp; Gardens</li> <li>• SCC HERs for Find Spots and Negative Evidence</li> </ul>



	<p><b>2.4</b></p> <p><b>2.5</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WBC locally listed buildings of Architectural Significance and Townscape Merit.</li> </ul> <p><b>Landscape and Townscape Character Assessment</b> – Prepared by LDA an early draft was shared with WBC for the Reg 19 SADPD consultation and is now nearing completion.</p> <p><b>Threats and Opportunity Priorities</b> – based on a brain-storming process comment was invited particularly about:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The view that Randall’s Field should be officially designated as part of the Pyrford Escarpment Rising Land of Landscape Importance designated by WBC.</li> <li>2. The view that the land surrounding The Old House should form part of a new conservation area based on the re-wilding work that is basically restoring the landscape to how it was from 1653 to 1900.</li> </ol>
<p><b>TH</b></p> <p><b>JA</b></p>	<p><b>3.0</b></p>	<p><b>CPRE Feedback on Work To Date</b></p> <p>In a helpful discussion <b>CPRE</b> made the following points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>TH</b> explained that the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) overshadowed a lot of the work CPRE was able to undertake at the current time. NB the area created in 1958 is 422 sq km, represents 25% of Surrey county and is in danger of being eroded by Guildford strategic development plans.</li> <li>2. <b>TH</b> offered Pevsner as an authority when cataloguing heritage assets in the Pyrford area.</li> <li>3. <b>TH</b> said CPRE would be interested to see the work being done at The Old House to re-wild the golf course land recently acquired.</li> <li>4. <b>JA</b> recommended PNF look at the Pirbright Conservation Area Assessment which successfully extended that conservation area. <b>JA</b> also offered a copy of Guidance for Assessing Landscapes for Designation as National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England for pointers on how to best portray the landscape areas of heritage value within Pyrford.</li> <li>5. <b>JA</b> and <b>TH</b> mentioned the positive benefits of involving schools and students in projects, such as at Pewley Down in Guildford, and ‘mini nature reserves’ as found in some churchyards.</li> <li>6. <b>TH</b> suggested contacting Cllr Colin Cross of Ripley and the Lovelace Neighbourhood Forum group to understand the extent of land protections in the area neighbouring Pyrford - especially around Newark Priory.</li> <li>7. <b>JA</b> recommended contacting Surrey Wildlife Trust to discuss the extent to which wildlife and ancient hedgerows might be used to make more powerful arguments for land protection.</li> </ol>
<p><b>JS</b></p>	<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b>Process Moving Forward</b></p>



		<p>It was agreed that a further trip to look round The Old House and Randall's Field would be arranged.</p> <p><b>GG</b> asked if CPRE were kept up to date with progress and developments whether CPRE would be able to support Forum work when ultimately WBC invited comment on the final report from stakeholder organisations.</p> <p><b>TH</b> was unsure what support CPRE could provide given that a lot of their work was overshadowed and committed to that arising from the Surrey Hills AONB</p>
<p><b>JS</b> <b>GG</b></p>	<p><b>6.0</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting Close</b></p> <p>The meeting closed at approximately 1700h with undertakings on both sides to stay in touch and arrange a further meeting to look around The Old House project and Randall's Field.</p>