

or, where necessary, make a positive contribution to such areas.

12.23 *There are many areas of landscape which make a significant contribution to the character and amenity of settlements. In larger settlements they provide breaks between built up areas and often serve as important buffers between conflicting land uses such as housing and industry. Within settlements they also provide valuable havens and corridors for the establishment and movement of a variety of wildlife. Within smaller settlements they provide open areas important to the character and setting of villages, and may also contain interesting plants and animals. These important amenity areas are defined on the proposals map. These areas should be protected from development which would adversely affect them. It is, therefore, essential that such areas are retained and enhanced wherever possible. This could be promoted in the rural areas, through future parish appraisals and the preparation of Village Design Statements.*

LC12 - Protection of Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

Proposals for all new development will, wherever possible ensure the retention of trees, woodland and hedgerows. Particular regard will be given to the protection of these features within the setting of settlements, the protection of ancient woodlands and historic hedgerows and the amenity value of trees within built up areas. Tree preservation orders will be made where trees which contribute to local amenity or local landscape character are at risk. Landscaping and tree and hedgerow planting schemes will be required to accompany applications for new development where it is appropriate to the development and its setting.

12.24 *Trees and woodland are relatively scarce in North Lincolnshire and are of particular importance in contributing to the character of the countryside. Similarly, hedgerows which are important to the character of the area particularly in relation to the scale and pattern of the landscape, and as a wildlife resource are markedly absent or in a state of decline through lack of proper management. There is a pressing need to protect and enhance these features not only through the control of development but also through encouraging farmers and landowners generally to increase tree and hedgerow planting and improve the management of such valuable features, including the retention of older trees where these are not prejudicial to public safety.*

LC13 - Parks, Gardens and Landscapes of Special Historic Interest

The character and features of parks and gardens of historic or landscape interest will be preserved and enhanced. Development within or adjacent to those listed in the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, which is maintained by English Heritage, will not be permitted if this would adversely affect their special historic character and appearance or their setting.

Where development is permitted the use of conditions or planning obligations to ensure the protection and enhancement of special features will be sought.

12.25 *Historic parks, gardens and landscapes are an important part of the heritage and environment of North Lincolnshire. Nationally, English Heritage is currently updating the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest and PPG15 indicates the desirability of protecting such sites. In addition to*