

## **Epping Conservation Area Character Appraisal**

The Planning Directorate have recently published the consultation draft of the Epping Conservation Area Character Appraisal. Local residents, businesses and visitors to the town are all invited to comment on the draft before the final version is published in February 2008. The purpose of the character appraisal is to define the character of the conservation area, review its boundaries and highlight any parts of it that may be in need of improvement. Local authorities have a statutory duty to formulate proposals for the enhancement of their conservation areas and in recent years, the Government has been encouraging local authorities to produce character appraisals for all their conservation areas. The draft character appraisal for the Epping Conservation Area covers topics such as public spaces, shopfronts, highway signs as well as sites with potential for improvement or development. A management plan at the end of the document sets out objectives for the conservation area for the next five years.

The appraisal is available to view on the Council's website at:

[http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/Council\\_Services/planning/conservation/conservation\\_areas.asp](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/Council_Services/planning/conservation/conservation_areas.asp)

A limited number of hard copies will also be available. These can be obtained by telephoning (01992) 564068 or emailing [conservation@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:conservation@eppingforestdc.gov.uk). Alternatively, the appraisal is available to view at the District Council's Planning Reception from Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping.

A public meeting is being held at **7.30pm on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2007 in Epping Hall, St John's Road, Epping** to discuss the character appraisal. Anyone interested in the future of the Epping Conservation Area is invited to attend.