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## ROCHFORD HERITAGE, DESIGN AND CONSERVATION AWARDS 2003

### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks Members' views on the nominations received for the annual Heritage, Design and Conservation Awards.

### 2 NOMINATIONS

- 2.1 The nominations for awards in 2003 are detailed below. Photographs and additional supporting information will be available at the Committee in order for Members to determine their views on possible awards. Awards (commended or highly commended) can be made within individual categories, but an overall winner is also required.

Development	Category	Developer
The Old Forge Back Lane Rochford	Development within a Conservation Area	Pat Boxell David Cottis

New residential dwelling in Rochford Conservation Area and within the setting of a listed building (King's Head) - follows demolition of non-listed former stables. Needed to be of sympathetic design. Opportunity to make a positive contribution to the historic townscape. Basic utilitarian character is in keeping with area and former appearance. Virtual like for like reconstruction of Back Lane façade (new simple dormers), re-use of salvaged materials.

NB: Plastic weatherboarding treatment of flank elevations (boundary with adjacent properties) subject to condition re external fire spread [Building Reg B4].

Development	Category	Developer
Sensory Garden Holt Farm Infant School Ashingdon Road Rochford	Landscaping Scheme	Barnmead Garden Taming

Use of former empty playground area to create a new garden that is designed to promote relaxation through the use of colours, smells, textures and sounds. The planting in the scheme provides opportunities to look, touch and smell, whilst paths made from a variety of materials and a water feature allow for the enjoyment of different sounds and textures.

<b>Development</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Developer</b>
Floodlight Illumination St. Andrews Minster Ashingdon	Listed Buildings – renovation, conversion and/or extension	Ashingdon Parish Council

The culmination of nearly two years of work by Ashingdon Parish Council to floodlight the Minster in order to enhance the Grade II listed building and highlight its role as an historic landmark.

<b>Development</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Developer</b>
Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Community Wood Great Wakering Common	Landscape	Great Wakering Parish Council

Creation of a new area of woodland through the planting of 1,200 trees on land that was previously grass and scrub. Native species have been used throughout and pathways included to provide access. Helped by a grant from the Forestry Commission, the work was carried out as a community project involving the local school and up to 500 people who came to plant a tree. Each tree bears a label with the name of the individual who planted it.

<b>Development</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Developer</b>
Laburnham Grove Play Space Laburnham Grove Hockley	Environmental Improvement Scheme	Hockley Parish Council

The play space was taken over last year by Hockley Parish Council from RDC. Following funding from a lottery grant, improvement work has been carried out around the site, including new fencing and planting (to assist in noise reduction) and the provision of new equipment and signage. A management plan has been implemented to close the play space each evening in the interest of local amenity.

<b>Development</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Developer</b>
Marylands Nature Reserve Plumberow Avenue Hockley	Environmental Improvement Scheme	Hockley Parish Council

Nominated last year, but thought to be too early in its development for consideration. Now three years into the five year site management plan. New work includes a multi-purpose footpath placed around the site and further development of the meadow land area. New signs at both entrances and new seating at various points adjacent to path.

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<b>Development</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Developer</b>
Plumberow Mount Plumberow Avenue Hockley	Environmental Improvement Scheme	Hockley Parish Council

Restoration of the Mount by Hockley Parish Council using "wire-tec" and top soil technique as recommended by English Heritage. Project funded by English Heritage as part of a five year maintenance programme. The site had become completely overgrown and there was danger of damage to the SAM. All the excess trees and vegetation have been removed and the area re-seeded with grass to prevent further erosion. Work currently underway to provide an information sign.

### **3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The award scheme is intended for projects that make a significant contribution to the enhancement of the district's environment.

### **4 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

To determine the recipients of Heritage, Design and Conservation Awards 2003.

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**Background Papers:** Various nomination papers

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