

Good Evening,

We write with reference to the Tonge Conservation Area appraisal and management plan that is currently being evaluated. It was a pleasure to read how much heritage and history that surrounds the area that is known as the Tonge Pond. We had knowledge that the area has historical value but it was insightful to the depth of the history that surrounds the area.

We feel it is a positive move to extend the Tonge Conservation Area and if anything the extension is not big enough and needs to cover a wider area.

Conserving and preserving our history is as important as managing it and enabling the area to move with the times but at the same time not allow any of its features be lost or suffer a detrimental impact because of the need to develop areas for housing or industry.

We need to be mindful of the development that is beginning to encroach the area of Tonge, whilst a green belt area has been promised the sad reality maybe with the way developments are managed this may not be as viable or as green as required to help protect the conservation area of Tonge. The conservation area is going to become a small pocket of space that potentially in the not so distant future will be surrounded by industrial development and with potentially the Northern Relief road running adjacent to the area.

Whilst the historical elements are important to this area, it must also be noted about the flora and fauna of this area. The footpath through the conservation area has been enjoyed by many people who use the area for peace and relaxation. Many times on walks through with our children we have spotted a fox, rabbits, moles and a variety of birds including a pair of Jays. Therefore this area has a greater impact because it does not solely benefit from protection of being a conservation area for heritage, it also provides somewhere for our native wildlife to thrive and for us to enjoy.

Kind regards

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