List of Local Heritage Assets

The Parish Council would like to prepare a List of Local Heritage Assets, which will also be included as part of the Neighbourhood Plan. These are non-designated heritage assets which are important to the local community and ones which the community would like to conserve and enhance.

A heritage asset is defined in the National Planning Policy Framework as: ‘*A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest.’*

Historic England has published a brochure entitled ‘Local Heritage Listing’ and this includes a section entitled ‘Defining the Scope of the Local Heritage List. This sets out the following criteria:

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| Criterion | Description |
| Age | The age of an asset may be an important criterion. This can be adjusted to take into account distinctive local characteristics or building traditions. |
| Rarity | Appropriate for all assets, as judged against local characteristics. |
| Aesthetic Interest | The intrinsic design value of an asset relating to local styles, materials or any other distinctive local characteristics. |
| Group Value | Grouping of assets with a clear visual design or historic relationship. |
| Archaeological Interest | An archaeological asset, in the form of buried remains, can provide evidence about past human activity in the locality. |
| Archival Interest | The significance of a local heritage asset of any kind may be enhanced by a significant contemporary or historic written record. |
| Historical Association | The significance of a local heritage asset of any kind may be enhanced by a significant historical association of local or national importance, including links to important local figures. |
| Designed Landscape Interest | The interest attached to locally important historic designed landscapes, parks and gardens which may relate to their design or social history. |
| Landmark Status | An asset with strong communal or historical associations, or because it has especially striking aesthetic value, may be singled out as a landmark within the local scene. |
| Social and Communal Value | Relating to places perceived as a source of local identity, distinctiveness, social interaction and coherence, sometimes residing in intangible aspects of heritage, contributing to the ‘collective memory’ of a place. |

As you will see from the above criteria local heritage assets can include not only buildings but also structures, landscape features, archaeology sites, earth mounds of historical significance, old pumps or wells, old stone walls, Devon hedge banks, telephone boxes, Second World War pillboxes, or even just interesting areas of paving or cobbles.

We would like to get the whole of the community involved in this process and are now asking the parishioners to put forward suggestions based on the above criteria and supported, if possible, by photographs and any background information that you may have available.

We have placed in the Holywell Stores some Nomination Forms for this purpose. The nomination forms when complete can be posted in the Neighbourhood Plan box or alternatively people can send nominations to the Chairman or any member of the Steering Group by post or email.

We will be setting up a working group to consider the proposals.  **If you would like to be included please contact Valerie Scott or any other member of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.** It would be useful if this working party could include people from the History Society or anybody else with heritage, history or design expertise but qualifications of this type are not essential.

We are also encouraging the younger members of our community to get involved in this exercise and will be arranging some specific events for them during the next few weeks. Please could the **parents or guardians of children aged 5-16 contact Valerie Scott** to let her know whether their children would be interested in taking part in these studies which we hope to carry out during half term or a fine weekend in February or March. This will not take up too much time, possibly half a day or a day at the most.

We hope that parishioners will take an active part in this process so that we can be sure that the local list fully represents the views of the community.

The list of local heritage assets will be published for consultation purposes to enable people to comment on this prior to it being sent to South Hams District Council and Historic England for their approval.

**The** **closing date for nominations will be 9 March 2018.**

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