

# Heritage Project Group



## In relation to your Heritage topic;

### What information has been collected?

Internet info only collected so far. Other resources that might be explored if considered important, for the Neighbourhood Plan, include the Somerset Heritage Centre, the library, personal recollections, other experts.

History of Ruishton - place where the rushes grow. Parish in the Taunton Deane Hundred. Kitekat manor in the 9th century. Imperial Gazetteer entry in 1870.

Archaeology includes Dole stones, roman coins finds.

Listed buildings Grade 1-2. Ruishton and Henlade - 19, Thornfalcon 15. Wide range from St George's Church Grade 1, through Grade 2\* Henlade House, Grade 2 Procktor family tomb, Woodlands House and stables, to 7 pillboxes and structures on the WW2 Taunton Stop Line.



C18th (1752) Turnpike road of the Taunton Trust (A358), Cheats Corner.

Notable families-Somerville, Procktors.

Taunton-Wellington-Chard Canal, 1827 aquaduct, tub boats, coal, iron, agricultural goods, inclined planes. Successful attempt to link Bristol Channel to South Coast.

River Tone Conservators - Acts of Parliament 1699 and 1707.

Railway - Chard Branch Line, viaduct, Thorne Falcon (sic) B&ER railway station.

WW2 Taunton Stop Line-Pill boxes, rail blocks, anti tank tetrahedra.



### What have we learned from the Survey?

1. St George's Church holds the most historical importance for the residents of Ruishton and Thornfalcon Parish (69%).
2. Also the Taunton to Chard canal (68%).
3. Post boxes (67%),
4. Small majority (*report typo?*), historic bridges are important. (*One quarter of the railway line viaduct bridge is in the parish. The aqueduct is in Creech's parish*).
5. Respondents identifying with Thornfalcon and Ashe, value Holy Cross Church in Thornfalcon very highly.

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6. Those respondents commenting on buildings/locations that they would like to see improved, mention some individual buildings in private ownership and other locations including the aqueduct and canal/railway bridges.

*Not Heritage- Others would like to see the clearing up of lay-bys and waste areas, and the provision of woodland parking.*

*Not Heritage - A small number of respondents commented on designated conservation areas. Many would like the river protected and to a lesser extent the canal and railway. Specific locations include Lower Henlade and woods, Thornfalcon Church Lane, Lipe Lane fields, Goosey Lane, St George 's Church, Thorn Clump, Fishpool Copse, Cheats Road land and Stoke Wood. Others would like open spaces and green areas protected.*

### **What further information do we need to start thinking about a plan for the future?**

How much Heritage information is actually relevant to the plan verses quite interesting and nice to have. I note that other plans have only a few paragraphs.

There are a few bits and bobs to potentially collect. Photos of old stuff - a signpost, a post box, phone box etc.