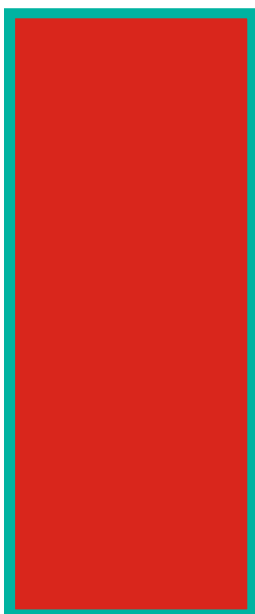
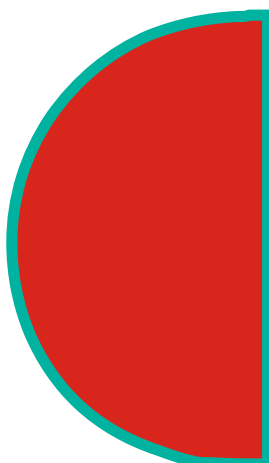


*Supplementary Planning Guidance*

# ***CONSERVATION AREAS IN THE RURAL VALE***



*The Vale of Glamorgan  
Adopted Unitary Development Plan  
1996 - 2011*





*The Vale of Glamorgan UDP  
Supplementary Planning Guidance*

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# ***CONSERVATION AREAS IN THE RURAL VALE***



**Rob Quick, B.A.(Hons), Dip. T.P., M.R.T.P.I.  
Director of Environmental & Economic Regeneration**

**Rob Thomas, B.A.(Hons), MRTRI  
Head of Planning & Transportation**

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# **CONSERVATION AREAS IN THE RURAL VALE**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

**1.1.1** Unitary Development Plans Wales (2001) indicates that Supplementary Planning Guidance may be prepared to provide additional information for the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). It must be issued separately and be made publicly available.

### **1.2 Status of the Guidance**

**1.2.1** This Guidance was approved for Development Control purposes by the Council on 6th January 1999, (Council minute no. 995 6/1/99 refers). This document has subsequently been updated in light of Planning Policy Wales (2002). This Guidance will be used as a material consideration in determining planning applications and appeals.

### **1.3 The Scope of the Guidance**

**1.3.1** The Unitary Development Plan sets out policies for the protection of the built and historic environment, and a number of policies within the document relate to conservation areas. This guidance note explains how the policies can guide the way we protect and co-ordinate development within Conservation Areas in the rural vale. The guidance relates to villages designated as conservation areas, and these are set out in part VI of this report. Many of the policies could equally relate to villages not covered by the designation, and for this reason, the guidance seeks to promote an understanding of the special character of all villages in the Vale of Glamorgan which can guide enhancement proposals in a variety of situations and locations.

**1.3.2** The Guidance has been prepared to assist in the preparation and assessment of development proposals. This is a planning term which does not simply relate to new buildings or houses. It covers

alterations and extensions to buildings, highway or engineering proposals or changes to the use of a property or piece of land. All these developments can affect the character of a Conservation Area. The guidance sets out policy to guide development which requires planning permission, as well as guidance on how the wider character of each Conservation Area may be maintained.

**1.3.3** Conservation Areas recognise the special character of an area, and provide for the protection and enhancement of groups of buildings, as well as their setting. This special character can be formed by a number of features. Trees and spaces, paved and hard surfaced areas, groups of buildings and their historic development, can all influence the character of the Conservation Area. This guidance seeks to identify common building themes and the landscape qualities that can be found within villages in the rural vale, and to reflect and complement a local vernacular in the presentation of policies. The Guidance follows advice in Welsh Office Circular 61/96 relating to 'Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas', (as amended by Circular 1/98) and Technical Advice Note (Wales) on Design. Both encourage Local Planning Authorities to prepare guidance based on a clear understanding of the character of an area.

**1.3.4** Following this introduction, the guidance, is set out in three parts: the first, sets out policies for the protection of the village Conservation Areas, the second, sets out a set of 'tests' and 'design principles', which can be used to appraise development proposals. The third, sets out guidance on how to protect and maintain the features which contribute to the character of the Conservation Area. The policies are followed by an inventory of the village Conservation Areas to which the policies will apply. Each Conservation Area is described in brief and opportunities for enhancement are identified.

## **2. THE UDP POLICY CONTEXT**

**2.1** The guidance should be read in conjunction with policies set out in the "Built Environment" Section of the UDP, and in particular, Policy ENV20 which relates to development within conservation areas, and Policy ENV27, which relates to the design of new developments.

**2.2** The guidance and the inventory of Conservation Areas which follows are the first steps towards the preparation of appraisals required by Section 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. This places a duty on the Local Planning Authority to 'formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of any parts of their area which are Conservation Areas'. Appraisals have been prepared for a number of Conservation Areas in the Vale of Glamorgan, and others will be prepared and adopted as part of a continuing programme of review.

## **3. THE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE**

### **3.1 The Background**

**3.1.1** The Vale of Glamorgan covers undulating countryside between the river Ely in the east and the Ogmore river in the west. Inland, the underlying limestone is fractured by shallow escarpments, and at the coast it forms dramatic cliffs. Further west the cliffs descend to the sand dunes beyond Ogmore. It is on this landscape that successive layers of settlement and culture have left their mark, giving the Vale its special character.

**3.1.2** The geology of the area has not only determined its farming and settlement pattern, it has also determined the way houses have been constructed. The Vale is one of the few areas in Wales which once had ample supplies of good workable building stone and freestone. As a result, the area still displays modest houses with decorative stone work, and every village is framed and defined by boundary walls made of local stone. Timber is rarely used as a structural building material and is confined to ceilings and roofs. Thatching was once common in the Vale but slate has largely replaced this indigenous roof covering. With this change, there have also been structural changes to building form,

ridge and roof profiles. The variety of roof pitch and varied sky lines that result, all contribute to the character of villages in the Vale of Glamorgan.

**3.1.3** Although rural house building is typically dispersed within farm holdings, the Vale is marked by nucleated villages, often possessing a Great House and church around which smaller cottages are set. This form derives from the manorial structure of the early communities of the Vale, again demonstrating the importance of the cultural history of the Vale in shaping the character of the villages.

**3.1.4** Five periods of house building can be identified within the Vale villages. These are:

- *The pre-industrial buildings set around the Church and farm holdings which often form the nucleus of many Vale villages.*
- *Houses built during the Industrial Revolution. During this period, improved transport and the introduction of new materials lead to changes in traditional building patterns.*
- *Estate houses built for the agricultural community prior to 1915.*
- *Houses built by the former Rural District Councils and interwar housing estates. These were often developed in clusters on the edge of villages and still reflect many of the decorative qualities of the Arts and Crafts movement.*
- *Owner occupied contemporary housing set within single plots and possessing many different styles and materials.*

Each type of housing will benefit from the application and use of the guidance and policies set out next.

### **3.2 The Policies**

**3.2.1** The natural and man made elements described above combine to create the distinctive character of the Conservation Area in:

- *The landscape setting of each village.*
- *The shape of each settlement.*
- *The nature and form of the buildings themselves.*

**3.2.2** The policies set out below seek to identify the features which contribute in a positive way towards the character of each Conservation Area. Because the policies have been prepared for all the Conservation Areas in the rural Vale, they cannot be prescriptive, but seek to promote an appraisal of site and context in the preparation and execution of development proposals.

### **3.3 The Historic Development of the Village**

**3.3.1** Most villages in the Vale have grown and evolved over time, and what can be seen today is often very different from the shape, form and purpose of the original settlement. There are many village forms in the Vale: some are clustered around Church and large farm holdings, or are placed at the junction of a number of routes. Others are linear and spread out along a road or coaching route. The way houses are placed, and the hierarchy of building patterns which emerge, often reflect the past social and economic structure of the community and determine the character of the village. The following policies seeks to recognise the cultural associations that the history of a village can provide.

**IN PROPOSALS FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT, FEATURES WHICH DISPLAY AND RECALL THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE VILLAGE WILL BE PROTECTED.**

**NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL RESPECT ITS HISTORIC CONTEXT IN SCALE, FORM MATERIALS AND DESIGN.**

### **3.4 The Landscape Setting of the Conservation Area**

**3.4.1** The earliest and most fundamental influence on the development of the village is the landscape. The shape of the land, the shelter provided, and the geology and drainage of the area all play a part in the form of villages in the Vale of Glamorgan. Although these factors are no longer a major influence in their form, they all contribute to the character of the village and evoke a strong association with the natural landscape. The qualities the landscape of the village provides can be found in:

- *The pattern of woods and fields which surround the village.*

- *The way trees, hedges and grass verges frame and shelter building groups.*
- *The way buildings are set over hillsides and along ridgelines, and within valleys.*

**3.4.2** The sensitive use of a site's natural contours can play a major part in helping to tie development into the landscape of the village. Similarly, the appropriate use of tree planting, hedges, screen planting and earth mounding can play a significant part in creating shelter, and in framing and softening the introduction of new building forms into the village.

**3.4.3** Trees within Conservation Areas are protected by Conservation Area legislation. Similarly, others are the subject of Tree Preservation Orders which recognise the value of individual, or groups of trees in the local environment.

**PROPOSALS WILL PROVIDE FOR THE CARE, MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF TREES AND WOODLAND AREAS WITHIN CONSERVATION AREAS.**

**DEVELOPMENT WILL GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO LANDSCAPE DESIGN, TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE EXTERNAL VIEW OF THE VILLAGE.**

**WHERE A VILLAGE CONSERVATION AREA INCLUDES LANDSCAPES AND GARDENS OF HISTORIC OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE, THEY WILL BE PROTECTED AND WHERE APPROPRIATE SHOULD BE ENHANCED.**

### **3.5 Roads, Streets and Pathways in and around the Village**

**3.5.1** Villages in the Vale of Glamorgan reflect the former use of horse drawn vehicles within the area, and the importance of footpath links within the community and into countryside beyond. Now, few of the villages find it easy to accommodate motor vehicles, and traffic and parked vehicles often have an adverse effect on the visual and physical quality of the village Conservation Areas. One of the challenges of new development is to respond to the traditional road pattern and the restricted road widths that remain. New development and plans for parking and improved access need to satisfy highway standards for safety, but at the same time respond and respect the scale and intimacy which has evolved from the early road and building patterns. A flexible

approach to highway design that achieves safety through design is promoted:

**WHERE HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS ARE REQUIRED, THEY SHOULD RESPECT THE CHARACTER OF THE CONSERVATION AREA.**

**PARKING AND ACCESS REQUIRED BY NEW DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE ACCOMMODATED WITHIN DEVELOPMENTS, AND RESPECT EXISTING ROAD LAYOUTS AND THE CHARACTER OF OPEN SPACE AND GARDEN ENCLOSURES.**

**IMPORTANT FOOTPATH LINKS SHOULD BE PROTECTED AND ENHANCED THROUGH MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVED SIGNAGE.**

**IN REPLACEMENT AND REPAIR, ORIGINAL LOCAL DETAIL IN THE HIGHWAY SHOULD BE RETAINED AND REPAIRED. WHERE DUE TO COST AND PRACTICALITY, DETAIL CANNOT BE REINSTATED REPLACEMENT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN USING SYMPATHETIC MATERIALS AND FITTINGS.**

### **3.6 Landmarks, Views and Vistas**

**3.6.1** The pattern of the landscape and the way a village has grown often determines the way the entrance to a village is perceived, as well as the way in which views in and out of the village and between building groups are achieved and enjoyed. The approaching view of a village can often show a settlement contained by trees, with post war housing development stretching beyond the nucleus of the village into open countryside. Elsewhere village forms can dominate the skyline and the village will appear as a straggle of houses and farm buildings along a road. The variety and quality of views in and out of a village is often determined by the distinctive features and landmarks provided by dominant buildings within. They can be formed by features such as a church tower, the dominant Great House of a village and its boundary gates and walls, or by the remains of a castle, ruin, or old farm buildings. These features are important and should be acknowledged and enhanced to ensure that new development does not mask or damage their quality as local landmarks.

**SIGNIFICANT VIEWS INTO AND OUT OF THE VILLAGE CONSERVATION AREA SHOULD BE PROTECTED**

**AND ENHANCED WHERE OPPORTUNITIES ARISE. DISTINCTIVE ROOF PATTERNS, RIDGELINES, AND LANDMARK BUILDINGS OR FEATURES WILL BE PROTECTED AND ENHANCED WHERE OPPORTUNITIES ARISE.**

### **3.7 Materials**

**3.7.1** The Vale of Glamorgan possesses many villages which still display the popularity of local natural building materials in their early development. The local limestone still predominates, and reflects local sources and skills as well. Near the coast, Blue Lias limestone is common, but to the north, carboniferous limestone is a traditional building stone, and pink sandstones are also used. Where the stone is of poor quality, it is often protected by limewashed renders. Slate roofs, or imitation slates now dominate the villages, though some thatching still remains. Brick is a recent building material in the Vale of Glamorgan, and appears in its earliest form in brick surrounds framing doors, window openings and as chimney stacks. Contemporary buildings across the Vale use a number of modern materials and show a wide diversity in style, colour and texture. However smooth white renders tend to be the most popular finish. This can be seen in the estate houses of the '50 and '60's building period, and in the commuter housing developments which have taken place within villages during the last thirty years.

**3.7.2** The way materials are used and the detailing of elevations also have a profound effect on the character of buildings in the villages of the Vale of Glamorgan. The resulting scale, form and character of building is often more significant than the use of traditional building materials. The following policy seeks to establish a clear understanding of scale, form and execution of detail in the design of new housing and development.

**MATERIALS MUST BE APPROPRIATE TO THE LOCALITY AND SYMPATHETIC TO THE EXISTING BUILDINGS IN THE CONSERVATION AREA.**

### **3.8 Boundaries and Enclosures**

**3.8.1** Local materials are seen to their best advantage within field and plot boundaries, where hedges and walls reflect the early farming patterns and practices. Boundary walls are especially important in the Vale of Glamorgan and their character can be

determined by the size of the building stone, its coursing and method of pointing. The local Blue Lias limestone, laid to course or in random rubble, with a flush lime based mortar is a common feature of buildings and boundary walls in the Vale of Glamorgan. Often they are interrupted or surmounted by railings, particularly where 19th Century development on the edge of the village has brought new materials and building forms to the fringe of the earlier pre-industrial street pattern.

**3.8.2** There is often an attractive partnership of hedge with stone walling within the villages. This sort of boundary is common in the Vale and requires careful maintenance and protection using traditional repair and management techniques and the continuation of common hedgerow species.

**STONE BOUNDARY WALLS, HEDGES AND RAILINGS WHICH ENHANCE THE CHARACTER OF THE CONSERVATION AREA SHOULD BE RETAINED, MAINTAINED AND REPAIRED. WHERE NECESSARY, NEW DEVELOPMENT SHOULD SEEK TO FOLLOW THESE TRADITIONAL BOUNDARY FEATURES.**

### **3.9 Buildings and Spaces in the Village**

**3.9.1** The arrangement of buildings and open spaces within villages is often the key to their distinctive character. Their form should always be assessed early on in planning for new development and change in a village. New development should provide for both physical and communicating links with the existing village pattern. To achieve this, development should build on the existing network of open space within a village, and recognise the important links that they provide between shops, and homes and community facilities.

**3.9.2** Open areas also play an aesthetic part in forming the character of the village. They can improve access into the surrounding countryside, frame vistas and provide important woodland backdrops to informal or straggling building groups.

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF OPEN OR WOODLAND AREAS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHARACTER OF THE CONSERVATION AREA WILL BE OPPOSED.**

**NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL HAVE REGARD TO ITS LANDSCAPE SETTING AND RESPECT BOUNDARIES**

**AND ANY ESTABLISHED PATTERN OF PLOT COVERAGE IN THE VILLAGE.**

### **3.10 Village Boundaries**

**3.10.1** To many, the impression formed on arrival into the village forms a lasting one. The approaching views and entry into the village are influenced by boundaries, hedges and plot sizes. Often these are formed by back gardens, farm yard buildings or garages, where temporary, or insubstantial boundary treatments are used and tolerated. Hedges are often depleted, and well defined boundaries are lost as a result. There is often a tendency to replace indigenous hedge and shrub species with fast growing coniferous screens. Their heavy appearance cannot be compared with the delicate, and muted colours and shape achieved by the local species such as thorn, privet, field maple and spindle. The following policy seeks to protect existing boundaries and guide proposals to consolidate or replace them.

**TO ENHANCE THE VIEW OF THE VILLAGE FROM WITHOUT, NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL GIVE A HIGH PRIORITY TO THE TREATMENT OF BOUNDARIES AND SETTLEMENT EDGES.**

### **3.11 The Management of Development, Change and Repair**

**3.11.1** The way in which development is directed and planned often influences the way it looks, as well as the appearance of the wider area. The restrictive approach to new development within villages of the rural Vale can lead to pressure to maximize the development opportunities of many sites, leading to development which is out of scale, and the loss of the character this guidance note has sought to identify. The following policies encourage an early appraisal of village form and set out a framework for the assessment of development proposals alongside a contextual assessment of the area within which they will take place.

**THE LAYOUT AND DESIGN OF NEW DEVELOPMENT SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTEXT PROVIDED BY THE VILLAGE. TO DEMONSTRATE HOW THIS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, DEVELOPERS SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE THREE DIMENSIONAL PLANS OR DRAWINGS TO SHOW HOW NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL RESPECT ITS SETTINGS.**

WHERE A PROPOSAL FOR THE DEMOLITION OF A BUILDING WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA IS TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE REDEVELOPMENT OF A SITE, CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT WILL ONLY BE GRANTED WHERE FULL PLANNING PERMISSION HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY OR CONCURRENTLY GIVEN FOR THE REPLACEMENT BUILDING.

PROPOSALS FOR THE DEMOLITION OF A BUILDING SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE APPROPRIATE RE-USE OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS MATERIALS WHICH REFLECT THE CHARACTER OF THE AREA.

## 4. A METHOD FOR ACHIEVING THE POLICIES SET OUT ABOVE.

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section provides detailed guidance on how UDP policies can be achieved. The check list of design criteria set out below aims to enhance the character of the Conservation Area. The check list promotes a contextual approach to development which is flexible and does not discourage innovative contemporary design. The check list also sets out criteria which can be used to achieve the objectives behind Policy Env 18 of the Unitary Development Plan. It will serve as a basis for the assessment of planning applications within the Conservation Areas set out in Part VI

### 4.2 Design Principles

The following principles should be taken into account:

**Context of the site:** Take account of the wider setting of the site.

**Recycle old buildings:** When considering a site, the sensitive conversion of existing buildings should be a priority.

**Preserve and enhance the character of the Conservation Area:** Reflect the character of surrounding buildings and open spaces, but avoid mimicking architectural styles and creating pastiche buildings that undermine the character of the Conservation Area.

**Materials and details:** Use high quality, durable materials. These should complement surrounding buildings and landscape and pay attention to detailing as an integral part of the design.

**Sustainability:** Create buildings and open spaces which are adaptable, minimising the need for change in the village.

**Scale:** Design and orientate new development so that it reflects the scale and layout of the village.

### 4.3 A Sensitive Development Test.

To see whether these principles have been met, consider the following:

i) *Are there original, traditional buildings that should be used or restored within the site?*

To minimize disruption to the character of the Conservation Area, priority should be placed on re-using existing buildings.

ii) *Does the development fit into the fabric of the locality; the plots, building groups, roads and open spaces?*

These components form the basis of the Conservation Area. and reveal the historical development of the site and its setting.

iii) *Does the development reflect the scale of building in the Conservation Area?*

The development and its various parts should sit easily within the Conservation Area.

iv) *Do the materials used in the development reflect those which are prevalent in the Conservation Area?*

The range of traditional or natural building materials in the Vale of Glamorgan rural Conservation Areas is diverse. New development should use natural materials, or those which can complement their simple and organic qualities. The use of foreign stone should be avoided. This check list should be used to guide the submission of a planning application within the Conservation Areas set out within Part VI. The Local Planning Authority will require an applicant to provide information that can show how new development can relate to its site and setting. This could comprise before and after photos,

or context sketches showing the surrounding area and buildings and should demonstrate how the guidance has been acknowledged and followed.

## REFERENCES.

The guidance has been prepared with the benefit of advice and information from the following documents:

***Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas.*** Welsh Office Circular 61/96 HMSO

***Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Notes (Wales) 12: Design***  
NAW 2002

***Inventory of Ancient Monuments in Glamorgan***  
RCAHM (Wales) HMSO

***Cardiff and The Valleys***  
Hilling J.B. 1973.  
Lund Humphries Publishers Ltd.

***Houses of the Welsh Countryside***  
Smith P. RCAHM 1975 HMSO

***The Buildings of Wales: Glamorgan***  
Newman J. 1995 Penguin Books

***Ideal Homes for Rural Wales***  
A Research Study for the Countryside Council for Wales.

***Village Design : Making Local Character Count in New Development***  
The Countryside Commission 1996

***The County Treasures Survey.***  
Prepared by the former South Glamorgan County Council.

## 5. GUIDANCE ON REPAIR AND ALTERATION

### 5.1 Introduction

**5.1.1** This section provides advice on how to protect the Conservation Area by the repair and enhancement of some of the original and historic features which form an area's special character.

### 5.2 Alterations and Extensions to Buildings in a Conservation Area

**5.2.1** The character which justifies the designation of a conservation area can easily be damaged by the cumulative impact of minor alterations to buildings forming the historic core of many of the Vale's village conservation areas. This can include the replacement of windows, doors and roofing materials or the addition of domestic extensions.

**5.2.2** The following notes set out some simple advice on how to approach the repair of old buildings in the village. A planning officer can advise on the need for planning permission. Where consent is required, it is advisable to discuss proposals with a planning officer before the submission of an application. Work which alters a Listed Building will usually require Listed



*The St. Hilary Conservation Area.  
Many buildings show materials and decorations which are typical of the local building tradition.*

Building Consent. Again it is advisable to seek advice before preparing plans or undertaking work.

**5.2.3** In all work, the key to a successful repair is to understand and respond to the local building tradition.

### Windows

**5.2.4** It is often the simple arrangement of door and window openings in the building face which account for their quality. The replacement of an original set of windows in a house or cottage can often damage the look of a house, or the overall effect of a terrace or group of houses. Where repairs are undertaken, original window patterns should be followed and modern materials avoided.

**5.2.5** In replacement, multi divided and asymmetrical frames should be avoided, so should modern materials such as UPVC, or stained hardwoods, if they cannot reflect the simple qualities described above.

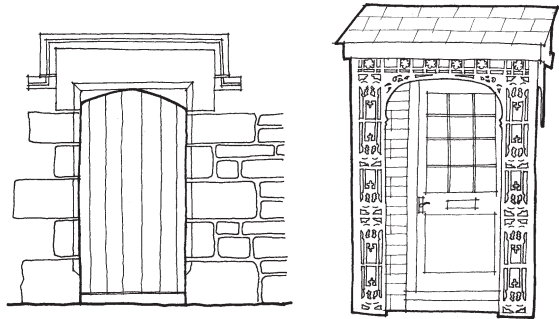
**5.2.6** It is often possible to have original windows overhauled, rather than replaced. If a window does need to be replaced, there are local joiners who can make a replica. Grant aid may be available through the Vale's Historic Building Grant Programme. A planning officer can advise you on how to approach repair and the feasibility of grant aid.



*The removal and replacement of original windows can upset the balance of a house*

### Doors

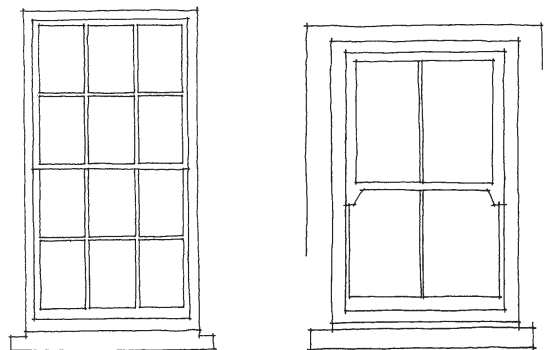
**5.2.7** Simple timber panelled doors with a limited area of glazing remain appropriate for most houses in villages within the Vale of Glamorgan. Doors which mimic materials from different periods should be avoided as should modern materials such as UPVC.



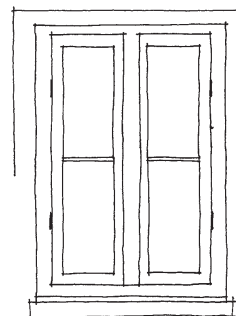
*An early door surround with stone drip mould*

*Decorative porches are a common feature of 19th century village houses*

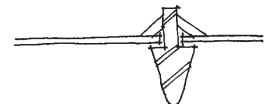
**5.2.8** The same principles apply to garage or garden gates or doors. Each should reflect the proportions and simple architectural details used on the main building. Horizontal boarding and panelling should be avoided.



*Victorian windows continue the vertical emphasis of the Georgian window openings*



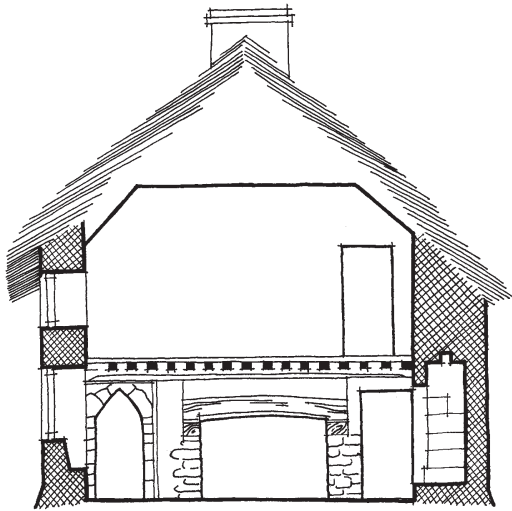
*This is a traditional design often used in cottages*



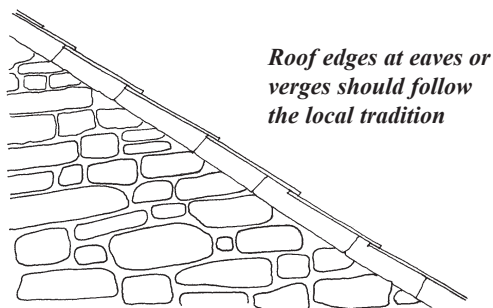
*Fine glazing bars can reflect daylight*

## Roofs

**5.2.9** Thatch was once a common roof covering in the Vale, but is now largely replaced with slate. Where thatch does remain, it should be protected and maintained by craftsmen with skills in handling the appropriate material. Within the Vale this could be either reed or long wheat straw. It is important that historic thatching, original details and supporting roof structure are retained in the repair and renewal of roofs.



*The Bush Inn, St. Hilary. This section shows a thatch roof together with important internal features*



**5.2.10** Natural Welsh slate is now the most common roofing finish and in many cases was used to replace thatching to older buildings in the late 19th century. On listed buildings, it is required that natural slate laid to the same detail is used as a replacement finish in any repair. It is recommended that contractors with experience in laying natural slate are employed.

**5.2.11** On unlisted buildings in conservation areas, natural slate can often be a viable alternative to imitation slate. The latter can alter the appearance of an historic building in subtle but damaging ways.

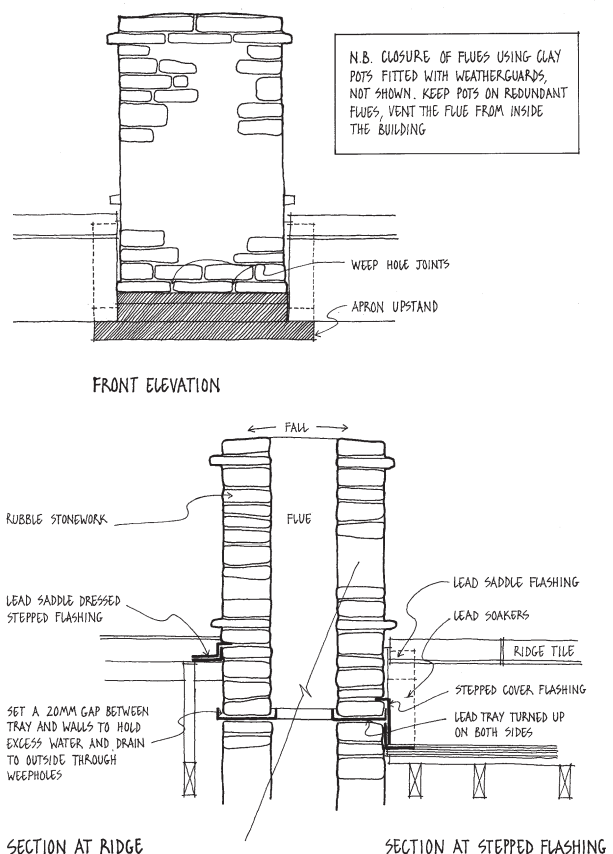
However, some artificial slates are manufactured with rougher edges and minor surface texturing. These may act as an acceptable visual alternative.

**5.2.12** Pennant stone slates are exhibited on the more important larger domestic buildings as well as on farm buildings. It is an increasingly rare local detail which should be retained and repaired whenever possible. Stone slate is always laid in diminishing courses from eaves to ridge.

**5.2.13** When roofs are replaced, traditional details should be recorded and replaced in the same way. Roof edges (at eaves or verges) should follow the local tradition. Often roof slates will overhang the gable end of the wall, with vertical slates set under to protect the end rafter. Timber bargeboards and fascias should follow the original size and profile as should the materials and design of replacement rain water goods.

## Chimneys

**5.2.14** Stone chimneys in old houses are an important part of the architecture and often provide clues to the age of a house. In the Vale of Glamorgan, there are many open hearths in houses constructed from the 16th Century onwards, whose



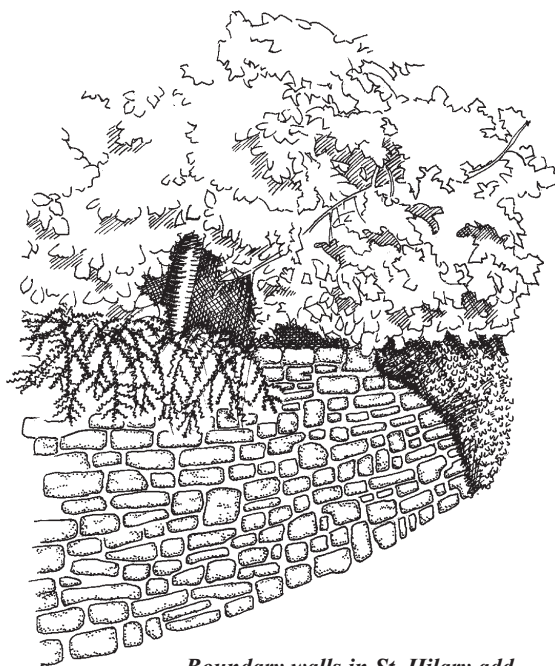
large chimneys are often fine examples of local stonework. In repair, such stonework often simply requires repointing. The method and mortar mix should always match the original finish. When a chimney does need to be rebuilt, it should be recorded by drawings and photographs and rebuilt in replica, reusing any sound old materials for the external face. Even when a flue is redundant, clay pots should be retained.

### Stonework/ Wall Finishes

**5.2.15** Local limestone is the traditional building material in the rural Vale. Its mellow cream and grey tones are found on boundary walls, farms and domestic buildings in most villages and give each a close affinity with their landscaped setting.

**5.2.16** The stone is often roughly squared, laid in random rubble courses and was normally finished with a protective limewash. The size, colour and shape of stone varies according to local source, and the age and importance of the building it forms.

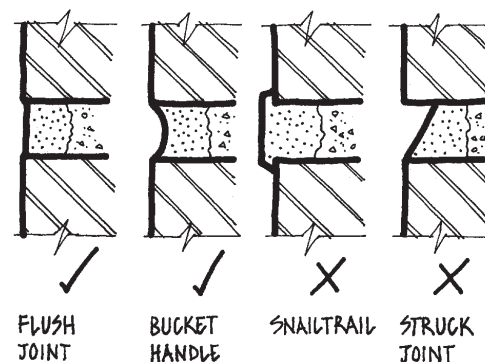
**5.2.17** The local stone is rarely used for dressings in and around windows/doors. In the best architecture of the 16th and 17th century, local Sutton and Quarella sandstones are used in dressings. From the 19th century, bathstone and local brickwork was used for this purpose.



*Boundary walls in St. Hilary add to the character of the village*

It is important that historic stonework is correctly repaired and replaced. It is essential that existing stone is repointed in a manner which is appropriate to the original building method. The use of lime putty based mortars is recommended, as the introduction of dense, cement based mixes will cause problems of moisture retention in traditional stone walling.

**5.2.18** The actual repointing technique is also important. On original stone work, repointing may be recessed, or lie flush with the stone, and this pattern should be followed for new work. "Snailtrail" repointing, or repointing that stands proud of the stone should be avoided.



*Repointing on old buildings*

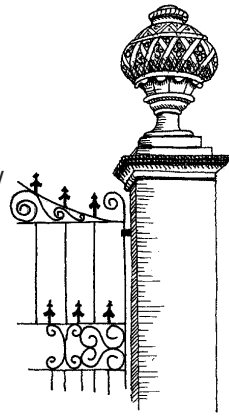
**5.2.19** A white limewash applied regularly to stone walling is a traditional method of maintaining and protecting local stone.

**5.2.20** Attention should be paid to stone work patterns used on extensions. Random rubble limestone walling is frequently used on original buildings in the village. New stone work should be laid in similar patterns, with free stone or brick dressings set around doors and windows where appropriate. A painted smooth lime based render is an alternative.

### Walls and Enclosures

**5.2.21** Boundary walls should be regarded as an extension of the building they protect. They define ownership, provide privacy and protection from wind and rain. Most importantly, walls define space. New walls should seek to fulfil the same objectives. Natural stone walls define the character of each village and should be repaired and retained where possible. Grant aid may be available for repair which can show

traditional repair techniques following the local vernacular. Black painted iron railings on a stone base are common in the Vale and can be replaced using profiles and designs easily manufactured by local smithies.

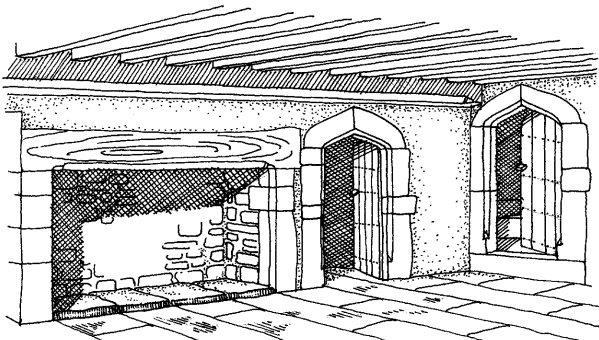


*Gate and pillar,  
Great House, Llanmaes*

**5.2.22** Artificial stone or concrete screen walling is alien to the area and should be avoided, as should chain link, timber or brick panelled fencing sections.

### **Internal Details**

**5.2.23** Older buildings often possess interesting details within. These should be left in place wherever possible. An original fireplace, a panelled door, an attractive ceiling or stair can all add to the character of a building. In the case of listed buildings, internal features (e.g. timberwork, historic plasterwork, doors, fireplaces etc.) are protected by law and consent is necessary for their alteration or removal.



*Original internal features of listed buildings are protected*

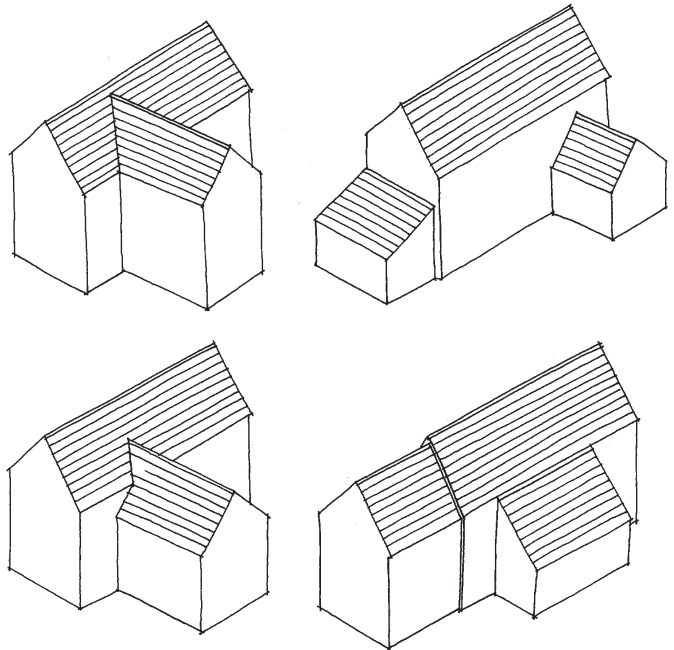
### **Extensions To Existing Buildings**

**5.2.24** The key to good design is to understand and respond to the characteristics of the local building tradition. The older the house, the more important it is to retain its character and long standing relationship with adjoining buildings.

**5.2.25** The main elements of roof, wall and windows should combine in such a way that the architectural balance of the original building is protected. In the rural Vale, many farm houses and village groups use a simple composition where doors and window

openings are closely related. This should be protected by acknowledging the symmetry already in place, for example by setting back the building line of an extension, or by dropping its ridge line to below that of the original house. The height and shape of this roof line is important and is often determined by the original roof characteristics.

**5.2.26** In acknowledging this simple building hierarchy, new development can add to and enhance the complex building form and skylines created by traditional village groupings.



*The scale and design of an extension should always be subordinate in scale to the main house, as these examples show*

### **Where To Get More Advice Or Information**

**5.2.27** If you are considering extending or altering your building it is advisable to contact the planning department at an early stage. A Development Control Officer will be available to give advice and information on the need for planning permission. More detailed advice is also available on the repair of buildings.

## 6. VILLAGE CONSERVATION AREAS: AN INVENTORY

### 6.1 Introduction

**6.1.1** This inventory sets out a brief description of Conservation Areas for which the policies apply, and aspects of character or appearance which define each area's special interest. The buildings identified do not constitute a definitive list of those which contribute to the character of a Conservation Area, but seek to identify buildings which for historic or architectural reasons, make a positive contribution. The inventory covers the following Conservation Areas: Aberthin, Boverton, Bonvilston, Broughton, Colwinston, Drope, East Aberthaw, Flemingston, Gileston, Llanbethery, Llancadle, Llancarfan, Llandow, Llangan, Llanmaes, Llanmihangel, Llantrithyd, Llysworney, Michaelston Le Pit, Monknash, Pendoylan, Penmark, Peterston Super Ely, Porthkerry, St. Brides Major, St. George, St. Hilary, St. Nicholas.

### 6.2 Aberthin

#### *Description*

**6.2.1** The Aberthin Conservation Area is set around the valley of the Nant Aberthin to the east of the A4222.

**6.2.2** The conservation area has two distinct and different parts: the cluster of houses set around the pubs and village hall at the main road junction; and the quiet backwater of cottages and houses which line the brook as it runs below Stalling Down.

**6.2.3** The village is of historic interest and is presumed to be the site of Villa Fratus, an important religious house referred to in the early local record: The Book of Llandaff.

**6.2.4** More recently, the village developed as an early centre of non-conformity. One of the first Methodist Chapels in the county was built in 1749 for the Aberthin Society. The present village hall in Penylan Road is the chapel which replaced it in 1780.

**6.2.5** The Great House occupies the site of an earlier building but now stands as an important 17th Century house set within walled gardens and

entered by a gatehouse on its southern boundary. The house and contemporary gatehouse retain their original features and provide a fine example of domestic building of the period. The symmetrical front elevation of the house has square headed mullion windows at two main floors and in three large gabled dormers.

**6.2.6** The enclosing garden wall aligns with the gatehouse, a rectangular two storey building of rendered stone with dressed stone openings. This attractive group together with the buttressed brook and roadside verges give this part of the conservation area its special character, and continues to the west in the setting it provides Aberthin House, The Sweetings and Sunnybridge.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.2.7** The stream and the wayside verges on Llanquain Road determine the special character of the Conservation Area. This road nestles below Stalling Down; and is framed by trees and mature hedges on its southern side.

**6.2.8** Beyond, the character of the village becomes more urban as contemporary housing along the A4222 dominates the earlier wayside inns and cottages.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- The Great House II\*
- Gatehouse and Bridge to Great House II
- The Sweetings II
- The Telephone Call Box outside the Farmers' Arms Public House II

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Aberthin Cottage
- Aberthin House
- Sunnyside
- The Village Hall

#### *Key Issues*

- The care and management of wayside verges and boundary walls which define and enhance the character of the conservation area.

- The care and management of trees and hedges which define the eastern course of the Aberthin Brook and the gardens which enclose the historic building group.
- The protection of the attractive open watercourse and its stone retaining walls and bridges.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### 6.3 Bonvilston

#### *Description*

**6.3.1** Bonvilston Village lies on the A48 and comprises a loose knit, but continuous line of houses, buildings and boundary walls set along the A48. The Conservation Area includes land and buildings between Sheepscode Cottage in the east to Ty Groes Farm in the west, and extends northwards to include part of an extensive estate of detached houses built during the 1970s.

**6.3.2** The origins of the village are ancient; the remains of two Roman settlements lie to the north and west, and its name is derived from the family of Simone de Bonville whose manorial possession dated from the 12th Century the family name. The village's name and Welsh title Tresimwn is derived from the family name.

**6.3.3** The centre of the village lies at its western end in a group comprising church, Ty Mawr and Manor Cottage. From there, the road descends past stone retaining walls into open countryside and a straggle of houses ending at Ty Groes Farmhouse. At the eastern end lies another building group; this time having an informal and rural character. It includes Maes-y-Fynon, a group of estate houses set around two "village greens" and runs east to include Court Farm, Sheeps Court Farm and cottages and their respective yards; paddocks and outbuildings.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.3.4** The village is framed and enriched by the presence of substantial trees and woodland groups set within gardens and around the church yard. The Old Estate buildings which remain deep within the Bonvilston estate are also partnered by tall Scott

pinetrees, highlighting the early history of Bonvilston House and the importance of the village in the rural hinterland.

**6.3.5** Because of its linear form, the conservation area retains a number of fields bounded by hedges and retaining walls. These have been reflected successfully within boundary walls fronting contemporary housing which has replaced a petrol filling station opposite The Red Lion.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Bonvilston Cottage (II)
- Church of St. Mary (II)
- The Churchyard Cross at The Church of St. Mary (II)
- The Village Farm House (II)
- Great House (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Church Cottage
- The Lodge
- Sheepscode Farm and Cottages
- Sheepscode Cottage
- The Red Lion Public House
- Red Lion Cottages
- Gate piers and remnants of stables, Village Farm Estate.

#### *Key Issues*

- The maintenance and consolidation of stone boundary walls which line the A48.
- The protection and enhancement of the two rural housing estates at Maes-y-Fynon.
- The mitigation of the effects of fast moving traffic along the A48.
- The maintenance and enhancement of tree groups which frame the Church at the centre of the village.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## 6.4 Boverton

### *Description*

**6.4.1** Despite lying on the western boundaries of Llantwit Major, Boverton still retains its character as a quiet rural backwater. The Conservation Area extends from the shopping precinct on Boverton Road to the outer limits of Boverton Place Farm yard and the B4265 in the east. This generous boundary permits the enclosure of the nucleus of the rural village and the outlying remnants of the historic Boverton Place. This complex comprises the ruined mansion farm buildings and historic boundary walls. The conversion of farm buildings within the grounds has led to a change in the character and function of the group, as well as the enfolding landscape, as gardens, garages and drives have replaced the paddocks and yards which once supported each farm.

**6.4.2** The importance of Boverton Road as an eastern access to the larger town of Llantwit Major has shifted and realigned the centre of the village to the contemporary shops which lie at the junction of Boverton Road at Old Tyle House. The boundary walls which surround Boverton House reinforce the identity of the village, directing fast moving traffic away from the lane along which cottages, farms and outbuildings are set.

**6.4.3** Boverton House and Orchard Farm are both substantial buildings set within wooded grounds. Boverton House is a fine three storey rendered and stuccoed house dating from the late 16th Century. It is set back from the road behind stone walls with a fine central gateway with cast iron railings.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.4.4** The village is set on level ground which forms the coastal plain of the Vale of Glamorgan. The landscape is domestic in scale and formed by trees and gardens around each farm complex. To the east, the lane is bounded by thorn hedgerows.

**6.4.5** The River Hodnant passes to the west of the village, meandering around a rough flood plain towards the road and bridge at Boverton Road. The eastern end of the village is marked by a stone gate tower and wall which bounds the copse surrounding Orchard Farm.

### *Listed Buildings*

- Door and walls of gardens to the west of Boverton House (II)
- No. 4 and "Navron", The Causeway (II)
- Nos. 1 and 2 Boverton Court Farm (II)
- Boverton House (II)
- Boverton Place (II)
- Boverton Place farmhouse (II)
- Tyle House (II)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The tower and walls adjoining Orchard House

### *Key Issues*

- The enhancement of the shopping precinct at Boverton Road where opportunities arise.
- Provision for the repair and protection of buildings of historic and archaeological interest.
- The investigation of opportunities for the improved interpretation of historic buildings.
- To maintenance and protection of stone boundary walls which define and enhance the village street.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## 6.5 Broughton

### *Description*

**6.5.1** The village of Broughton lies between Wick and Monknash, 3 miles west of Llantwit Major. The major part of the village has grown on the western side of the Lane which runs from the ancient well at Nash Brook in the south to a small green at the outer limits of Wick. The village has a distinctive building pattern derived from dwellings with gables set at right angles to the road. The houses, though dating from different periods, are spaced along the road at regular intervals and occupy generous plots.

**6.5.2** More recent development to the north has disrupted the rhythm established by the gables and roadside hedge or wall. Here some houses front the road, and there is some reduction in plot size.

**6.5.3** At the northern end of the settlement; four farms are grouped around a small roadside "green".

**6.5.4** The buildings are predominantly of stone, in many cases rendered and colour washed with slate covered roofs. The stone garden walls with high sheltering hedge banks on the opposite side of the lane add to the character of the village.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.5.5** The conservation area is set on the windswept coastal plain and is framed on either side by fields and hedges.

**6.5.6** The lane which defines the linear form of the village is set deep within high sheltering hedge banks; and stone boundary walls.

**6.5.7** In the north, West House and surrounding farms enjoy the protection of mature trees which enclose the northern nucleus of the village.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Brooks Farm and outbuildings (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Box Cottage
- West House
- Little West Farm
- The Old Shop
- The Former Carpenters Arms
- Plas Newydd
- Le Chateau
- West House Cottage

#### *Key Issues*

- The care and management of wayside verges and boundary walls which define and enhance the linear form of the conservation area.

- The recognition and affirmation of the distinctive alignment of buildings to the road.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.6 Colwinston**

### *Description*

**6.6.1** Colwinston comprises a conservation area of approximately 100 dwellings. Some two thirds of these are of recent construction; 17 buildings may be identified as dating pre-1990.

**6.6.2** The village exhibits a strong pattern of east-west alignment. Rural lanes converge around Saint Michaels and All Angels Church (in the west) and Colwinston House (in the east). Between these two areas, modern infill housing has substantially added to an earlier settlement pattern based upon farms, such as Village Farm, Church Farm and the Sages. Other, earlier building types are exemplified by Church, Chapel and Parsonage.

**6.6.3** Older buildings within the village exhibit a more informal relationship and frontage with the road. Stone walling encloses front gardens, and provide enclosure. Modern housing layout and road alignment has damaged the earlier character of the conservation area. and the extent of change is so great that few opportunities now exist to complete the modern pattern of infill.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.6.4** The village is prominently located within the wider landscape and is visible at a distance from the south, south-west and south-east. From within the village, good views of the surrounding countryside are available between buildings, particularly southwards towards the channel coast.

**6.6.5** The interaction of local stone walling and treescape is most apparent in the east, around Colwinston House. In the west, the Church is located within a local valley. It forms an important site contained within stone walls. The effect of enclosure through walling, sunken lanes and treescape is of particular value in the village environment.

### *Listed Buildings*

- Church of Saint Michaels and All Angels B
- The Old Parsonage II
- The Sages II
- Village House II

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Colwinston House
- Colwinston House (garage)
- The Ramblers
- P.O. Box outside the "Ramblers"
- Village House
- Yewtree House
- Yewtree Cottage
- Chapel Cottage
- Seion Chapel
- Forge Cottage
- Village Farm
- Lower House Farm
- Church Farm
- School House
- Former Village School
- Pen Lan
- Church Cottage
- Church Cross and Stone Altar, Saint Michaels Church
- Ty Maen Farm

### *Key Issues*

- The maintenance of the local environmental framework provided by local stone boundary walls to front gardens and on road frontages.
- To progress the local enhancement in the area of Saint Michaels Church.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.7 Drope**

### *Description*

**6.7.1** Drope is a hamlet comprising a farm and small group of houses set adjacent to the lane which runs from Michaelston-Super-Ely to St. Georges. The largest building in the hamlet is the Rectory, an early Victorian building sited within a group of mature trees on the south side of the lane. Opposite lies Drope Farm, a substantial three storey farmhouse adjoining a courtyard of stone buildings. Planning permission has been granted for their conversion.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.7.2** The village is enclosed by trees and hedges and stands isolated from major development to the east of the "Ely Spur". A dismantled railway embankment lies to the north of the settlement.

### *Listed Buildings*

None.

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Rectory
- Drope Farm
- Rose Cottage

### *Key Issues*

- The sensitive repair of farm and agricultural buildings within proposals for their conversion.
- The protection and repair of stone boundary walls adjoining the highway.
- The care and management of open verges and important tree groups which frame the village.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.8 East Aberthaw**

### *Description*

**6.8.1** East Aberthaw is a hamlet overlooking the estuary of the River Thaw which has been important in the past as a port serving the South Wales Coast

and the Bristol Channel. The port operated until the mid nineteenth century when the river trade declined. The railway was constructed and finally the power station developed to the west of the river.

**6.8.2** The form of the village still displays this early trading importance with cottages, inns and houses grouped around the east/west route known as Port Road. More recently, the industrial activity of the area, lead to the 19th and 20th century additions to the village. Station Terrace, built in 1899 and Burton Terrace built in 1914, are both attributable to the mineral wealth of the area, the growth of the railway, cement works and Power Station

**6.8.3** The stone cottages and houses at the centre of the village form its special character. The Blue Anchor dates from the 14th Century and is a fine stone building with thatched roof placed at the centre of the village. Marsh House was once a public house too, but is now an attractive rendered house with slate roof. These buildings, together with 1 and 2 Marsh Cottages and the adjoining granary and outbuildings provide some indication of the earlier importance of the village.

**6.8.4** The open car park adjoining the station undermines this historic nucleus and opens the village to views of the railway embankment and power station beyond.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.8.5** East Aberthaw lies on the edge of the Thaw estuary on the exposed coastal plain which lies between Port Road and the coast. Tree cover is sparse and set mainly within gardens and the protective tree banks to the south of Aberthaw Quarry. Embankments and sidings adjacent to the railway and to the west of Well Road define the western limits of the village

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Marsh House II
- The Blue Anchor Public House II\*

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Upper House Farm
- 1 and 2 Marsh Cottages

- The Granary

#### *Key Issues*

- The protection and management of important tree groups and the wooded embankments which frame the village to the west.
- The protection and repair of stone boundary walls adjoining the highway.
- The enhancement of open land created by surface car parking within the centre of the village when opportunities arise.
- The consideration of proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### **6.9 Flemingston**

#### *Description*

**6.9.1** Flemingston lies on the eastern edge of the Thaw Valley in an elevated position on the ridge line running from north to the south. The conservation area is drawn around the entire settlement which has grown around the junction of a number of rural roads. The village comprises a number of farm holdings and supporting outbuildings, together with the houses and cottages which have been built around them.

**6.9.2** The settlement is laid out in a simple grid between Court Farm at the western entrance and Gregory Farm on the eastern ridge line. Cwrt-yr-lolo lies to the west.

**6.9.3** The village's function as a community set around three main farms has produced a number of stone agricultural buildings. Although many are still in use, or have been supplemented by contemporary farm buildings, those at the centre of the village have been converted to residential use. Their simple stone form, with brick openings and slate roofs endure, despite their domestic use.

**6.9.4** The farm houses around which these building groups have developed, are the oldest buildings in the village. These are Flemingston Court, Gregory Farm, Glebe Farm and White Farm.

**6.9.5** Beyond lie small groups of estate cottages ranging from the 19th Century "New Cottages"

constructed in render and stone and set within cottage gardens and orchards, to the contemporary Cwrt-yr-lolo at the western entrance to the village.

**6.9.6** A number of contemporary houses have been built within orchards and gardens. These have all sought to follow a local style and vernacular.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.9.7** The dramatic location of the village provides extensive views to the south which can be seen in glimpses towards the Thaw Valley between houses and across roof tops to the east.

**6.9.8** The settlement remains agricultural in character with the building, barns, and hay stores occupying prominent positions on the edge and within the settlement.

**6.9.9** The profile of buildings set on the ridge line is enhanced by the presence of a number of tall Scots pines set within the gardens of the Old Rectory, and around the church. In other areas, landscaping is domestic in scale and is formed by hedges, gardens and orchard trees. All frame the buildings and bound the rural lanes which run through the village.

**6.9.10** An open paddock on the west of the church enhances its setting and that of the enclosing walls of medieval Flemingstone Court.

**6.9.11** The setting formed by hedges and boundary walls play an important part in the character of the conservation area. They follow the line of roads and plot boundaries, and are in the main constructed in the local Blue Lias limestone.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Flemingston Court Farmhouse (II)
- Barns at Flemingston Court Farm (II)
- Telephone kiosk north of Parish Church (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Rectory
- Gregory Farm
- Rose Cottage

- Church Cottages
- The Church

#### *Key Issues*

- The maintenance care and enhancement of trees and woodland areas.
- The protection and restoration of stone boundary walls and hedges which surround the village.
- The identification and protection of important open areas which determine the character of the village.
- The enhancement and management of roadside verges within the village.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### **6.10 Gileston**

#### *Description*

**6.10.1** Gileston is at the eastern end of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. It is a small hamlet framed by woodland which rests above the low coastal plain behind Aberthaw Power Station and Limpert Bay. The growth of the village in response to the needs of the local farming community has determined its present form, comprised of substantial barns and agricultural buildings set around the junction of three lanes. Although a number of these buildings are now converted to residential use, the village retains an arrangement of stone buildings set within farmyards to east and west of the village centre. Gileston Farm is closely associated with Gileston Manor and is linked by stone boundary walls which run north from the village. The manor lies within heavily wooded grounds, and with church and stable block comprises an outstanding group of listed buildings.

**6.10.2** There have been modern extensions to the village to north and south. Detached houses using a wide variety of building styles and materials do not rest easily with the local building vernacular found at the centre of the village. The southern limit of the conservation area is marked by an early quarry in

which three detached houses of contemporary design are set.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.10.3** The conservation area includes the village and surrounding land forming a shallow ridge lying above flat countryside which runs south to the coast. Approaching views from the north show a settlement contained by trees within Gileston Manor, adjoining graveyard and farmhouse grounds.

**6.10.4** Thorn hedgerows grow along the approach roads and blend well with the stone boundary walls running into the village.

**6.10.5** Hedgelines and field boundaries are still in good condition and mark the outer boundaries of the conservation area.

**6.10.6** The village retains informal grass verges save on its north eastern section where a suburban road layout serves contemporary extensions to the village.

### *Listed Buildings*

- The Church of St. Giles (B)
- Gileston Manor (II)\*
- Telephone kiosk at the road junction in the centre of the village (II)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Rose Cottage

### *Key Issues*

- The maintenance of the informal arrangement of building groups at the centre of the village.
- To management and protection of woodland groups within the gardens and estate grounds which mark the outer limits of the village.
- The enhancement and management of roadside verges and village "green" at the centre of the village.
- The protection and repair of stone boundary walls adjoining the highway.

- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.11 Llanbethery**

### *Description*

**6.11.1** Llanblethery is a linear village which has developed beyond the original settlement which was built around one of eight ancient chapels associated with Llanancarfan. Although these early origins are no longer visible, the linear form of the village remains with houses set within generous garden plots facing the road.

**6.11.2** The village has no church or Great House and is marked by a consistency in plot size and building orientation. Llanbethery farm lies in the centre of the village and at its western end lies the Wild Goose, a 19th Century Public House with gardens and car park to the side. Beyond a lane leads westwards to the Moors, and the Thaw Valley. There is evidence of a strong association with the valley and the Water Meadows of Llanblethery Moor, suggesting that the village may have at one time extended as far as the valley.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.11.3** The village is set on an elevated plateau stretching from the eastern edge of the Thaw Valley. The common building line adopted by houses has also determined the scale and arrangement of front gardens which are generous and well planted with ornamental stock.

### *Listed Buildings*

None.

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Manse.
- The Wild Goose Public House

### *Key Issues*

- The maintenance of the strong linear form of the village.

- The enhancement and management of roadside verges which run through the village.
- The protection and repair of stone boundary walls adjoining the highway.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## 6.12 Llancadle

### *Description*

**6.12.1** The village of Llancadle comprises a ribbon of houses set along the main road and around the road junction which provides access to Llancadle Farm to the west.

**6.12.2** The farm dominates the village and so highway and yard appear as one where the road turns to return towards the main road. The construction of a number of contemporary houses on sites between the Green Dragon pub and lower Llancadle Farm has changed the character of the conservation area. Despite this boundary walls and roadside verges are successful in drawing the varied building styles and arrangements together.

**6.11.3** The core of the village around Llancadle Farm is dominated by the historic group and the sombre limestone farm buildings which encircle the 18th Century farmhouse.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.12.4** The village stands on elevated ground overlooking the Kenton River. From the valley floor, the building line stands high on the ridgeline, with roof tops running in a north/ south arrangement along the road.

### *Listed Buildings*

None.

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Llancadle House
- Lower Llancadle Farm

### *Key Issues*

- The protection and repair of stone boundary walls adjoining the highway.
- The protection and management of open verges and important tree groups which frame the village.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## 6.13 Llancarfan

### *Description*

**6.13.1** The village of Llancarfan lies deep within the valley of the Nant Carfan, surrounded by steep wooded valley sides, and woodland known as Coed yr Crinallt.

**6.13.2** The present form and character of Llancarfan does not reflect the earlier monastic activities which made the settlement in the 5th to 12th Centuries as important as Llantwit Major. In later centuries, the village functioned as a service centre for the Vale, providing wood and corn mills, smithies and other trade. Though altered, these 15th to 18th Century buildings at the core of the village can still be appreciated and show the importance of the village for the wider farming community during this period.

**6.13.3** The church dating from the 13th and early 14th Century dominates the village and is surrounded by an open church yard and stone boundary wall. Houses encircle this imposing church and tower and run north and south along the valley floor.

**6.13.4** The pre 1840 pattern of development shows two distinct cores; one centred on the church, the other on Cross Green and the Old Corn Mill. Open pastures between the two are now developed by contemporary houses set in generous plots.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.13.5** The presence of the stream and running water prevails throughout the village, and determines its character. The village remains attractive despite the construction of many

contemporary houses in landscaped grounds and gardens.

**6.13.6** The Conservation Area extends east and west to include the slopes of the valley and benefits from the protection they offer in association with the wooded banks of the stream.

**6.13.7** Deep roadside verges and pockets of open grass at roadside fords open up the stream.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Church of St. Cadoc (I)
- The Telephone Kiosk between the parish Hall and bridge (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Fox and Hounds
- The Bethlehem Baptist Chapel
- The Old Mill
- Chapel House and Vestry
- White Chapel
- Cross Green
- Wild Rose House
- The Primary School

#### *Key Issues*

- The protection and enhancement of roadside verges and fords.
- The maintenance and protection of stone boundary walls which define and enhance the linear form of the village.
- The protection and enhancement of the water ways and fords which run through the village.
- The protection of important tree groups which frame the village and its setting in the wider landscape valley.
- The consideration of proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.14 Llandow**

### *Description*

**6.14.1** Llandow is an isolated village lying at the western limits of lanes running to the west of Llandow Airfield. The village has grown around the junction of Ty Draw and Grove Road where Holy Trinity Church, Church Farm and the Great House form the nucleus of the village, and display its early importance as a farming community set around the Llandow Brook.

**6.14.2** In the early 1950's, the village was extended by the construction of a group of 28 Council houses along Grove Road and East View. The third phase of development is the recent construction of detached houses and bungalows on the east and westside of the original village. Most are built in a contemporary style using smooth white render and random stone.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.14.3** The village is marked by the number of streams and springs which rise in the area, and which form the headwaters of the Afon Alun. A small canalised brook runs through the village alongside Ty Draw before turning towards the old water mill which is now known as Mill Farm on the northern edge of the village.

**6.14.4** There are some fine groups of trees in the village which frame the centre and soften the impact of contemporary development set around it.

**6.13.5** The Conservation area extends outwards to include open fields to the north and south of the village, extending at the western boundary formed by the railway line. Contemporary houses at Heol y Nant and East View are excluded.

### *Listed Buildings*

- The Church of Holy Trinity (II\*)
- Church Farmhouse (II\*)
- The Great House (II)
- The barn to the east of Great House (II)
- Ty Fry Farmhouse (II)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Glenbrook
- Bridge Cottage
- Railway Cottages
- The Village Hall

### *Key Issues*

- The protection and enhancement of the nucleus of the village.
- The retention and enhancement of waterways and wayside verges and boundary walls which run through the village.
- The retention and protection of important tree groups which frame the village and its eastern entrance.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.15 Llangan**

### *Description*

**6.15.1** Llangan Conservation Area includes the historic core of this hilltop village which rises above a road of contemporary houses to the east. The early development of the village is centred around the road junction which leads to Treoes and is supported by three farm holdings between which a number of houses have developed. The village terminates in the north at St. Canna's Church and Rectory; both of which are set within a grove of fine sycamore and beech trees.

**6.15.2** The agricultural character of the village endures despite the conversion of a number of prominent farm buildings to residential use. The local limestone dominates as a building material. Slate roofs set at varying pitches and orientation highlight the informal building groups on either side of the road.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.15.3** The village is set on rising ground which continues to rise until it reaches St. Mary Hill Down in the north.

**6.15.4** The cross roads at the southern entrance to the village has an open southerly aspect, enhancing its hilltop location. To the north, mature trees frame building groups and paddocks. The Beech wood copse surrounding the ancient churchyard is impressive and provides a robust northern edge to the conservation area.

**6.15.5** Hedgerows are well preserved and run along roads and within farm holdings. They provide simple and rural boundaries to properties, retaining their rural character, despite the conversion of many to residential use.

### *Listed Buildings*

- St. Canna's Church (B)
- The telephone Box opposite Mount Pleasant Farm (II)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Mount Pleasant Farm Group
- Bwthyn House
- Ty Mawr Farm
- The Rectory

### *Key Issues*

- The protection and management of stone boundary walls and hedges which define farm groups and enhance the rural character of the village.
- The protection and enhancement of the woodland area which encloses the Church and Rectory.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.16 Llanmaes**

### *Description*

**6.16.1** The older parts of the Llanmaes Conservation Area are grouped into two distinct areas, around the Church to the south, and around Gadlys in the north. Extensive modern development has now joined the two.

**6.16.2** The most important part of the Conservation Area lies in the south, where a number of notable historic buildings are located along lanes which converge in the area of the Church. These include the listed Saint Cattwg's Church, Llanmaes House and Plaisted House.

**6.16.3** The church lies at the centrepiece of the southern village and its setting is enclosed by groups of cottages to north and northwest. These are of significance within the Conservation Area, although some have been inappropriately altered. Llanmaes House forms a fine Grade 2\* listed country house, set in its own gardens. It presents important walls, gates and gate piers to the village street.

**6.16.4** The southern part of the village owes much of its character to its informal layout and interest provided by buildings of simple form and character. The curving road through the village is enclosed by wall and frontages, providing a sequence of views.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.16.5** There is a close relationship between buildings and surrounding countryside, with open fields providing a foil to the built environment. The village is visible in its landscape setting from the Llantwit Major By-pass. Intervening fields to the north of the bypass form an important element of separation from modern housing estates located on the edge of Llantwit Major.

**6.16.6** Topography around Llanmaes is level, with few major groups of trees. An exception is the hedgerow/trees which follow the line of the stream which runs in an east-west direction on the southern boundary of the village.

**6.16.7** In the northern part of the village, the village green forms an attractive open space.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Church of Saint Cadoc (B)
- Llanmaes House (II\*)
- Plaisted House (II)
- Telephone Kiosk, north of village centre (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Nun House Cottage
- Former Coach House to northwest of Nun House
- Malifont Castle
- Brown Lion House
- Cross in Churchyard
- Gadlys Farm
- Former village smithy
- Village pump
- 1 and 2 Grove Cottages

#### *Key Issues*

- The maintenance of the framework provided by informal layout, stone boundary walls and garden edges.
- The sensitive alteration and repair of historic buildings.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### **6.17 Llanmihangel**

#### *Description*

**6.17.1** The conservation area embraces a historic group of buildings set within a secluded valley deep within the rural vale. The group is dominated by Plas Llanmihangel and its historic gardens, and reaches out to include the Church, fish ponds and the historic landscape which runs eastwards along the valley.

**6.17.2** The importance of the Conservation Area lies in the protection it affords a virtually complete medieval site consisting of the house, its 'Gardens of Pleasure', the Church, barn, fishponds and corn mill (possibly erected on an earlier site). The earliest records for the Church date from 1252 and 1254 and it is likely that the house predates this early construction. The structure of the house suggests a 13th Century house, the hall of which was refurbished in the 16th Century. Another wing (now demolished) was added to the house in the 17th Century, but this

was the only major alteration since 1560. The house now stands as an imposing stone building which dominates the valley and landscape beyond.

**6.17.3** The Church is also a limestone building constructed in the 13th Century with fortified 15th Century west tower. Adjoining it lies St. Anne's Well and a neglected fishpond. The river to the south is diverted around the Church and runs swiftly towards the other historic group comprising fish ponds, barns and derelict corn mill.

**6.17.4** The entire group is neglected and overgrown, but represents an outstanding demonstration of a medieval rural settlement. The seven bay barn completes the group. Built at the same time as the house, it is one of the best surviving early barns in the Vale. A four bay stable was added to the south in the 16th Century, with mullioned upper windows decorating the facade facing the house

**6.17.5** The whole group is defined and enhanced by stone boundary walls and outbuildings.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.17.6** The Conservation Area embraces both the natural landscape created by wooded valley and meadows, as well as the man-made features described above. The garden is designed in the Dutch style, laid out in terracing, with parterred avenues flanked by yew trees. The 'waterworks' date from the same time.

**6.17.7** The whole group is now neglected and in a poor condition. Further silting up of waterways has led to the development of a different flora and character to the once open green around which church and pond once lay. The course of the river is unclear and the robust quality of the early stone bridge to the south of the village is lost.

**6.17.8** The Conservation Area extends in a westerly direction along the valley to include Rectory farm and its southern fields.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- The Church of St. Michael and All Angels (II\*)
- Plas Llanmihangel (I)

- Terrace and Steps at Yew Tree Pleasance (II)
- Barn and Stables to east of Plas Llanmihangel (II\*)
- St. Anne's Well (II)
- Rectory Farm (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The 18th Century Stone Road Bridge

#### *Key Issues*

- The protection of the entire building group.
- The protection and management of historic engineered water works in association with the sensitive drainage and management of wetland areas.
- The restoration and repair of the St. Anne's Well and Well Head.
- The protection and restoration of the historic barns at Llanmihangel.
- The maintenance and enhancement of the historic landscape which frames the building group.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### **6.18 Llantrithyd**

#### *Description*

**6.18.1** Llantrithyd is a small village set around a number of linking lanes which lie deep within the valley of the Tre gof. The form of the village appears as a necklace of cottages, farm buildings and contemporary houses set around a field enclosed by stone boundary walls. To the west, lies the village's main architectural group comprising the Church, Rectory and Llantrithyd Place. This historic group stands apart from the village on the gently sloping hillside from which the local building stone is derived.

**6.18.2** Llantrithyd Place is one of the great 16th Century mansions of the Vale of Glamorgan. Now ruined, it still stands as an imposing stone residence around which garden terraces and raised walkways are still evident. The church yard which stands

adjacent enhances the historic group. Within stands the St. Illtyds Church; framed by an avenue of trees, and surrounded by gravestones and memorials recording the early history of the area.

**6.18.3** The Rectory to the east of the group is a well proportioned stone building showing ecclesiastic influences in style and decoration set within walled gardens.

**6.18.4** To the north east of the village lies a more informal group comprising farm buildings and rural estate cottages. There has been some contemporary development within the village, though it is secluded, and often set behind stone boundary walls, hedges and roadside verges.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.18.5** The landscape around Llantrithyd Place is of historic importance and demands a sensitive approach to protection and management in association with the ruins of Llantrithyd Place. To the north is sited Sir John Aubrey's deer park recorded on John Ogilby's Ribbon Road Map of 1675. The encirclement of the central field by village houses and farm buildings is also a delicate arrangement which deserves protection in association with the wooded embankment that lies north and runs towards Bonvilston.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Church of St. Illtyd (II\*)
- Ruins of Llantrithyd Place (II)
- Telephone kiosk north of Parish Church (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Rectory
- Cross Farm

#### *Key Issues*

- The identification and protection of the historic garden landscape around Llantrithyd Place.
- The stabilisation and protection of Llantrithyd Place.
- The maintenance and enhancement of the open field and its enclosing wall at the centre of the village.

- The care and management of open verges and woodland banks which frame the village.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale

## **6.19 Llysworney**

### *Description*

**6.19.1** Llysworney Conservation Area extends around the entire village and into adjoining fields to the north, as far as the winding Stembridge Brook. The designation permits the protection of this substantial village whose early association with the surrounding farm land is evident in the number of farms, cottages and outbuildings which still display historic features and building forms.

**6.19.2** The village's importance as the administrative centre of the farming community to the west of Cardiff is still evident in the historic group at the centre of the village comprising Church, Pound and sheep washery and a number of historic farm holdings.

**6.19.3** From the 1940's, the village grew substantially with houses growing around farm holdings, or within garden and orchard plots. Despite this, the villages' layout has retained a close affinity with the early form of the settlement, with narrow lanes running from the main road to the centre of the village and then radiating out into the rural hinterland beyond.

**6.19.4** The village can be viewed as two areas possessing very different qualities. The first group comprises houses which face the main road and whose orientation and form is determined by the passage of fast moving traffic along the B4268. This is a historic north/south route across the Vale, confirmed by the presence of the Carne Arms, the mileage posts which stands outside and a number of early houses and farm holdings which adjoin the road. These older properties are constructed in stone, often rendered and finished in slate roofs.

**6.19.5** The second group comprises the gentler backwater of stone cottages and houses built around the Church and village "pound". This area is very attractive and is framed by stone boundary walls and verges. This area retains a historic

landscape too. From the Llysworney Great House in the north, to Moat Farm in the south; the village survives as an important nucleus of early and 17th Century buildings in the local vernacular.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.19.6** The village has developed over undulating land, with houses and roads sited on slopes looking north and west towards the Church and village "pound". The village pond set adjacent, acts as a focal point for the village and provides a valuable landscaped space from which roads and verges radiate into surrounding countryside.

**6.19.7** Within the conservation area, there are a number of important tree groups. Much of the village's charm lies in the informal mix of ornamental tree varieties within gardens alongside the mature indigenous species which survive as part of the former agricultural character of the village. The best and most impressive lie within the churchyard where pines and ashes frame the Church and adjoining housing groups.

**6.19.8** Hedges are well maintained throughout the village and often rise above the local limestone boundary walls.

**6.19.9** The fields which lie around the village and form the outer limits of the conservation area are bounded by hedges of thorn and hazel. They mark the course of the Stembridge Brook and frame the lanes and fields which radiate from the village pound.

### *Listed Buildings*

- The mileage post outside the Carne Arms (II)
- The School House (II)
- The Chapel (II)
- The Church of St. Merthyr (II)
- The Great House (II)
- The Sheep Washery (II)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Moat House
- Wolfe House
- Penylan Farm & Cottage

- White Gables
- Duffryn Maelog
- Keeper's Cottage
- Sydney House Farm
- Lower House
- Church Cottage
- The Carne Arms
- The village pound.

### *Key Issues*

- The identification and protection of important open areas and woodland groups on the approaches to the village.
- The protection and enhancement of the built form of the village by the identification and protection of important open spaces within the village.
- The identification and interpretation of the history of the village and surrounding hinterland.
- Provision for the care and maintenance of stone boundary walls, hedges and railings.
- The care and management of roadside verges and the green wedge that runs from the Great House to Village Pound and Pond.
- The mitigation of the effects of fast moving traffic along the B4268.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.20 Michaelston Le Pit**

### *Description*

**6.20.1** Michaelston Le Pit is a sinuous village which runs along the side of the Cadoxton river as it runs north of Dinas Powys. At its centre, houses cluster around the Church of St. Michael and the principle farm holding, Home Farm. This group of buildings is dominated by a substantial barn whose form is in stark contrast to the domestic scale of estate housing to the west and south. The earliest group: Church Cottages were built in the mid to late 19th Century in a local stone with red brick dressings in a distinctive

Tudor manner. They were possibly associated with the Cwrt yr Ala Estate, and display many of the features which were later repeated on the early Rural District Council Crescent to the west of the village.

**6.20.2** The village pump marks the centre of the village where lanes runs north and east into the farming land beyond.

**6.20.3** A number of contemporary buildings are now established as part of the village.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.20.4** Mature trees and hedges can be found throughout the village framing gardens and consolidating its rural character.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- The Church of St. Michael (II)
- Church Cottages (II)
- The telephone kiosk by Church Cottages (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- RDC Housing at: Fairleigh, Norman Cottages and St. Michaels Close
- Home Farm

#### *Key Issues*

- The maintenance of the informality of gardens and wayside verges created by estate housing in the centre of the village.
- The incorporation of residential units created by the conversion of Home Farm within the built form of the village.
- The maintenance and enhancement of tree groups which frame the Church and the houses which cluster around it.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### **6.21 Monkash**

#### *Description*

**6.21.1** Monkash lies in the shallow valley of the Nash Brook on the coastal plateau which lies behind Cwm Nash and the Heritage Coast.

**6.21.2** The settlement is of ancient origin, and present buildings have developed amongst the extensive medieval monastic remains which form an extensive Scheduled Ancient Monument site. The remains are a dominant feature in the landscape and can be identified in ground formations, scattered free standing ruins, with some forming part of more recent buildings or boundary wall.

**6.21.3** The eastern porch of the large ruined tythe barn has been converted into a two storey farm house in which the main archway of the original structure is still visible.

**6.21.4** The bleak and treeless coastal plateau is reflected in the character of buildings which are low roofed and huddled into hedges and lanes, sheltering from the prevailing westerly winds.

**6.21.5** Buildings are constructed in the local lias limestone stone, some rendered with slate roofs. The stone, in part plundered from ruins is also used in the field boundary walls, which are a feature of the area.

**6.21.6** At the northern end of the Conservation Area lies Broughton Farm which has a closer association with the village of Broughton to the north. Here also, lie the medieval remnants of the monastic college. At the Conservation Area's southern limits lies St. Mary's Church.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.21.7** The Conservation Area includes the open landscape set around the Nash Brook, and is uninterrupted by tree cover, save within the northern and southern building groups where trees of a domestic scale are found.

**6.21.8** A small wayside green at Monkash is planted with ornamental trees.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Parish Church of St. Mary (II\*)
- Church Farmhouse (II)
- Plough and Harrow Public House (II)
- Remains of Tythe Barn, (II)
- including Tythe Barn Cottage
- Remains of the Medieval Dovecote (II)
- Monkash Forge (II)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Smithy Cottage
- Lodge Cottage
- College Remains at Broughton Farm

### *Key Issues*

- The care and management of Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the Conservation Area.
- The investigation of opportunities for improved interpretation of historic buildings and archaeological remains.
- The maintenance and protection of stone boundary walls which define fields and building groups.
- The protection of important footpaths which lead to the Heritage Coast.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## **6.22 Penmark**

### *Description*

**6.22.1** Penmark is an attractive settlement of approximately 50 dwellings. The Conservation Area boundary is widely defined to include Penmark Place, the Old Vicarage and the landscape setting of the village.

**6.22.2** Development has taken place in linear form from east-west, along a narrow village street. It is enclosed by buildings of different style and period, laid out informally, often fronted by stone walls. The listed church forms a centrepiece. To the north of the Church the ruins of the castle (a scheduled ancient monument) overlook the Weycock Valley. The character of Penmark is established by irregular building simplicity of building form and enclosing stone walls.

**6.22.3** A group of former local authority houses in Croft John are well designed. Constructed in 1954, they are carefully integrated with the remainder of the village. Recent new development at the eastern end of the village, at Barrenhill, and barn conversions at Penmark Farm are less successful in form scale and detail.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.22.4** The village is built on a promontory of land bounded by the heavily wooded valley of the River Weycock. There are several local, deeply incised valleys to the south (at Cwm) and south-west (Kenson Hill). That at Cwm contains a stream which rises from the south-east, creating steep slopes (below the Old Vicarage) which fall towards Barrenhill and the Weycock Valley.

**6.22.5** A steep hill also drops to the west into Barrenhill, creating good views between buildings within the village towards open countryside.

**6.22.6** The confluence of the Kenson and Weycock rivers occurs to the north of Kenson Bridge and is located at the extreme western edge of the Conservation Area. The flood plain is open, low-lying and enclosed by important stone walls. Views toward the village in the east provide an outstanding landscape context dominated by mature woodland.

**6.22.7** The village is generally set within important treescape. Important groups of trees occur around the Church (notably three mature yews) and to the south of Croft John.

**6.22.8** There are clear boundaries between development and open fields which lie to north and south of the village. To the south of barns formerly associated with Penmark Farm (now converted into residential use), open fields provide views from the B4265 of the eastern end of the village.

### *Listed Buildings*

- Church of Saint Mary (B)
- Telephone Kiosk at Centre of village, corner of Croft John (II)
- Penmark Castle (SAM)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Churchyard Cross, Saint Mary's Church
- Penmark Place
- Six Bells Inn
- Penmark Village Hall
- Housing at Croft John

## *Key Issues*

- The maintenance of the built framework of the Conservation Area provided by informal layout, stone boundary walls and enclosed, landscaped frontages.
- The retention and repair of the historic built fabric.
- The maintenance and enhancement of the local landscape context.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### **6.23 Pendoylan**

#### *Description*

**6.23.1** The village is clustered around the St. Cattwg's Church and Church Row, a terrace of early 19th Century almshouses which run parallel with the Church. This historic cluster has been enclosed by more contemporary development which consolidates the village form and the size of the rural community as well. The Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School lies at the northern boundary of the Conservation Area. To the south lies Heol St. Cattwg, an estate of early Rural District Council housing set around a picturesque village green.

**6.23.2** Many houses on the estate still display early decorative features, typical of this building period, including stone windows and door openings, decorative porches and roof pitches set low over the front elevation. The enclosure of the village nucleus is completed by two further cul de sacs of detached houses.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.23.3** Trees in the Conservation Area are clustered around the church and pub garden. Those to the south are set on the banks of a stream which runs along the highway verge and then eastwards towards the 'St. Cattwg's Well' and the meadows which lie beyond.

**6.23.4** The village green draws the centre of the village southwards. To the north built form is broken by fields bounded by hedges which run through the

centre of the village. A copse of trees marks the entrance to the property known as Butleigh.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- The St. Cattwg's Church (II\*)
- Church Row (II)
- The telephone kiosk at Heol St. Cattwg (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Heol St. Cattwg
- The Red Lion Public House
- The Church in Wales Primary School
- (19th Century stone buildings)

#### *Key Issues*

- The enhancement of village green and roadside verges.
- The improvements of the turning area and forecourt to the public house as opportunities arise.
- The repair of houses within Heol St. Cattwg to ensure the protection of its unified appearance.
- The protection of important open areas and woodland groups on the approaches to the village and within the core of the Conservation Area.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### **6.24 Peterston Super Ely**

#### *Description*

**6.24.1** The boundary of the Conservation Area bears little resemblance to the present built form of the village and is instead, drawn widely around a number of historic buildings and landscapes to north and south. The historic centre of the village is set around St. Peter's Church, where an informal farm access enclosed the church and provides access to the Church Hall, new housing at Backway Farm, as well as Village and Police House. The Conservation Area

boundary runs north to include the Old Rectory, a fine stone 19th Century house in a Victorian Gothic style. The southern boundary of the Conservation Area runs behind properties facing the main road and from the Three Horse Shoes Pub runs south west across the railway to include the open riverside embankment and footbridge leading to the Wyndham Park Estate.

**6.24.2** The centre of the village is dominated by St. Peter's Church and the cluster of cottages set around it. The village has a number of 19th Century estate cottages set within it, whose typical form is of stone construction with brick openings and steep slate roofs with decorative eaves to gables. The remains of the Peterston Castle lie within the grounds of Castle bungalow.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.24.3** The River Ely and its wooded banks dominate the village. Ash and alder line the river, and frame the buildings which run from north to south beside open playing fields set between the Rectory and Village Hall. The banks of the river have been landscaped to provide attractive seating areas beside the river and stone bridge at the eastern end of the Conservation Area.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Church of St. Peter (B)
- Remains of Peterston Castle
- Ancient Monument
- Telephone Kiosk outside Fir Cottage (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Old Rectory
- The stone road bridge over the River Ely

#### *Key Issues*

- The protection and enhancement of the river bank as further opportunities arise.
- The repair and protection of roadside boundary walls and field enclosures.
- The protection and enhancement of the quiet rural backwater around the church and former Backway Farm.

- The maintenance and protection of importance tree groups which frame the nucleus of the village and mark the northern and south easterly boundaries of the Conservation Area.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning

## **6.25 Porthkerry**

### *Description*

**6.25.1** Porthkerry is a small hamlet situated on the edge of the coastal plain which extends west of Barry overlooking the Bristol Channel. The village lies at the end of a lane running from the B4050 and the eastern boundary of the Rhoose Airport, but despite its location as a rural backwater, it is regularly disturbed by passing air traffic.

**6.25.2** Houses and farm buildings are clustered around a triangular village green. The school house lies adjacent to the church of St. Curig and with Church Farm House, a stone limewashed, reflects the early importance of the village for the agricultural community.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.25.3** To the north and east the land is well wooded and falls sharply away to Porthkerry Park, an area of woods and open space now managed as a Country Park. To the south and located on the cliff edge lies a promontory fort and ancient settlement site known as The Bulwarks.

**6.25.4** The rural character of the Conservation Area depends on this woodland backdrop, as well as the field hedges and stone boundary walls which mark the entrance into the village.

### *Listed Buildings*

- St. Curig's Church (II)
- The School House (II)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Church Farm House

### *Key Issues*

- The protection of the simple qualities of village green and roadside verges.

- The enhancement of footpath links to Porthkerry Park.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## 6.26 St. Brides Major

### *Description*

**6.26.1** The conservation area includes land and buildings set around Pwll-y-Mor Pond and extends to include a series of farm buildings and estate cottages which lie on the Wick Road. In consequence, the Conservation Area has a rural character and is marked by the appearance and disappearance of fields behind hedges and boundary walls within the building line which runs to the south of the Wick Road.

**6.26.2** The buildings which surround the pond are of most interest, and form a picturesque focal point for the old village. The Rectory, Kings Hall Court and farm, and Pool Farm and cottage are all stone buildings set around the pond. Although they are of different ages, their rural, tree bound setting, and the common use of stone and slate create the Conservation Area's special character.

**6.26.3** The building arrangement to the east reflects one common to this part of the Vale. Houses and cottages are set at right angles to the road, reflecting and reinforcing the open windswept vistas of the coastal plain. Again, the common use of stone and slate characterises the buildings and their associated farm yards and enclosures, provides a unity of building form enhancing the Conservation Area's special character.

### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.26.4** The Conservation Area extends to include fields to the north and south of the village and pond, rising gently to the low wooded ridge line to the east of the village.

**6.26.5** To the west, the Conservation Area terminates at the war memorial where contemporary extensions to the settlement mark a change in building character and form.

**6.26.6** At its lowest western end, the Rectory and village hall are framed by a grove of tall trees which mark the gateway to the coastal plain beyond.

**6.26.2** The pond is surrounded by common land which adjoins fields to the south of Pool Farm. The pond, bull rushes and village pump lying snugly below the raised road is very attractive, though opportunities for further enhancement along the roadside and within the car park of the public house exist.

### *Listed Buildings*

- Pen Ucha'r Dre Farmhouse (II)

### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Rectory
- Pool Cottage
- Pool Farm
- Little Wood
- Shop Farm
- Kings Hall Court
- Kings Hall Farm

### *Key Issues*

- The long term enhancement of Pwll-y-Mor, pump and roadside railings.
- The protection and management of common land around Pwll-y-Mor.
- The enhancement of the car park at the Public House as opportunities arise.
- The maintenance of woodland groups which frame the village.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

## 6.27 St. George's

### *Description*

**6.27.1** The Conservation Area lies as an isolated hamlet between Drope and the major part of St. George's village to the west. The boundary of the Conservation Area is set to the south of the winding land and comprises some five households, an inn and the church. Open land to the north of the road is included as far as the railway.

**6.27.2** The village is unspoilt and set in an attractive group of mature trees set around the churchyard, comprising two rendered cottages, one with a flight of steps leading to an upper storey and the Church Cottages. To the east, the Greendown pub, a modernised public house lies on the edge of the group.

**6.27.3** The 13th Century church of St. George is the dominant building, it is cruciform in plan with a crossing tower surmounted by a 4 gabled top and decorated finials.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.27.4** A winding hedge bounds the lane. Trees set around the churchyard frame the building group and define its presence in the open landscape formed by the Ely Valley.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Church of St. George. (B)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Church Cottages.

#### *Key Issues*

- The care and management of wayside hedges which line the lane around which buildings are set.
- The protection and enhancement of the historic building group for which the Church is the focal point.
- The care and management of important tree groups.
- The consideration of proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale.

### **6.28 St. Hilary**

#### *Description*

**6.28.1** St. Hilary lies on the south facing slope of St. Hilary Down. The Conservation Area includes the village and its surrounding fields, bringing both the nucleus of the village and its landscaped setting within the protected area.

**6.28.2** The village comprises a network of lanes and streets centred around the Church and a number of historic farm holdings. A small green with a crescent of rural estate house adjoins the Church to the north.

**6.28.3** Buildings are mostly two storeyed cottages and farm buildings built of local stone and roofed with Welsh Slate. There are also some good examples of thatching at the contemporary Old Hall Cottage, the Bush Inn and Kninkin.

**6.28.4** The north east corner of the village has been extended into the shallow Valley to the west of Bush Inn, by new buildings in a wide variety of styles.

**6.28.5** The most conspicuous feature of the village is the use of stone in both farm, domestic buildings and boundary walls which enclose building groups.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.28.6** Mature trees play an important part in the character of the village. Many were planted in response to the needs of former estate owners and are reflected in the importance of a number of village houses and their grounds: notably the Cottage, The Manor and Glyn Coch and Tumblers Chase.

**6.28.7** The Conservation Area is further enhanced by boundary walls, roadside verges and land behind which enhance the rural character of the village and the simple building forms at its centre.

**6.28.8** The character of the Conservation Area is determined by the informal relationship between buildings, spaces and groups of trees. Buildings are often interspersed with gardens and open frontage areas, enclosed by stone walls and hedging.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- The Church of St. Hilary (II\*)
- The Basset Family Tomb Enclosure and Cross within the churchyard (II)
- The Cottage (II)
- The Pigsty in the garden of Church Cottage (II)

- The Manor (II)
- Nos. 1 and 2 Manor Cottages (II)
- The telephone kiosk, Llantrithyd Road (II)
- Bush Inn (II)
- Village Farm (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- The Lodge
- The Barn
- The Old Farm
- Little Hall Cottage
- Kninkin Cottage

#### *Key Issues*

- The establishment of a programme of woodland management to protect and enhance important tree groups within the village.
- The protection and reinforcement of the strong nuclear form of the village.
- The enhancement of the car park opposite the Public House as opportunities arise.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Guidance relating to villages in the rural Vale

### **6.29 St. Nicholas**

#### *Description*

**6.29.1** The village of St. Nicholas appears severed by the A48 and its fast moving traffic, but on each side lies a quiet backwater of rural cottages and comfortable houses set within spacious grounds. The centre of the village is clustered around the parish Church of St. Nicholas where the original medieval building pattern has developed around a network of lanes running north into the farming land of the Cottrell and Coedarhydyglyn Estates. The earliest houses are those on the A48. "Smith Row" and "The Three Tuns" are both 17th Century cottages retaining thatch and stone interiors typical of the local vernacular.

**6.29.2** The early buildings and stone boundary walls which mark the centre of the village are now supplemented by buildings from two later

development phases: the first is evident within the 19th Century buildings set along the A48. These were built to support the farming community which lead to the expansion of the village. The Smithy, the Police Station and Church Hall were all constructed at the turn of the century and display the importance of the village in providing agricultural services during this time.

**6.29.3** The popularity of the village as a commuter settlement can be seen in the large number of detached houses that have grown around the village and along the A48. The village still retains a number of housing estates developed by the Rural District Council in the 1920s and 30s. These display many of the qualities of the Garden City Movement, and remain well maintained.

#### *Landscape and Trees*

**6.29.4** The accommodation of a variety of architectural styles within the village is assisted by the landscape framework provided by gardens and woodland areas. Those set within Llaneinydd are particularly impressive.

#### *Listed Buildings*

- Church of St. Nicholas (II\*)
- The Cory Family Chest Tomb at St. Nicholas (II)
- Nos. 3, 4 and 5 Smith Row (II)
- The Three Tuns (II)
- The telephone kiosk on the A48 (II)
- The GPO Pillar Box A48 (II)
- The Nicholas Church Hall and Hall House (II)

#### *Other Buildings of Note*

- Nos. 1 and 2 Manor Cottages
- RDC Estates at Button Rise, Meyrick Row,
- Dyffryn Close and Broadway Green
- The Church in Wales School
- Manor House
- Llaneinydd
- The Police Station
- The Smithy

### *Key Issues*

- The protection and maintenance of the framework provided by stone boundary walls and garden hedges.
- The maintenance and enhancement of tree groups which frame the entrance to the village from east and west.
- The enhancement of housing backwaters to the north and south of the A48.
- The mitigation of the effects of fast moving traffic along the A48.
- The consideration of development proposals with the benefit of Supplementary Planning Guidance to villages in the rural Vale.



The Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Directorate of Environmental & Economic Regeneration,  
Dock Office, Barry Dock, Barry. CF63 4RT.

[www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)