

These are some local examples of village signs



Could you make ours look really characteristic and distinctive?

**Modern Chesterton** is an interesting mixture of a really old village, main roads and river bridges (originally ferries) connecting it to Cambridge together with major housing and commercial developments in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries, and more modern times, produced East and West Chesterton areas. These are separated by Elizabeth Way and bounded by Milton Road to the North and the River Cam to the South. What follows are some photographs of old and modern buildings of Chesterton and text about the origin of the village to stimulate your ideas for our sign. Do you know your local area?



### Part of an account of the early history of Chesterton

The ancient parish of Chesterton probably originally extended across the river as part of an Anglo-Saxon royal vill (or territory), but when a burh (an Anglo-Saxon defended site) was established at the river crossing (Magdelene/Bridge Street) in the 8th century, the area south of the river was separated from the rest of the parish. Chesterton continued as a rural vill, although it still contained the 5 acre suburb, which became the site of the royal castle built in 1068 (Castle Street). Signs of human activity, from the Bronze Age onwards, have been found in the parish and by 1086 Chesterton had 24 peasant households. A back lane to the north, mentioned in 1600 and renamed

Scotland Road by 1881, was linked to the west end of the High Street by Mill Lane, recorded by 1325 and renamed from the 1840s Union Lane after the Chesterton Union Workhouse built there. Smaller lanes led south off the High Street, including what is now Chapel Street which linked west to Church Lane (Street) and Ferry Lane which ran south from the middle of the High Street to Water Street (so named by 1580) beside the river.....

.....The rest of this early history can be read by consulting an internet document submitted in support of a bid for Conservation Area status for Chesterton and Ferry Lane (February 2011) [http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/public/docs/Chesterton and Ferry Lane conservation area appraisal.pdf](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/public/docs/Chesterton%20and%20Ferry%20Lane%20conservation%20area%20appraisal.pdf)