

Hersham Village Conservation Area

Hersham Village Conservation Area (Designated by Elmbridge Borough Council – 30 August 1989)

Statement of Designation

The area is based upon The Green, Vaux Mead, the Memorial Gardens, and most of the properties overlooking these open spaces and it is the grouping of the buildings around the various greens with their mature trees which gives the area its attractiveness. The Green, the Memorial Gardens, together with St. Peter's Church and St. Stephen's School, formed the core of the hamlet of Hersham.

St. Peter's Church, built in 1887, is a Grade II listed building. The remaining buildings in this stretch of Burwood Road are of no particular merit. St. Stephen's School, situated on The Green, and built in the early 1840's, together with Ember and Bury Cottages in Pleasant Place, make an important contribution to the character of the area and have been included on the Local List. On the north side of The Green, the Watermans Arms public house was reported as trading as early as the 1790's. Faulkners Road and Mills Road, on the western side of The Green, consist mainly of Victorian Cottages, many of which have unfortunately lost much of their original character through unsympathetic alterations and extensions.

The open spaces, including The Green, Back Green, The Memorial Gardens and Vaux Mead, are an essential part of the character of Hersham Village. The Green and the Memorial Gardens were originally joined until the constructing of Burwood Road. The Green, Back Green and Vaux Mead are all designated as Strategic Open Urban Land (SOUL) in the Local Plan, on which the Council would not normally permit built development. The Green and Back Green are charitable lands, for which the Council would need the consent of the Charity Commissioners to change their status as Open Space. The Memorial Garden is managed by the Council and appears to be similarly protected. Vaux Mead is bequeathed to the Church. St. Peter's Church enjoys statutory protection and the local list buildings are the subject of Local Plan policies, but the remaining buildings in the area are unprotected against demolition. The designation of this part of Hersham as a Conservation Area will enable the Council to exercise greater control over new development, trees, and the demolition, extension or alteration of existing buildings.

For more information, please email us at tplan@elmbridge.gov.uk

