



Listing of our Heritage

A workshop was organised by the Neighbourhood Plan team in early December to review the historic environment that exists within our Parish. The main input was provided by Warwickshire County Council with participation by members of the Neighbourhood Plan team and other local residents with a keen interest in the history of our area. Some of the key points raised during the workshop were that our Parish contains a total of 350 historic records including:

- a) 7 ancient woodlands which have been in existence since before 1600
- b) 14 local wildlife sites which qualify on the basis of scientific and community criteria such as diversity, rarity and fragility of species
- c) 37 ecosites that contain a significant number of species based on information from the Warwickshire Biological Records Centre
- d) 11 sites of aircraft crashes from the 2nd World War, primarily associated with accidents at the Wellesbourne airfield which was a training station for bomber crews. These sites are protected by law under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986.

The remaining items included many “findspots” of ancient coins and pottery including evidence of settlements going back to Roman times and earlier.

In addition, it was highlighted that the Parish already has no less than 57 listed buildings and special historic features. All these are already protected by statutory planning rules. However it was pointed out that there are many other local buildings and ancient sites and monuments that are not covered by this statutory listing and therefore not subject to the same level of planning protection. The intention is to now prepare a local listing of features that we, as a community, feel should be afforded a level of protection in the event of any developments. This will be done in conjunction with the local history groups and then made available for comment as part of the Neighbourhood Plan report.

The expectation remains that the draft Neighbourhood Plan report will be released for general comment by April which will include proposed policies relating in some way to land use. Once supported, these will eventually become part of the Stratford District Council Local Plan and will be required to be taken into account as part of any planning application assessment.

If you have any views you wish to share with us on this or any other aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan work then please send an e-mail to info@w-w-w.org.uk or contact us on 07967 057448.