

Additional information received by email from Pat Marsden on 23 December 2013

Dear Marika

I think Daryl's letter as Chair of QRRA covers most of it. The main point is that Qube were commissioned to carry out an appraisal of the Wivenhoe Conservation Area and as part of this process carried out a consultation with the residents of Wivenhoe which was held in the William Loveless Hall.

QRRA, WTC and Wivenhoe Society all submitted representations which were taken into account together with representations from the public on the day.

Following this the draft appraisal was finalised and proposed an extension to the existing conservation area to include properties which in their view were worthy of inclusion and would result in a more discrete and appropriate conservation area. This was completed in March 2007 and submitted to Colchester Borough Council. My understanding is that Colchester Borough Council approved the document with some changes of wording and the document was redated March 2008 and placed on the CBC website.

The next step in the process following the approval of the appraisal was that it should be formally adopted which would require notifying Wivenhoe residents of the proposal and allowing time for feedback before the formal adoption could be ratified by CBC.

Unfortunately this excellent document (you can find a link to it on the QRRA website as well as to QRRA's own representation) then remained in limbo in spite of numerous efforts to chase it up by people who had submitted representations.

At one point I attended a meeting at CBC to discuss progress with the newly appointed Design and Heritage Manager who had finally been appointed following a reshuffle of CBC departments. This officer was keen to take things forward but then left his post after only a short period in office and the post remained vacant again for quite some time.

I believe that someone has now been appointed to take conservation work forward as part of his role. I have the name somewhere and Beverly also knows who this is.

I believe that the adoption of the Wivenhoe Conservation Area should form an integral part of the Neighbourhood Plan. It was approved by local bodies in consultation with residents and would help to protect and inform others of the town's heritage assets as part of the planning process.

With best wishes

Pat