**NEWS from the SEEND PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP**

**April Update**

We are moving ahead steadily and work on the main evidence base continues for our Neighbourhood Plan.

One such is establishing a **List of Local Heritage Assets**. A Local Heritage List is a way of identifying buildings, structures, sites or landscapes which do not quite meet the criteria for being nationally listed, but which are still of architectural or historical importance in their local area. We can identify and map our Parish's locally important heritage assets within our Neighbourhood Plan to ensure that planning decisions that directly affect them or their setting are taken into account.

Identification of a Local Heritage Asset in our Parish does not change the existing planning controls that already apply to a building. However, local heritage listing means that the interest of the building or site will be at least a “material consideration” during the planning process.

Historic England sets out criteria to inform what could be appropriate for the list:

* + **Rarity**: This can include unusual assets such as traditional signage or industrial relics
  + **Representativeness**: Representative of a particular architectural period, architect, movement, company or group of its time, for example railway, Victorian and industrial.
  + **Architectural interest**: Of importance in its architectural design, decoration or craftsmanship
  + **Townscape value**: walls, fences, railings, street surfaces (including cobbles, setts and grass verges)/ Street furniture.
  + **Group value**: Groupings of assets with a clear visual, design or historic relationship (including farmyard and terraces)
  + **Artistic interes**t: An asset with artistic interest exhibiting some degree of creative skill (including sculpture, decoration, gates, railings, door surrounds, finials and signage)
  + **Historic association**: Associated with an historical person or event of acknowledged note (including important local figures or events).

We encourage anybody in our local community to offer suggestions for what might qualify for inclusion on our own Local Heritage List. Please get thinking..! On our website you will find a Local Listing Nomination Form, or you can simply email your idea via the Contacts page. ([www.seendparishplan.org](http://www.seendparishplan.org)).

Once we have a shortlist for the Seend Parish Local Heritage List we will share it with you and undertake consultation with any owners who may be able to provide valuable information, which can influence the decision about whether to add the asset to the Local Heritage List.

This month we move on to the next stage of **site assessment** and we continue to work alongside the Seend Community Land and Asset Trust with the aim of delivering affordable housing for local people in the parish.

All are welcome at the monthly open meetings. The next Committee Meeting will be Thursday 25th April at 7.30pm. in the Community Centre. (Some members of the SG meet again between these open meetings to progress the background work, together with our Consultants).

Carola Thorpe on behalf of the S.P.N.P. Steering Group