

BOX PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs M.S. CAREY
Clerk to the Council

Office open to public
Monday & Thursday
9.30 – 12.30
or by appointment

COUNCIL OFFICE
THE PARADE
BOX
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Telephone: 01225 742356

Xx June 2025

Dear *As applicable (eg Parishoner / Formal consultee)*

Your views are invited on the proposed Locally Valued non-designated Heritage Assets in the draft Box Parish Neighbourhood Plan

We are delighted to inform you that your property or a feature within the land that you own or are responsible for has been earmarked as a highly valued asset to the Parish community – or to use the technical term, a 'Locally Valued non-designated Heritage Asset'.

Background

As you may already know, Box Parish Council is preparing a document to help safeguard the appearance and character of the Parish. It will also set out how any new development will be a good 'fit' with its surroundings.

This work is being taken forward in a document called the draft **Box Parish Neighbourhood Plan**.

An important part of this work is to ensure that the rich heritage of Box Parish is identified and recognised.

Buildings which are of **national** historic importance are protected by Historic England against inappropriate development by means of 'listing' (Grade I, Grade II etc). Additionally, important archaeological sites are protected by 'scheduling'.

We have some 240 formally listed buildings in Box Parish and four sites identified as scheduled monuments.

However, there are a number of buildings, structures and archaeological sites which are not currently listed or scheduled which are, nevertheless, important to our local heritage in the Parish.

Historic England have developed criteria to help communities ensure that such assets can be properly recognized when they prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. These criteria are summarized in a table (attached) for your information.

Why you have received this letter

Box Parish Council is writing to let you know that a feature within the land which you are understood to own and / or be responsible for is proposed to be included as a 'Locally Valued non-designated Heritage Asset' within the emerging draft Box Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

What feature is proposed as a Locally Valued non-designated heritage asset

The feature proposed to be included is:

LOCAL HERITAGE ASSET

The full commentary and explanation on the asset and why it is proposed to be identified is clearly set out following this letter.

What the proposed designation will mean for the asset

The effect of identifying local heritage assets in this way in the draft Neighbourhood Plan will help to inform planning decisions in a way that conserves and enhances the local character and distinctiveness of the Parish. It will help us as a community celebrate our local heritage.

The designation will not place restrictions on the asset or stop any changes to a building or any other development taking place; it does not bring additional consent requirements over and above those already required for planning permission.

Your opportunity to comment

A Neighbourhood Plan must be based on robust evidence. This should include the views of owners because they can often provide valuable information which can influence the final decision about whether features should be included in the proposed list of Locally Valued non-designated Heritage Assets.

We would like to know your views on the inclusion of **LOCAL HERITAGE ASSET NAME**

In particular, please let us know if any of the information in the description and assessment is incorrect and / or if you have more information that supports the asset's significance.

Please contact us at – **clerk@boxparishcouncil.gov.uk**

Should you wish to comment, please do so by **1st September 2025**.

What will happen next

The preparation of the draft Neighbourhood Plan must follow the relevant legislation from Government.

The Parish Council will take into account all the comments made on the proposed list of Locally Valued Non-designated Heritage Assets in the further preparation of the draft Plan.

You will also have an opportunity to comment on this (and the rest of the draft Plan) in the formal consultation(s) that must take place in its preparation process. Later on there will be an examination by an independent Inspector and a community referendum vote.

The Parish Council is hoping that the draft Plan will be in place in 2026/2027.

Yours sincerely

on behalf of the Box Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

For further information:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7/heag301-local-heritage-listing/>

Factors that Historic England suggest be considered in identifying Locally Valued non-designated heritage assets

The list of what might qualify as a Locally Valued Unlisted Heritage Asset is long and varied and genuinely open to things that are of real value to a local community. Here below is a shortened version of the criteria set out by Historic England¹.

Criterion	Description
<i>Rarity</i>	<i>This can include unusual assets such as cast-iron bridges and traditional signage or more common ones of unusual architectural style or materials.</i>
<i>Representativeness</i>	<i>May be representative of a particular architectural period, architect, movement, company or group of its time, for example Quaker, railway, Victorian and industrial.</i>
<i>Architectural interest</i>	<i>Of importance in its architectural design, decoration or craftsmanship; important examples of particular building types, materials and techniques (e.g. buildings displaying technological innovation) and significant plan forms.</i>
<i>Townscape or Landscape value</i>	<i>Key landmark buildings or structures and buildings that strongly contribute to a view or roofscape vista. Valued open spaces, (including designed landscapes, streets, squares, parks, gardens, amenity and green spaces), walls, fences, railings, street surfaces (including cobbles, setts and grass verges). Street furniture (including signposts, streetlights, benches, post boxes and telephone boxes).</i>
<i>Group value</i>	<i>Groupings of assets with a clear visual, design or historic relationship (including farmyards, terraces, group form and layout), contribution to street scene, roofscapes and perception.</i>
<i>Artistic interest</i>	<i>An asset with artistic interest exhibiting some degree of creative skill (including sculpture, painting, decoration, advertisements, memorials, gates,</i>

¹ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7/>

	<i>railings, door surrounds, finials and signage).</i>
<i>Historic association</i>	<i>Associated with an historical person or event of acknowledged note (including important local figures or events, for example landowner, commemorative event, charity, ecclesiastical or other community group and former resident). Highly unlikely this would apply to assets associated with a living person.</i> These can also be heritage assets which add to the collective memory of a local place can be valuable in understanding the social value and the sense of community in the local area.
<i>Archaeological interest</i>	<i>There may be evidence to suggest that a site is of significant archaeological interest.”</i>