

These are some of the things that make Fordingbridge special - they need to be looked after:

### History

- The original linear street pattern.
- The layout of narrow plots running down to the river, particularly on the SE side of High Street.
- The system of improved watermeadows common on the Avon was first introduced in Fordingbridge.

### Buildings

- Small 2 storey brick houses facing the roadway with small gabled dormers.
- Original doors and small-paned timber windows.
- Roofs of handmade tile or 19th century slate.
- Unlisted terraces with simple repeating details (Shaftesbury Street/Church Street).

### Archaeology

- The medieval bridge and the moat at Parsonage Farm are both Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

### Landscape/Townscape

- Glimpses down alleys and through archways off the main streets.
- The spaces such as Market Place which link the main streets.
- The watermeadows near Town Mill.

### Setting

- The River Avon and the views to the gardens behind the High Street.
- Trees form an important backdrop to the buildings especially at Horseport and Sweatfords Water.

### Potential for enhancement

- West Street has a neglected feel as a result of the demolition of the gasworks.
- Chances to improve the look of many signs on buildings should be grasped.



Historic roofscapes



Original and altered unlisted terrace houses



Town centre enhancements



The loss of the railings has radically altered the street scene today



One of the few remaining thatched buildings in the town centre



Riverside gardens

These are key features in the conservation area and the points relate to the numbered areas on the map.

- 1 The church (Grade I) has grown from a vanished Saxon building, through reconstructions of the 13th to 15th centuries to the large building we see today. In the 19th century the church overlooked an area of commercial activity, and some cottages in the square of Church Street were clearly once shops.
- 2 The bridge (Grade II\*) dates from the 14th century although it has been rebuilt and enlarged several times since then. The bridgekeeper was obliged to keep watch for deer stealers for 15 days either side of Midsummer Day.
- 3 The town centre enhancement scheme won a Civic Trust commendation in 1995. The scheme aimed to improve the appearance, function and convenience of the central streets and reduce the dominance of vehicular over pedestrian traffic. The work involved extensive re-surfacing, creation of new spaces, highway realignment and redesigned junctions, improved lighting and signing, and was undertaken after consulting the local community.
- 4 The Infirmary site (Grade II) contains a group of purpose-built workhouse buildings for the accommodation of ninety paupers dating from 1895.
- 5 Burgate Manor courts were held at The Old Manor House (Grade II\*). It dominates the space at the Salisbury Street entrance to the town close to the original driveway to Burgate Manor which was cut in half by the by-pass in 1975.
- 6 May's the butcher in Salisbury Street (Grade II) is the only remaining example of the many thatched houses seen in turn of the century photographs of Salisbury and Provost Streets.