
Trent & Mersey Canal (Cannock Chase District)
Conservation Area:
Draft Appraisal and Management Plan

The Council is inviting comments on new Draft management documents for the Trent and Mersey Canal Conservation Area.

The Canal was designated as a Conservation Area in 1988 by Staffordshire County Council and it runs throughout the county. The Canal was completed in 1777 and is of outstanding industrial archaeological importance, being the first of the major inland waterways. Boundaries of the Conservation Area generally follow the boundaries of the Canal and its towpath, extending in places to include adjacent buildings in character with the Canal. In order to help manage future changes as the Area continues to develop a Draft Appraisal of significant aspects of its character and appearance which contribute to and detract from its special architectural and historic interest has been carried out. Following from this work, a Draft Management Plan setting out ways in which this character and appearance might be preserved and enhanced has been prepared. Everyone living or working in the Conservation Area (including its surroundings or more widely if interested) is now invited to have their say.

The Appraisal updates a previous document from 2012 in response to a changing planning background including changes in use and new development. It sets out the development history of the Conservation Area and seeks to identify what matters and why, from traditional materials to trees and views. Being a linear Conservation Area it's setting is of particular importance. It concludes with some recommendations for ways of preserving and enhancing these special features. Copies of the Draft Appraisal are available on the Council's website www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/planningpolicy under 'Planning Policy News' or can be inspected at Rugeley and Brereton Libraries and the Civic Centre, Cannock during normal opening hours.

The Draft Management Plan, to be read in conjunction with the Council's generic Conservation Areas Management Plan SPD adopted a few years ago and available on the Council's website https://www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/generic_conservation_areas_management_plan_nov16.pdf, aims to develop the recommendations in the Appraisal into measures designed to help preserve and enhance its characteristic buildings and features including its character as a green wildlife corridor through the urban area. Copies of the Draft Management Plan are available on the Council's website www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/planningpolicy under 'Planning Policy News' or can be inspected at Rugeley and Brereton Libraries and the Civic Centre, Cannock during normal opening hours.

Comments are invited during the six week consultation period Monday 5th November to Monday 17th December 2018 either by email to planningpolicy@cannockchasedc.gov.uk or by post to Planning Policy, Cannock Chase Council, Civic Centre, PO Box 28, Beecroft Road, Cannock WS11 1BG. All comments received will be reported to a future Cabinet meeting for updating the documents as appropriate prior to their final adoption. For all submitted comments we are unable to treat views confidentially. Names will be made public but contact details will not be disclosed. If you would like to speak about the documents please ask for Angela Grove, Principal Planner, telephone 01543 464517.

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