

**Renewal, Recreation & Housing PDS Committee
16th June 2021**

Public Questions

(1) From Professor Bernard Williams (on behalf of Shortlands Golf Club) to the Chairman of the Committee

Item 7f – Designation of Shortlands Village Conservation Area

Precisely which statements in the BEAMS Report identify or describe the ‘architectural and/or historic interest’ of the golf course (bearing in mind the need to distinguish between the role played by the golf course as a setting of the village and its attributes as an area of architectural and/or historic interest which justify designation)?

Reply:

Table 1 in the report sets out the reasons why the golf course should be included in the conservation area. This includes comments with regard to the historic interest of the area, and quotes from the BEAMS report.

(2) From Professor Bernard Williams (on behalf of Shortlands Golf Club) to the Chairman of the Committee

Did the Council ask the authors of the BEAMS Report or Historic England to consider the Report from Dr. Edis with a view to reconsidering their advice on the merit of designating the golf course particularly bearing in mind para. 75 of the Guidance note from Historic England relating to finalising the boundary of the Conservation Area?

Reply:

As noted in the report, in table 1, while the Historic England response does not go into specific detail about all elements of the area, the response has clearly been informed by a detailed reading of the BEAMS report and an understanding of the boundary proposed, which includes the golf club.

Officers consider that the report from Dr Edis raised no issues which would have warranted referring his report to BEAMS or Historic England or amending the conservation area boundary.

(3) From Professor Bernard Williams (on behalf of Shortlands Golf Club) to the Chairman of the Committee

Why does the Council consider it is necessary to designate the golf course land as part of the Conservation Area given that it already has MOL protection?

Reply:

As noted in paragraph 3.9 of the report, the fact that the golf club already has significant protection through the MOL designation is not a relevant consideration when considering whether an area should be designated as a Conservation Area; if the area is considered to warrant designation, it should be designated.