

### 3. Conservation & Amenity

#### *Background*

Shirenewton and its environs are set in a Special Landscape Area (SLA) which includes Mynyddbach, Earlswood and Newchurch West. Shirenewton village itself is largely encompassed by a Conservation Area, with the Church at its heart and extended to take in the Golden Valley area of Home Farm. Mynyddbach borders on the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The Community Area is largely rural with village development and population concentrated to the east of the ward. As a consequence it is a much sought after area in which to live and ranks with the most desirable within the County of Monmouthshire.



Buildings within the Community are constructed in either natural local stone or have white rendered walls. There are few old buildings in the village which have not been renovated within the last fifty years. A feature of Shirenewton village is its natural stone walls, which are an important aspect for conservation. Slate or slate-type roofs predominate along with a minority of dark or terra-cotta tiles.

Street lighting within the village is sparse and, where it does exist, it is largely in recently developed locations. There are few pavements in the centre of the village, but they form an integral part of new developments. Street lighting is at a minimum, throughout the community area and in so far as parking controls are concerned there are no yellow lines. The village does however have a lack of parking space, with facilities only being available at the Recreation Field and at the Public House car parks.

#### *Countryside*

The surrounding countryside is agricultural land and largely unspoilt, particularly within the conservation area. In contrast, Home Farm, which is situated at the top of the Golden Valley, has recently been developed to provide domestic accommodation with ancillary works against the expressed opinion of the