



Walton Green Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

Revised December 2013

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Preface

Conservation Areas

'A Conservation Area is an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.'

(Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990).

The Council is responsible for deciding whether an area should be designated as a Conservation Area, following extensive research and consultation with people living in and owning property in the area.

We have a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of each Conservation Area, under planning laws and our own policies.

The Council as a Local Planning Authority is required to 'formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of any parts of their area, which are Conservation Areas' (Section 71 of the Act). This Character Appraisal fulfils this statutory duty.

Extra protection

In some cases there is extra Protection for Conservation Areas

An Article 4(1) or 4(2) Direction can give extra protection to certain Conservation Areas. This means that in these areas even minor alterations, for example constructing a porch, replacing windows or re-roofing could require planning permission.

For this level of protection these Conservation Areas need to be "exceptional" in terms of character and interest.

An Article 4 Direction was placed on Walton Green Conservation Area on 6 June 1979.

Conservation Area Appraisal

The Appraisal is not intended to be comprehensive; the omission of any building, feature or space should not be taken to imply that it is of no interest.

The Appraisal should be read in conjunction with the adopted South Ribble Borough Local Plan (Adopted February 2000) Policy 15, National Planning Policy Framework, Central Lancashire Core Strategy and the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD.



Introduction

Walton Green Conservation Area was designated as a Conservation Area on 29 September 1976. It was the first Conservation Area to be designated in South Ribble.

Walton Green: Special Character and Appearance

The designation of Walton Green as a Conservation Area is in recognition of the area's special historical character and architectural interest with buildings dating from the 17th, 18th and 19th Centuries.

Walton Green has an almost rural 'village green' atmosphere. On entering the street from the A6 there is an immediate impression of enclosure and security. There is a drop in level from the main road which helps to separate the area from those surrounding it and the Green is visually enclosed at the other end by trees (newer build). Though there is a variety of building styles, a very harmonious atmosphere has been achieved. Most of the dwellings are small in scale; the largest being the Victorian houses, but even these achieve a 'cottagey' feel because of their picturesque detailing, steeply pitched roofs, gables and porches.

Walton Green contains examples of buildings from the 17th, 18th and 19th Centuries within the space of a few hundred yards. The oldest buildings have been modified – either extended, sub-divided and altered – but have remained with their essential character intact to the present date. The later buildings have incorporated some of the character of the earlier ones – smallness of scale, steeply pitched roofs, dormer windows and small front gardens which give a sense of intimacy and cosiness. The slightly haphazard additions of dormers and porches do not generally detract from an overall feeling of natural development and growth.

Walton Green: General Description

Walton Green Conservation Area is 1.42 hectares in size.

Walton Green developed along the bank of the River Darwen, close to the A6 trunk road. Originally the buildings in the area may have been farm buildings but these have mostly disappeared and a new farm complex, known as Walton Hall Farm, was developed about 400 yards to the west in the late 17th Century and early 18th Century. The Green is situated on what was once the back entrance to Walton Hall, with the main entrance to the Hall being entered from Hennel Lane.

Old Walton Hall was demolished in 1834 and replaced by a large Victorian House subsequently demolished in 1940 but some of the outbuildings were incorporated into Walton Hall Farm. The Walton Manor Estate has been in the possession of three important local families: the Banastres, the Langtons and the Hoghtons. The 1839 Tithe Map of Walton-Le-Dale shows that the Hoghton family owned most of the land at Walton Green at this period. One of the buildings, no. 1 Walton Green, is recorded as an office belonging to Sir Henry Bold Hoghton, Baronet.

There is one listed building within the conservation area. The cottage at 12-14 Walton Green is a Grade II Listed Building. Dwellings no. 12, 14 and 16 are at present divided into two dwellings and would have at one time been one building – with no. 16 being a later extension of the original house, which is now no.s 12-14. The original section is a typical 'Lancashire Cottage' or 'Yeoman's House' and is dated 1675. There are also some good examples of Victorian Houses, possibly

influenced by the 'Picturesque' and 'Arts and Crafts' movement. Good examples of these can be seen at 18, 20 and 22. There are also some small 18th Century and 19th Century terraced cottages, which although individually undistinguished, together create pleasant groupings.

One row of cottages may once have been a barn or warehouse and this building has a firemark of the Sun Insurance Company. Every holder of the fire insurance policy from the Sun Insurance Company was issued with a plate bearing the policy number. In the event of fire the firemen, who were retained by the company, would try and put out the blaze having first checked that the victim possessed a plate bearing the sun device and policy number.

Development of the settlement

The historical development of Walton Green can be summarised as follows:

- From Middle Ages to the 18th Century Largely agricultural and the land was divided into small enclosures and crofts growing root crops, improved grasses, potatoes, cereals and livestock, particularly cattle. Cheese production was important. Land was leased from landlords.
- From the early 18th Century there was evidence of agricultural improvement and prosperity brought about by the Napoleonic Wars. Medium and larger farms were self-contained units with areas of arable land (cereals), and pasture and meadow for cattle. As demand for produced increased (from neighbouring industrial towns, such as Preston) clear progress was being made: improved land drainage, improved crops and new breeds of animals.
- The development of handloom weaving was closely related to developments in agriculture: there was a cheap pool of labour readily available. Weaving was introduced to farmhouses and many would become sub-divided, with cottages being built and a shop attached to every building.

Historical Maps

Walton Green – 1843-93



Walton Green 1891-1912



Walton Green 1904-1939



Walton Green 1919-1943



Walton Green 1928-1932



Walton Green 1919-1943



Walton Green Conservation Area- Location in Walton-Le-Dale



Aerial photograph of Walton Green Conservation Area



Important and Significant Features

• 12-14 Walton Green : Yeoman's House



Yeoman's House: Grade II Listed Building



Yeoman's House date detailing: 1675

Distinctive Local Features

Within the Conservation Area are a number of local features that give the area a distinct identity. These features, which may relate to the area's history or locality, give the area its unique sense of place. The following features, though small, make a significant contribution to the area's special interest. In Walton Green, the majority of properties in the area have stone gate piers. All these are of the same style, height and dimension – although they differ in paint colour treatment.



Gate Piers





Gate Piers



Street lighting



Tall chimneys



Chimney details

Townscape

Walton Green is a residential area situated in Walton-le-Dale which borders the banks of the River Darwen. The Conservation Area is a pleasant residential street, with an attractive mix of interesting properties that date from the late 17th Century to modern day.

Movement

There is little pedestrian movement in the Conservation Area outside school hours. St. Leonard's Church of England Primary School is located on Walton Green, just outside the Conservation Area boundary. Vehicular movement is heavier during school drop off and collection times and Walton Green can become quite congested.

Views and Landmarks

The views from Chorley Road towards Walton Green are pleasing.

Walton Green has an almost rural 'village green' atmosphere. On entering the street from the A6 there is an immediate impression of enclosure and security. There is a drop in level from the main road which helps to separate the area from those surrounding it and the Green is visually enclosed at the other end by trees (newer build). Though there is a variety of building styles, a very harmonious atmosphere has been achieved. Most of the dwellings are small in scale; the largest being the Victorian houses, but even these achieve a 'cottagey' feel because of their picturesque detailing, rendering and Tudor style timber work, steeply pitched roofs, gables and porches.



View down Walton Green

Views of the River Darwen to the rear of properties 2-16 Walton Green – river and timber yard, are visible from Walton Green to the rear of 12-16 evens due to the openness of the rear gardens.

Public and Private Spaces

Walton Green is a pleasant residential area, which is rich with trees and greenery. Private gardens are well stocked with shrubs and semi-mature trees, many with lawns and small boundary hedges. All garden areas are well kept and many properties have planters and hanging baskets, adding to the rural cottage/village feel of the area.

Public Spaces

There are no public spaces within the Walton Green Conservation Area.

Private Spaces

Private gardens of residential properties on Walton Green are neatly laid out and provide important elements of private green spaces in a predominantly built-up residential area. They vary in plot size, shape and structure, although they have similar boundary treatments. These comprise a mixture of low stone or brick walls, hedges, picket fencing and railings

Street Furniture

There is little street furniture in Walton Green, apart from the street lighting, which are original (but not to Walton Green) Victorian lanterns.

Street Surfaces

The pavements are rusticated York flagstones and granite kerbstones. The road surfaces are black tarmac

Buildings

(a)Types of buildings and uses

• Mix of 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th Centuries semi-detached and detached residential properties.

(b) Materials and Architectural features

There is a varied range of traditional materials used in the construction of the buildings, with stone and wood picket fencing predominating as a walling material and grey, natural slate for roofing.

Traditional brickwork is rustic red/brown and is combined with some stonework detailing, including window lintels and sills, door surrounds and cornices. The brick bond is English on the majority of the Victorian properties in the Conservation Area.





15 Walton Green



18-20 Walton Green



There are tall chimney stacks on some properties and the majority of the chimney stacks in the area are decorative – a characteristic of the Victorian era.



Side elevation of 12-16 Walton Green

The 20th Century properties, built in the 1970s are rendered in white.



29 Walton Green



No.1, Walton Green



Yeoman's House (12 and 14 Walton Green)



21 Walton Green

Roofing materials are predominantly grey slates. Window openings have strong vertical proportions, and many are casement windows. Very few properties retain the original sliding sash windows, or original frames. No. 1 Walton Green has its original sash windows both on the ground and first floor, with stone sills and lintels. The front door of this property is bordered by attractive stone quoins.

The Conservation Area contains many examples of different styles of 17th, 18th and 19th Century architecture. The majority of buildings are late 18th Century, and the oldest building within the Conservation Area is the Yeoman's Cottage, dated 1647.

The interesting range of building styles and materials, contribute to giving the area a rural village feel, and this helps to create a very pleasing street scene along the short length of Walton Green.

Listed Building: 12 and 14 Walton Green

This is a house, which dates back to 1675 and has a date stone above the gabled porch – and lettered – 1675 R de H (Richard de Hoghton). It is a rendered whitewashed former Yeoman's house.

Listing description

Dated 1675 but with evidence of earlier building. The property has been altered over time and consists of roughcast brick, with a concrete slate roof with one ridge chimney stack and one chimney at the left side. The plan form is a 3-bay baffle entry plan with forward projection to the first bay, all of two storeys. Single-storey gabled porch at junction of the 2nd and 3rd bays. Above at 1st floor is a rectangular date stone lettered 1675 R de H. All windows are modern casements with glazing bars. The wall of the right gable is slightly recessed above the eaves level.

Interior: timber-framed partition walls, and evidence of earlier timber-framing of outer walls (e.g. tie beam incorporated in right gable at the eaves level); inglenook with chamfered bressumer, quarter round moulded beams, original strutted roof trusses.

(c) Street Frontages

Walton Green Conservation Area is a residential area, with no public greenspace. All of the residential properties on Walton Green have private front and rear gardens, enclosed by stone walls, or some other form of natural or man-made boundary treatment.

(d) Boundary Treatments

The front gardens to residential properties on Walton Green display a variety of boundary treatments, such as low stone walls, railings, picket fencing and hedgerows. A common characteristic of most properties are the identically designed stone gate piers.

What is important is that these boundary treatments distinguish private spaces.

(e) Plot sizes and height

The plot sizes in Walton Green differ from each other quite markedly owing to the variety in size of the properties in the Conservation Area. Many of the plots are fairly sizeable and have good sized private front and rear gardens. Properties 1-17 (odds) have large rear gardens.

All properties in the Conservation Area are two storey residencies; terraced, semidetached or detached properties.

Proposed Conservation Area Extension

There are no proposals to extend Walton Green Conservation Area at present.

Negative Factors

There are certain elements contained in the Conservation Area, which have a negative impact upon its character and architecture. These include:

- Inappropriate replacement windows uvpc
- Inappropriate replacement doors upvc
- On street car parking/congestion along Walton Green
- Litter
- Deteriorating condition of the Victorian lighting columns
- Deteriorating condition of the road surface in places
- Poor condition of the flagstone pavement in places
- The large number and scale of aerials attached to chimneys within the conservation area.

Enhancement

This section highlights a range of proposals, which will enhance the character of the proposed Conservation Area. Should funding become available, then, the Council will need to draw up an enhancement scheme for the Conservation Area. The following proposals for enhancement are, therefore, only suggestions, at this point in time.

• Detailed guidance is needed with regard to the repair and reinstatement of missing features of traditional buildings, as well as the design of new buildings within the Conservation Area.

- Car parking issues although the majority of the properties have their own private driveways, there is a proliferation of motor vehicles parked along the street at Walton Green. This causes congestion, which detracts from the character of the area.
- Street furniture re-painting of old Victorian street lamps.
- Resurfacing of the road surface.
- The flagstone pavement should be repaired and maintained.
- Some form of notice board or sign of recognition to show that the area is a conservation area.

Summary

Walton Green Conservation Area has a varied mix of interesting architectural styles, which are largely Victorian, although there a many good examples of buildings of Georgian age and earlier.

It is recognised that although there are some very attractive buildings, which add to the character and general appearance of the area, work may be required in respect of enhancing the public realm, particularly re-instating missing architectural features. It is important that the Council secure high design standards in any new build as well as any extension to existing properties should be achieved.

Walton Green Conservation Area Management Plan

Introduction

The Conservation Area Character Appraisal has identified the architectural and historic interest of the area that defines the special Character of Walton Green Conservation Area. In order to protect and enhance the aspects that make the area worthy of designation, active management will be required.

Walton Green Conservation Area Management Plan is intended to be read alongside the Character Appraisal.

It is hoped that the document will act as a reference for all who make decisions which may impact on the special character of Walton Green – property owners, planners, developers, designers, architects, local authorities and statutory undertakers. The document will be available on the Council's Website to view and download and a printed copy available in libraries. The content of the Conservation Character Appraisal and Management Plan will be useful as supporting documents to the South Ribble Local Development Framework and assist in any proposals for development within and adjacent to Walton Green Conservation Area.

The policy context is set by the Planning Acts – especially the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. National Planning Policy framework is supplemented by the Central Lancashire Core Strategy and South Ribble Local Plan. The documents will influence future policy development for the area, particularly via the Local Development Framework.

Permitted Development, unauthorised works and Article 4 Directions

The main threat to the quality of the conservation area is the cumulative impact of numerous alterations, many quite small in themselves, to the many historic but unlisted buildings within the conservation area.

South Ribble Borough Council decided to issue an Article 4 (2) Direction on 6th June 1979 to remove certain permitted development rights and protect the area against the cumulative impact of unsympathetic changes.

Changes and additions that constitute unauthorised works erode the historic character and appearance of the conservation area. It is recommended that an audit is undertaken to identify unauthorised works and that action is carried out to remove any inappropriate development or unauthorised features, wherever these have not achieved immunity against enforcement action.

Design Principles

All new development proposals will be expected to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of Walton Green Conservation Area and comply with the relevant development plan policies.

Scale, massing and height of all new buildings will be expected to reflect those of the existing built environment within the Conservation Area.

Appropriate external materials and finishers will be required on all new development within or affecting the setting of Walton Green Conservation Area. Traditional materials typical of the conservation area will be encouraged to complement the existing built heritage. Where more modern materials are proposed these should harmonise with the colours and texture of the existing built heritage.

Extensions and alterations to existing buildings should also be encouraged to follow the scale, proportions, detailing and materials of the existing property.

Appendix

Listed Buildings within Walton Green Conservation Area

Grade		Date
II	12 and 14 'The Cottage'	

References and further reading

A History of Walton-Le-Dale and Bamber Bridge - David Hunt

Walton Green Conservation Area, South Ribble BC, September 1976

Glossary of terms

Feature	Description
Casement	Side-hinged window.
Corbel	Projecting block supporting something above.
Diaper	Repetitive surface decoration of lozenges or squares flat or in relief. Achieved in brickwork with bricks of two colours usually in a diamond shaped pattern.
English Bond	Brickwork with alternate courses of headers (short ends) and stretchers (long sides) exposed.
Finial	Topmost ornamental feature, e.g. above a spire, gable or cupola.
Flemish Bond	Brickwork with alternating headers (short ends) and stretchers (long sides) showing.
Gable	Peaked external wall at the end of a double-pitch roof.
Header	A brick laid with its short end exposed. A flared header is burnt to a darker shade, usually producing a patterned effect.
Lights	Compartment of a window defined by the uprights or mullions.
Lintel	Horizontal beam or stone bridging an opening.
Mullion	Vertical member between window lights.
Sash	A window with a glazed section or section that opens by sliding in grooves.
Setts	Squared stones, usually of granite, used for paving or flooring.
Sill	Horizontal member at the bottom of a window or door frame; sometimes spelt cill
Strecher	A brick laid with its long side outermost.
Stringcourse	Horizontal course or moulding projecting from the surface of a wall.

Frequently asked Questions

A Guide to Conservation Areas

Below are some Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) relating to Conservation Areas. Please consult a solicitor if you are unsure of your legal rights and responsibilities.

What is a Conservation Area?

Conservation Areas are "areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance". The concept was first introduced by the MP, Duncan Sandys, in The Civic Amenities Act 1967. This was embodied into planning legislation by the amendment act of the following year and then set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1971. All Councils in England and Wales were urged to designate Conservation Areas.

Today the power to designate such areas is embodied in Section 69 (a) and (b) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as follows:-

- "69 Every local planning authority:
- (1)

(a) shall from time to time determine which parts of their area are areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance, and
(b) shall designate those areas as conservation areas.

69 (2)It shall be the duty of a local planning authority from time to time to review the past exercise of functions under this section and to determine whether any parts or any further parts of their area should be designated as conservation areas, and, if they so determine, they shall designate those parts accordingly "

How are Conservation Areas chosen for Designation?

They are designated usually because of their buildings but they can also be designated because of their history, architecture, layout or private spaces, such as gardens, parks and greens; trees or street furniture. Conservation areas give broader protection than listing individual buildings and all features within the area, listed or otherwise, are recognised as part of its character.

Who designates Conservation Areas?

In South Ribble the Council has the power to designate and it has designated areas where people generally feel have a special character worth protecting or enhancing.

What policies are used to control development?

Our main body of conservation policy is in Chapter 5: Environment policies, of the South Ribble Local Plan 2000. Policies ENV15 and ENV16 relate to development within Conservation Areas and generally presumes against the loss of features which add to the special interest of the area. These policies are used in the determination of planning applications in conservation areas. This will be replaced by the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document,

when it is adopted. We also take the National Planning Policy Framework, Central Lancashire Core Strategy and Supplementary Planning Document covering Design into account when determining these applications.

What does designation mean?

It is important that proposed alterations in a Conservation Area are sympathetic to its character. Stricter design controls, therefore apply. You may need one of more of the following types of permission before doing work to your property:

Planning Permission in a Conservation Area, you have to obtain permission before making changes which would normally be permitted elsewhere, to ensure that any alterations do not detract from the area's appearance. These changes include certain types of cladding, inserting dormer windows, and putting up satellite dishes which are visible from the street, for development which materially affects the appearance or use of buildings of land. In some Conservation Areas, where permitted development might harm their character, Artticle 4 Directions have been made to certain properties withdrawing this exemption. A Simplified Householder application form will be required for this.

Conservation Area Consent Conservation Area Consent is required for the demolition of all or part of an unlisted building. It is advisable to contact the council to confirm whether your proposal will require consent. A Conservation Area Consent application form will be required for this.

Listed Building Consent for external and internal works which affect the character of a Listed Building, including buildings and structures within the curtilage. A Listed Building application form will be required for this.

Demolition To fully demolish a building, or even parts of it, needs Conservation Area consent and both guidance and the application forms are here. Generally we view an application from the stand point of trying to retain the building so a strong case needs to be made for its demolition. There are no fees for this application and there is a <u>right of appeal</u> against refusal.

Minor developments In a conservation area, you need planning permission for changes to buildings which would normally be permitted. Changes requiring consent include cladding a building, inserting dormer windows, or putting up a satellite dish visible from the street.

Works to trees Trees make an important contribution to the character of the local environment. Anyone proposing to cut down, top or lop a tree in a Conservation Area, whether or not it is covered by a Tree Preservation Order, has to give notice to the local authority. The authority can then consider the contribution the tree makes to the character of the area and if necessary make a tree preservation order to protect it. A Tree Work application form will be required for this.

Are trees in conservation areas protected?

Yes. If a tree is not covered by a Tree Protection Order but is in a Conservation Area, you must give six weeks notice in writing to the Planning Authority, providing the tree is 7.5cm in diameter measured 1.5 metres above ground level (or 10cm if the work is to promote growth of other trees. It is an offence to do work to a tree in a conservation area without consent.

What if I want to carry out works to a tree within a Conservation Area?

If a tree located within a conservation area is already the subject of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) then this tree is automatically covered by the TPO legislation.

If no TPO exists, then prior to carrying out any works to the tree, six weeks notice must be made in writing to the Planning Authority describing the trees and works to be carried out. This applies to surgery works or felling of any tree with a trunk over 75 mm in diameter measured 1.5 meters above ground level.

Is the Council responsible for trees within Conservation Areas?

No, the owner remains responsible for the trees, their condition and damage they may cause. The Conservation Area status provides the Council with a period to assess the trees suitability to be included within a Tree Preservation Order.

Display an Advertisement. Consent to Display an Advertisement application form will be required for this.

Article 4 Directions made under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1997 allow the Borough Council to make further restrictions on the kind of alterations allowed to residential buildings, depending on how these might affect the key elements of the Conservation Area. Typically these remove 'permitted development rights' for alterations such as replacement doors, windows and porches, the creation of hard standings and the removal of original boundary treatments. The cumulative effect of these alterations together with the removal of other architectural details such as chimneys, ridge tiles and decorative timber work leads to erosion of character and appearance. An Article 4 Direction requires planning permission to be obtained for these minor developments. No planning fee is paid in these circumstances. A Simplified Householder application form will be required for this.

Building Regulation Approval for structural work to buildings to ensure health and safety standards are met. Further information on Building Control can be found by phoning 01772 625403.

Local residents and businesses generally are fully aware that areas have been designated and how their character and appearance are protected.

Is my property in a Conservation Area?

Detailed plans showing the boundaries of each Conservation Area are available from the Planning Department at the Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland. Plans will soon be available online to view. You are welcome to visit the Council's Reception and view the maps or to telephone to speak to the relevant officer in the Forward Planning Section.

How do I find out more about a Conservation Area?

The Council has a programme of appraisal to assist in providing clear definition of an area's interest and the action needed to protect it. Character appraisal may also identify areas where enhancement through development is desirable. These will be published on the web when available.

Further Information

For further information on Walton Green Conservation Area, please contact the Forward Planning Team:

By Telephone

01772 625400

In writing

South Ribble Borough Council, Forward Planning Section, Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, Lancashire. PR25 1DH

By email

Forwardplanning@southribble.gov.uk

Other Useful Contacts

English Heritage, 1 Waterhouse Square, London EC1N 2ST

Tel: 020 7973 3000

(For information relating to Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)

The Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) 37 Spital Square, London E1 6DY

Tel: 020 7377 1644

(For a range of technical advice leaflets)

The English Historic Towns Forum, PO Box 22, Bristol. BS16 1RZ

Tel: 0117 975 0459

(For further guidance on Conservation Areas)

The Victorian Society 1 Priory Gardens, London W4 1TT

The Twentieth Century Society 70 Cowcross Street London EC1M 6EJ