

6: *Development and Regeneration*

The residential areas within the conservation area appear to be stable and prosperous, and with few houses for sale. There are a couple of instances of neglect of properties, Shrewsbury House being the most significant. There has been little opportunity for new development or redevelopment due to prevailing planning policies.

Between 1999 and 2006 Bury MBC and English Heritage jointly funded a Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme for the conservation area. This concentrated on the restoration and repair of mainly commercial properties on the west side of Bury New Road, south of and including Church Lane. The aim of the grant support was to bring buildings into sound economic use whilst undertaking works to enhance their architectural value. The scheme has had mixed success, with some of the restored buildings being sold on and falling back into disuse but with others, such as 1 Church Lane, 2 to 10 Church Lane, and 373 Bury New Road being successfully restored and in use.

The commercial area within the conservation area, largely along Bury New Road, is part of the wider Prestwich centre and its future is bound up with the success or otherwise of this wider area. Consultants Urbed have been engaged by the Council to study Prestwich centre and, after community consultation, to provide recommendations aimed at securing appropriate sustainable future for the area. The results of the Urbed work and the management plan for the conservation area should fit together in terms of their objectives, proposals and details.