

1.1 Baseline Information

The Devon County Historic Environment Record (HER) records that the plan area contains the following:

Designated Heritage Assets:

Grade I Listed Buildings:	0
Grade II* Listed Buildings:	1
Grade II Listed Buildings:	24
Conservation Areas:	2
Scheduled Monument	2
Registered Historic Park/Garden	0

Locally Listed Assets 0

Assets on the Heritage@Risk Register 1

Undesignated Heritage Assets: approx. 110

Thurlestone Parish is within the AONB and within the Heritage Coast and the Undeveloped Coast.

I attach a generic letter from Bill Horner, County Archaeologist on Neighbourhood Plan preparation and the Historic Environment. The production of a neighbourhood plan is an ideal opportunity for you to determine what aspects of the local historic environment are important to your community and how they can be best managed.

Thurlestone Neighbourhood Plan: Comments

1-1.15 Introduction and About the Parish

Overall this gives a good insight into the character of the parish assisted with stunning pictures.

As well as the charter of 845 perhaps mention Thurlestone was also the site of the Domesday Manor of Torlestan, in 1086 held by Judhel of Totnes in Demesne.

There are just over 100 undesignated heritage assets within the parish. You could state how many designated heritage assets you have, mentioning both Scheduled monuments and paying particular attention to the one on the Heritage at Risk Register (Roman settlement site at Bantham Ham). As well as Romano-British settlement in the parish there are also indicators of prehistoric settlement comprising findspots of Mesolithic/Neolithic flint arrowheads, a Bronze Age spear head (MDV55727 & MDV58790) and the settlement at Bantham Ham, which dates from the Bronze Age

through to the medieval period (MDV2807). There are two further possible indicators of prehistoric settlement in the parish but further investigation of both these sites are required to clarify their characters (MDV63611 + MDV22790), the former being a Scheduled Monument.

A brief summary of the important part the parish played in WWII, Royal Marines taking over Thurlestone Hotel as their Office Cadet Training Unit, area of the parish used as an assault course, mines on the beach, military training trenches on Bantham Ham, military structures, anti-invasion etc. Could make specific reference to the evidence left behind from the training activity during WWII in 6.1 Heritage

As of yet there are no locally designated heritage assets in the parish. There may well be a number of assets within the town you would like to put forward to the district council, which you think make up the character of the town.

5. Wellbeing

Creation of two heritage trails within the parish has proven to be a success. Further heritage trails could be set up creating links between the urban and rural areas of the parish.

Objectives

6. Heritage

To conserve and enhance the parish's historic environment by promoting the protection of certain non-designated heritage assets which are of special local historic interest.

Suggest take out the word certain and also include promoting the protection of designated heritage assets.

Policy TP5 Reuse of farm and rural buildings

Suggest V – any application must be supported by the required archaeological surveys and reports in order to assess the impact of the proposed development on the building and provide a record of the historic fabric.

Policy TP15 Change of use of farm and rural buildings

Suggest IV - any application must be supported by the required archaeological surveys and reports in order to assess the impact of the proposed development on the building and provide a record of the historic fabric.

Heritage

Background

6.1

There are 25 listed buildings in total, 24 Grade II and one Grade II*, not 45 as stated. Mention some of the outstanding ones, the Church, Clanacombe etc...

Two Scheduled monuments (Roman settlement site at Bantham Ham, and four bowl barrows 270m west of The Downs).

The chest tomb approximately 7m south of Church of All Saints, Thurlestone is not included on the list of listed buildings. Although not a building it is a designated heritage asset.

The Plan includes a certain amount of history in the main Introduction (Section 1) but Section 6 also needs an introductory paragraph as 6.1, the paragraph re heritage assets becoming 6.2 etc. This will set the following paragraphs on designated and non-designated heritage assets and SAMs in context. Needs only be a summary from Section 1, something along the lines of:

Documentary evidence indicates that Thurlestone and Buckland have Saxon origins while Bantham is the site of a large Roman and post Roman trading settlement with evidence also for much earlier, prehistoric activity. Historically dependent upon each other and on the sea and agriculture for their livelihoods, the three main settlements each developed their own separate characters reflected in the designated and non-designated heritage assets surviving in each.

6.2 Suggest give some examples of non-designated heritage assets, as the list of them in Policy TP21 is several pages on. You could include a map showing their location.

6.4 Suggest put in a sentence about the bowl barrows before sentence about the extent of the SAMs. For example, the four possible Late Neolithic-Bronze Age barrows on the ridge overlooking Bantham Ham are also a SAM. Further investigation is required to determine the true character of these features.

SAM in the next sentence should be plural – The extent of the SAMs at Bantham and the four....

There is no reference to the Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC). HLC illustrates the area outside the historic cores of the parish (of which there are four) to have been surrounded by orchards and fields laid out in the medieval, post-medieval period. Earlier fields tend towards curving boundaries, while those laid out in the 18th and 19th centuries generally have straight boundaries. Remnants of medieval field systems that still survive can be considered when development is proposed. Areas of sand, dunes and rough ground are located in the western quarter of the parish. Small pockets of woodland are also illustrated in the wider area of the parish.

Buried evidence for former buildings or structures may well be present within the historic core of the village and in the wider vicinity and these maybe affected by any development in these areas. There is also the potential for the survival of earlier historic building fabric within apparently later structures.

Make reference to remnants of WWII evidence.

Further suggestions

Many towns and villages around the country are reinstating some of their orchards and creating community orchards, which a parish such as Thurlestone could benefit from. The Orchard Project works in partnership with communities to plant, manage, restore and harvest orchards in community areas.

This link provides further information <http://www.theorchardproject.org.uk/>.

Some of the earthworks have indicated a prehistoric/funerary landscape in the parish. A community project surveying the known earthworks such as the area of the possible barrows could be worthwhile and can only enhance what little is known about these heritage assets. Unknown earthworks may be happened upon along the way.

Having good access from the built up areas of the parish to the surrounding countryside can benefit the community and visitors in all manner of ways including contributing to health and well-being. If necessary, enhancing the footpaths, cycleways and bridleways will make them more easily accessible ensuring their protection for future generations.

Many aspects of the parish mentioned in the neighbourhood plan could be emphasized using heritage trails. Two heritage trails have been put in place and have proved very successful. The trails can help connect the urban and rural settings. The history of the cider industry for example could be highlighted to show how rural communities were once self-reliant. Small scale industry such as cider making in rural communities could be reinstated in conjunction with the orchard project. The trails could be in any form such as a guide book, signage, engraved stones and public art. The heritage trails bring together community participation, encourage ownership of the area and adds to community development. Developers should be asked to include appropriate enhancement of trails within the design of new developments and/or through contributions to developing the 'virtual' trail.

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23 October 2017