

Objective G. Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment



The village draws some of its character from the fact that it stands on the Roman road from Dover to London through Canterbury. This road became known as Watling Street. The bridge at Bridge is built over the Nail Bourne, an intermittent stream which is often completely dry but is also capable of rising rapidly to flood low-lying areas in the village. The Nail Bourne lies in a valley so that Watling Street rises up-hill in both directions from the centre of the village. Consistent with its age and location the village has more than sixty listed buildings dating from the early fifteenth century onwards.

Policy G1

To respect the existing village charm and character in terms of scale, style and setting of new developments as defined in the Village Design Statement.

The Plan will continue to ensure that any new development is appropriate to complement the present building infrastructure.

CDLP Policy DBE1 (Sustainable Design and Construction) states “All development should respond to the objectives of sustainable development and reflect the need to safeguard and improve the quality of life for residents, ... minimise waste and protect and enhance the environment”.

“The City Council will therefore require development schemes to incorporate sustainable design and construction measures that must satisfy the criteria...”

The Parish Council Planning Committee will closely monitor the building materials intended for use in any proposed new building. While this applies to all buildings it is of particular significance to those intended for conservation areas in the village.

The CDLP Policy HE1 (Historic Environment and Heritage Assets) states that “Development must conserve and enhance, or reveal, the significance of heritage assets and their settings. Development will not be permitted where it is likely to cause substantial harm to the significance of heritage assets or their setting unless it is necessary to achieve substantial public benefit that would outweigh the harm or loss.”

The Neighbourhood Plan strongly supports this policy and the Parish Council will endeavour to maintain the distinctive historic character of Bridge.