



CONTACT US

For any queries and responses in relation to the Ampney Crucis Conservation Area and the forthcoming appraisal, as well as a map of the current conservation area boundaries, please see the parish council website at:

www.ampneycrucis-pc.gov.uk/village-information/

or email us at:
natalie.fenner@ampneycrucis-pc.gov.uk

HELP US TO PROTECT YOUR CONSERVATION AREA

AMPNEY CRUCIS



WHAT IS A CONSERVATION AREA?

An area of "special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance" – in other words, conservation areas exist to protect the features and the characteristics that make a historic place unique and distinctive. Cotswold District Council (CDC) has a statutory duty to pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character and appearance of the conservation area. In addition to statutory controls, both national and Local Plan policies help preserve the special character and appearance of conservation areas and their setting where it contributes to its significance. CDC has the largest number of conservation areas anywhere in England (144), and Ampney Crucis' conservation area was first identified by CDC in 1980 as being an area of special architectural and historic interest, worthy of protection.

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Since its designation, Ampney Crucis has never had a conservation area character appraisal. Whilst it has a map which defines its boundary, there is no accompanying document which provides a consistent assessment of what makes the area special, which means there is no consistent framework for informed planning decisions. The Parish Council and Residents Action Group, together motivated by the threat of 660 houses being suggested by CDC to be added to the northern fringe of the village in their 2025 'Preferred Options' consultation, have therefore commissioned a new conservation area character appraisal to be put together by consultants, which will provide the clear assessment of character and appearance which the village sorely lacks.

WHY WILL A CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL BE HELPFUL?

The appraisal will identify and analyse what is special about Ampney Crucis in order to help homeowners, landowners and businesses with an interest in the village to be better aware of and involved in the protection and management of the conservation area. By providing a consistent basis for planning decisions affecting the conservation area, this should help to guide controlled and positive change, minimising harm and encouraging high quality design which responds to the sensitive surroundings.

In addition the appraisal will provide useful evidence to help in the fight against the next stage of CDC's local plan process, due to commence in Summer 2026.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

We want to hear the views of residents, community groups, businesses, and others with an interest in the area.

We want to understand what you think contributes to the character and appearance of the village, what you consider might be a threat, and whether you consider the current protected areas to be the right ones.

As a result we will be hosting two consultation events at the Village Hall in Ampney Crucis on the following dates:

- Tuesday 14th April from 2.00-4.30pm
- Wednesday 22nd April from 7.00-9.30pm

For anyone unable to attend one of these two dates, we will also be publishing information on the Parish Council website under the tab for 'Village Information' from 3rd April until Friday 24th April, and responses can also be submitted to us by email to: natalie.fenner@ampneycrucis-pc.gov.uk