



Aldbourn Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021 - 2036 Part A

MADE March 2023

This document has been prepared by the Aldbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group with support from their Plan consultants Place Studio.

Thank you to our Wiltshire Council link officer
Jonathan James

This document is Part A of the Aldbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan. Part B is the Aldbourne Parish Community Character and Design Statement

Photos by the Aldbourne Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Isabelle Lennep and Jeff Bishop

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Foreword

'... [my book] is an attempt to present the picture of a village, set in an isolated position among the Wiltshire downs, that has developed and maintained through a long period of time a sturdy independence and a strong life of its own; a village that has survived hard times and prospered again ... a village with a heart that still beats soundly.'

From The Heart of Village – an Intimate History of Aldbourne by Ida Gandy, published in 1975.

Our Plan has been produced by the Steering Group, with the support of the Parish Council, using the views of local residents. The Steering Group has consulted and listened to the community and local organisations on a wide range of issues that will influence the well-being, sustainability and long term preservation of our community. Every effort has been made to ensure that the views and policies contained in this document reflect the views of Aldbourne parish residents.

Some of the key benefits we aspire to for our Plan are to:

- Protect the parish from uncontrolled or poorly placed development.
- Provide the analysis regarding future development required by the Wiltshire Council Local Plan at locations preferred by the community.
- Ensure that development is sympathetic to and improves the look and feel of the parish.
- Take steps to give residents preferred access to affordable homes and homes suitable for downsizing.

Input from the community started with the Community Drop-In event held on 28 October 2018 with just under 100 residents attending. The Future Aldbourne Community and Environment (FACE) Survey in February 2019 was distributed to every household in the parish and this was followed by the Housing Needs survey conducted by Wiltshire Council with coordination by the Steering Group. The Community Design Day was held on 30th March 2019 giving added community engagement.

The Parish Council shared an informal draft version of the Plan with the community in Spring 2020, although the emergence of Covid-19 limited the scope of this consultation and, inevitably, the number of responses. All comments were individually considered by the Steering Group and responses provided and approved by the Parish Council. Overall the Plan was well received and the comments required little or no change to the Plan.

The Parish Council would like to thank the members of the Steering Group and pay tribute to their dedication in the production of our Plan over the last 3 years. The Parish Council is also grateful for the help and the engagement of the consultants Place Studio and the many others in the parish without whom it would not have been possible to produce this Plan.

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The ALDBOURNE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
consists of two inter-related parts:
PART A - The PLAN as here
PART B - The COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND DESIGN STATEMENT
Both are essential background to
all future planning proposals within the Parish.

Section 1 Introduction and Background

1.1 What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

The Localism Act 2011¹ introduced new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new development and promote better land use in their community by preparing Neighbourhood Development Plans. The aim of the legislation is to empower local communities to use the planning system to promote appropriate and sustainable development in their area.

A Neighbourhood Development Plan (hereinafter the Neighbourhood Plan) can set out a vision for an area and planning policies for the use and development of land. The plan must have regard to the government's National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF), as well as be in general conformity with the Wiltshire Core Strategy and must also satisfy a number of other Basic Conditions.

The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations set out a number of formal steps that must be taken in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan, including formal consultation, examination and a parish referendum to approve it. Once adopted – the formal term is 'made' - the Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the Wiltshire Development Plan and forms the basis for determining planning applications in Aldbourne Parish.

1.2 Why produce a Neighbourhood Plan for Aldbourne?

The overarching aim of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Aldbourne is to involve the local residents, through consultation, in decisions about how their village develops over the next ten years and beyond.

The Neighbourhood Plan provides a significant opportunity for local people to influence planning decisions, as planning applications are determined 'in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise'².



1 <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/.../1896534.pdf>

2 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 Section 38 (6).

1.3 Neighbourhood Plan Area

Aldbourne was designated by Wiltshire County Council as a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of creating a Neighbourhood Plan on 8th August 2016 under the Localism Act 2011. The Neighbourhood Plan area follows the Parish boundary as shown on Figure 1.

1.4 Process of Plan Preparation

This Neighbourhood Plan has been drawn up in accordance with the NPPF 2021 and the Wiltshire Core Strategy, which is the local statutory development plan setting out strategic development plan policy for the county until 2026. With the agreement of Wiltshire Council, this plan period now extends to 2036, the timeframe for the Local Plan Review.

Through discussions with the relevant local authorities and planning consultants, together with community engagement and input during plan preparation, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has developed the content for the Plan, which includes planning policies as well as practical projects to be undertaken by the local community that would help to realise the vision and objectives.

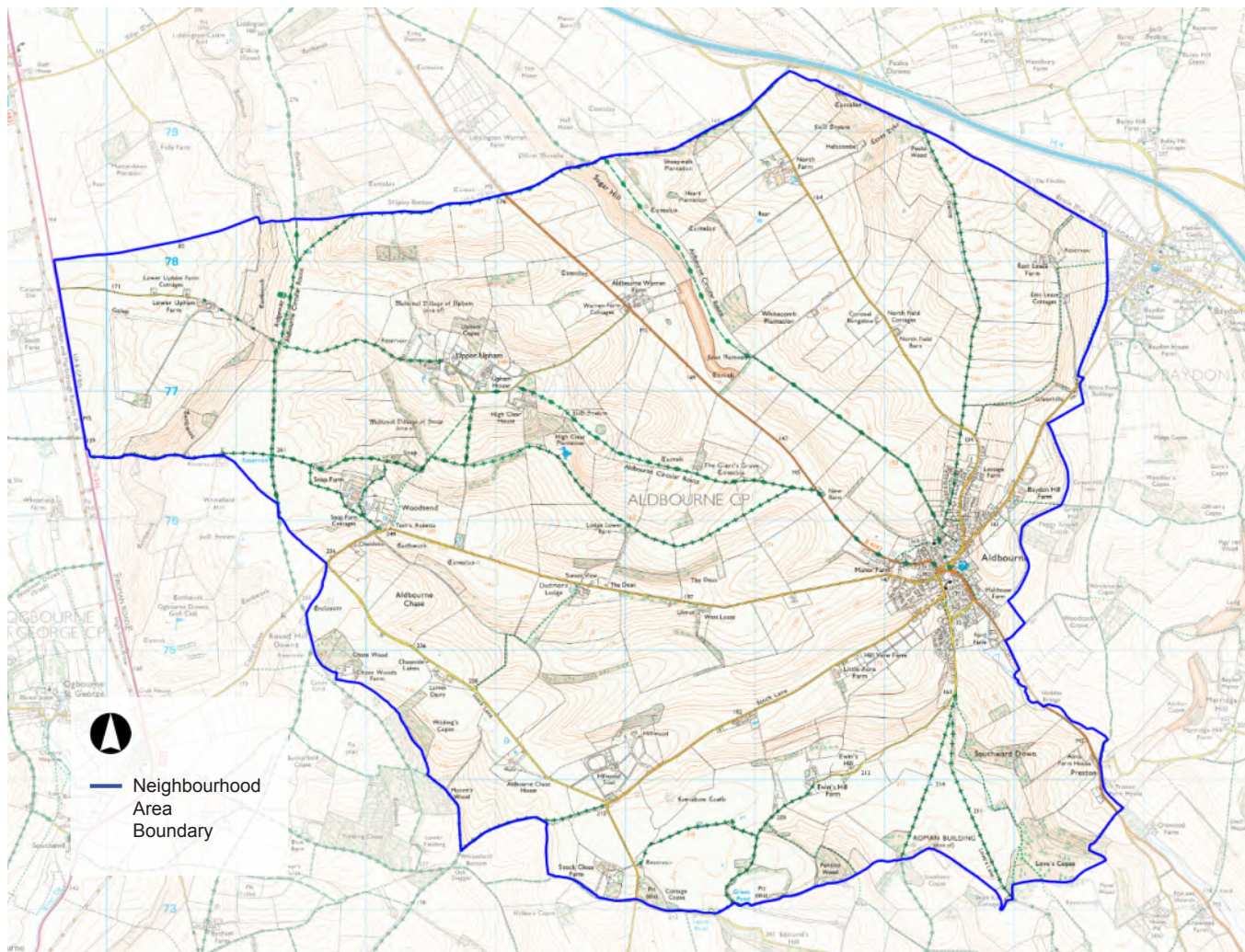


Figure 1: Designated Neighbourhood Area

1.5 How does our Neighbourhood Plan represent community views?

Through our Neighbourhood Plan, we have set out what the community expects from any new development. And, really importantly, what we want protected or need more of.

In order to ensure that this plan is a “shared vision” amongst the community, a range of community engagement activities were undertaken. The main ones, along with regular updates and requests for information or comments in Dabchick – the Parish Newsletter - were:

- Community Drop-in - 28 October and 11 November 2017
- Open Community Event at St Michael’s School - 24 November 2017
- Design Day - 30 March 2019
- Safety - School Project - June 2019
- Play Areas survey by Aldbourne Cubs - February 2019
- Road Safety for the elderly - Silver Threads - February 2019
- Local Green Spaces survey consultation - February 2020
- Sustainability Survey consultation - May 2020
- Local Heritage Assets survey consultation - May 2020
- Design Statement Consultation - May 2020
- Community Consultation - April / May 2020

The activities undertaken in April and May 2020 happened during lockdown and were therefore undertaken via Facebook / the Parish Council website.

The formal Regulation 14 Consultation was undertaken in September to November 2021.

The vision, objectives and policies that are set out in this Plan come directly from the views and opinions gathered through consultation and through work to generate local evidence.



Section 2 Introduction to Aldbourne

2.1 Aldbourne

Aldbourne is a village and civil parish located around 10 km north east of Marlborough, Wiltshire, and around 13 km south east of Swindon (see Figure 2). Aldbourne lies in a triangle between Marlborough, Swindon, and Hungerford, and is wholly within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The parish includes the village of Aldbourne, the hamlets of Upper Upham and Woodsend and the deserted hamlet of Snap. The village itself lies in the junction of five dry valleys and the Bourne flows through the centre of the village and joins the River Kennet near the neighbouring village of Ramsbury.

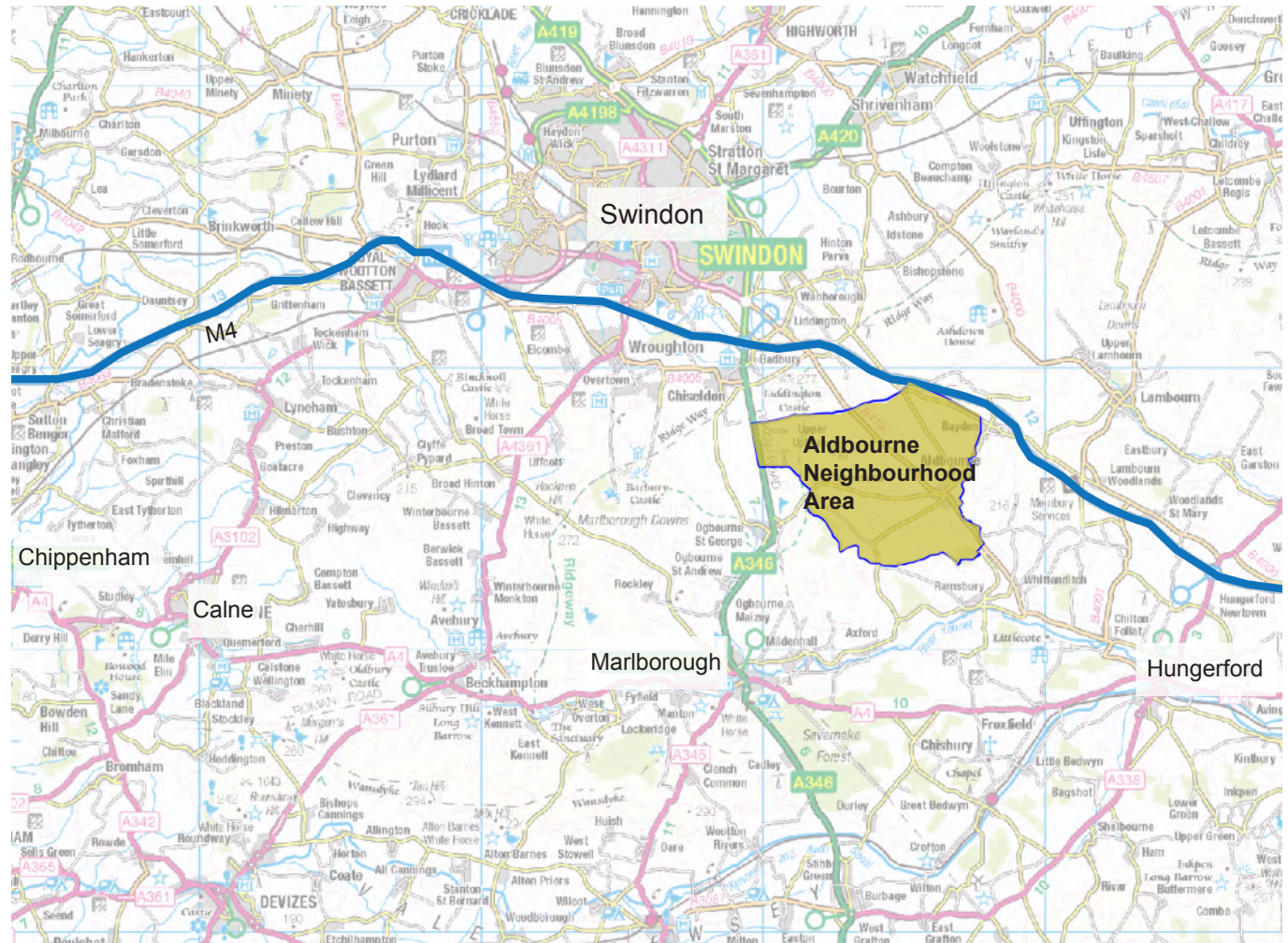


Figure 2: Aldbourne within the wider area

2.2 Brief History of Aldbourne

Aldbourn: A Chalk and Sarsen Wiltshire Downland Village

Aldbourn (stream of Aelds's people) has long been a flourishing village. Based around a 9th-century Saxon settlement, there is also evidence of Roman occupation locally. St. Michael's Church dates back to the 12th century and overlooks the village green where the Grade 11 listed medieval cross sits. Repairs were carried out in 1764, 1965, 2019 and it is inclined in the 'manner of a gnomon'.

The village has long maintained many of its own traditions. Anyone born in the village is called a Dabchick, and other traditions are the Aldbourn Feast in July and the Beating of the Bounds in May.

The 506th regiment of the 101st Airborne division of the US Army were based in Aldbourn in the weeks prior to D-Day. A stable block in the village in which some of the soldiers had been billeted was dismantled and reassembled in the military museum in the regiment's hometown in Georgia, USA, in 2005 and there have since been numerous commemorative events in the village as well as regular visits by people from the USA linked to the regiment's time. In 2019 an archaeological dig took place on the sports field, the site where the soldiers were camped and this revealed artefacts from this period which are now in the Aldbourn Historic Centre.

Over the past 30 years the village has maintained its core character.



Left: Map of Aldbourne (Auburne) 1590 (source Ashmolean Museum, Oxford)

Below: Aldbourne in 1838



2.3 The Parish today

The parish today is a thriving community with excellent local facilities. Our Church of England Aided Primary School has been rated Outstanding in recent Ofsted inspections. We have an excellent small Library which involves the children of the village in reading schemes.

The Green is a much used special green space in the village with children often playing and riding scooters on the paths. The hugely popular Aldbourne Band Pond Concerts take place in the summer on the Green and the annual Aldbourne Music Festival also takes place on the Green and in other venues in the village. Aldbourne Doggy Day, organised by local residents, has developed into an important and popular annual event raising funds for local causes and other charities.

The village attracts a number of general visitors throughout the year, including to events as above. A number of groups from the USA visit regularly because of the historic links to the time spent by members of the 506th regiment of the 101st Airborne division of the US Army in the village during the 2nd World War.

The resident population of Aldbourne Parish in 2017* was 1,864, of which 968 (51.6%) were female and 896 (48.4%) male. (* All other figures are also from 2017.) This total population comprised 783 households of which 71 were households with dependent children aged 0 to 4. That represented 9.07% of the total households. 221 households had dependent children of all ages. That represented 28.22% of the total Parish households.

The predominant age band was those aged from 50-54 and, overall, the Parish has a higher proportion of older, now retired people than is the case nationally. A perhaps related issue was that 70% of the households were



home owners. 14.1% of households rented from social or council landlords, 11.6% from private landlords. Educational and health standards were generally higher than the national average.

2019 figures for house prices were £450,000 average, varying between sales of a flat for £225,000 and £330,000 for a terraced house to £660,000 for a large detached house. These are well above the average figure for Wiltshire as a whole of £290,000.



2.4 The Planning Context for Aldbourne

The Plan has been prepared with regard to the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 as well as guidance set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance¹.

As well as having regard to national policies and guidance, the Neighbourhood Plan must be in general conformity with policies in the Wiltshire Core Strategy/Local Plan. The Wiltshire Core Strategy was adopted in January 2015 and is supplemented by a number of policies that were ‘saved’ from the former Kennet Local Plan. The Wiltshire Core Strategy was prepared containing policies and principles on how the county will develop through to 2026. The situation is changing, however, because Wiltshire Council is currently reviewing the Wiltshire Core Strategy and it will then become the Wiltshire Local Plan.

A review is required because the Government encourages local planning authorities to revisit their Local Plans every five years.

As part of the Local Plan preparation, Wiltshire Council produced an ‘Empowering Rural Communities’ paper which provided suggested housing development targets for all large villages. As of January 2021 the figure for Aldbourne intended to be delivered over the period 2016 – 2036 is 40. This is not, however, the final figure; it may change as work on the emerging Local Plan proceeds.

Aldbourne Parish lies within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and has a designated Conservation Area which covers the core of the village and areas outside of the Settlement Boundary,

mainly to the west. There are also 98 Listed Buildings and 16 Scheduled Ancient Monuments and a number of County Wildlife Sites in the Parish.

It must be noted that, during 2022, changes were made to the regulations in relation what qualifies as Permitted Development. The plan does not highlight all the instances where this may prove relevant but it must be borne in mind.

The Plan has also been prepared with regard to Wiltshire Council’s Local Transport Plan.

1 <http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/>

2 https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/media/5624/Empowering-Rural-Communities/pdf/WLP_Empowering_Rural_Communities_FINAL__28-01-2021_.pdf

2.5 Climate Change, Post-Covid and Health

As in the NPPF 2021, this Neighbourhood Plan is required “to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development”. Recent events have highlighted this with, in particular, the urgent need to address the challenges of climate change, aspects of enhancing community health and social and economic recovery following the Covid 19 pandemic.

There is now a firm commitment at national level and by Wiltshire Council (to be stronger in the new Local Plan) to address the causes and impacts of climate change and resilience to it. Neighbourhood Plans are also strongly encouraged to play their part so this has been addressed thoroughly in this Plan. Given the current importance of climate change, a number of specific objectives and policies for that set of issues are highlighted in their own section while these and other policies make a positive contribution to health and to post-Covid recovery.

There have also been a number of documents published by national government that address and provide further guidance on Climate related issues such as ‘Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener’¹, the Climate Change Committee ‘Sixth Carbon Budget’², the ‘Transport Decarbonisation Plan’³, and the ‘Heat and Buildings Strategy’⁴.

In relation to Covid, more people have been working from home and the indications are that many will continue to do so. There have been full closures in other villages of some shops, cafes and pubs and there are serious concerns for the future businesses in villages such as Aldbourne. As we emerge from lockdown, it is hoped that many of these will resurface successfully and the increased number of people working from home can help this. It has also become clear how important the outside environment, especially the natural environment, is for our mental health. The impacts on car ownership and use are less clear and this is likely to impact in some way on the number of people visiting the village and their contribution to the local economy. In addition, policies about (for example) improving and adding to footpaths, enhancing green infrastructure and retaining community facilities also help with general health and well-being.

What follows is Part A of the Plan, Part B is the Aldbourne Parish Community Character & Design Statement. Both parts should be read together.

1 GOV.UK, ‘Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener’, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/net-zero-strategy>

2 Climate Change Committee – Sixth Carbon Budget, available at: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/sixth-carbon-budget/>

3 GOV.UK, Transport Decarbonisation Plan, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transport-decarbonisation-plan>

4 GOV.UK, Heat and Buildings Strategy, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/heat-and-buildings-strategy>

Section 3 Vision and Objectives

Vision

The Parish of Aldbourne is an ancient one within a distinctive and rural landscape. The village will see sustainable and sensitive development through the Plan period to 2036 that is responsive to the environmental, economic and social needs of our Parish and its inhabitants.

By 2036, only minimal development will have taken place, all in sympathy with existing patterns and local character, protecting the valued rural nature and community feeling and having minimum impact on the landscape setting, ecology and heritage of the Parish. New housing will have reflected the downsizing and ageing of the community and also addressed the need for affordable homes.

Our distinctive landscape setting will continue to be very important. Aldbourne will remain almost invisible as it is approached from all directions as it nestles at the confluence of five dry valleys. The surrounding chalk hills will give fine rural views across the gently rolling countryside. These important landscape features will have helped us, as a Parish, to comment on any development proposals that could have interfered with those views.



Vision (...cont)



Natural features and sites will have been maintained, infrastructure changes will have had minimal impact on the rural character and both dark skies and low-impact road signage will have been retained. The chalk stream which meanders through the village will still provide a sanctuary for a great variety of wildlife and remain an important asset to our Parish. Its setting will have been protected and, in places, improved, helping to reduce flooding impacts. The many footpaths that criss-cross our Parish will also have been retained and improved by better and increased stewardship. Aldbourne will be a place where people can move around easily, especially by walking and cycling, and where a network of green spaces together with mature trees supports wildlife. All such actions contribute to addressing the challenges of climate change mitigation and adaptation.



The local economy will continue to be strong with opportunities created for small local businesses to develop and grow and more people will be working from home. The centre of the village will continue to offer a good range of shops and facilities with a distinct identity and character. Other community facilities will have been maintained at least at the current level of provision and enhanced as people join the balanced community, helping to cater for all ages and stages of life.

By 2036, this Plan will also have enabled some practical projects to be addressed, concerning several key local issues, especially traffic, safety and parking.

Objectives

- 1 Encourage and enable appropriate, early and positive pre-application community engagement on any development proposals.
- 2 Contribute to tackling the causes and effects of climate change in Aldbourne.
- 3 Ensure the reduction of flood risk and water pollution throughout Aldbourne.
- 4 Enable new developments that are appropriately located and of locally distinctive design.
- 5 For housing developments in particular, provide the mix of house sizes and types that meet the local demographic needs and are of locally distinctive design.
- 6 Celebrate, protect and enhance the highly valued heritage of the parish.
- 7 Protect and enhance the green spaces and biodiversity within the village and its overall landscape setting, as well as the paths and cycleways to access them.
- 8 Retain and enhance community facilities.
- 9 Retain and enhance local employment and commercial services.
- 10 Ensure that new developments have enough car parking to meet current and future needs.
- 11 Enable safer pedestrian movement around the village.

Section 4 Approach to Development

Four factors are key to our approach to development:

1. Aldbourne village has a formal settlement boundary as on Figure 3. That boundary is particularly important because the village sits firmly within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Development beyond the current boundary is not necessarily ruled out, but developments would need to accord with one of Wiltshire Council's exceptions policies unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
2. All the core of the village is also a Conservation Area, something that makes Aldbourne highly attractive as a place to live and visit. Even though the more recent estates are less locally distinctive, what people think of as the character of the village is set by that of the older village core and this should be the basis for design of any new developments (see Part B).
3. As outlined earlier, Wiltshire planning policy suggests a need for only a small number of new houses in the village and local statistics suggest that this should be focused on smaller properties, affordable properties and properties for local downsizing.
4. The community of Aldbourne are most certainly not against development, especially as we are keen to see some local provision for those wishing to downsize locally and free up family homes. During the preparatory work for this Plan, only a limited number of sites were put forward and (Appendix 1, Item 1) all but two of those outside the settlement boundary were assessed to be inappropriate because of the likely impact of development on the AONB. It is unlikely that other sites will emerge over the plan period, unless for very small infill developments.

The key points from the above are expressed on Figure 3.

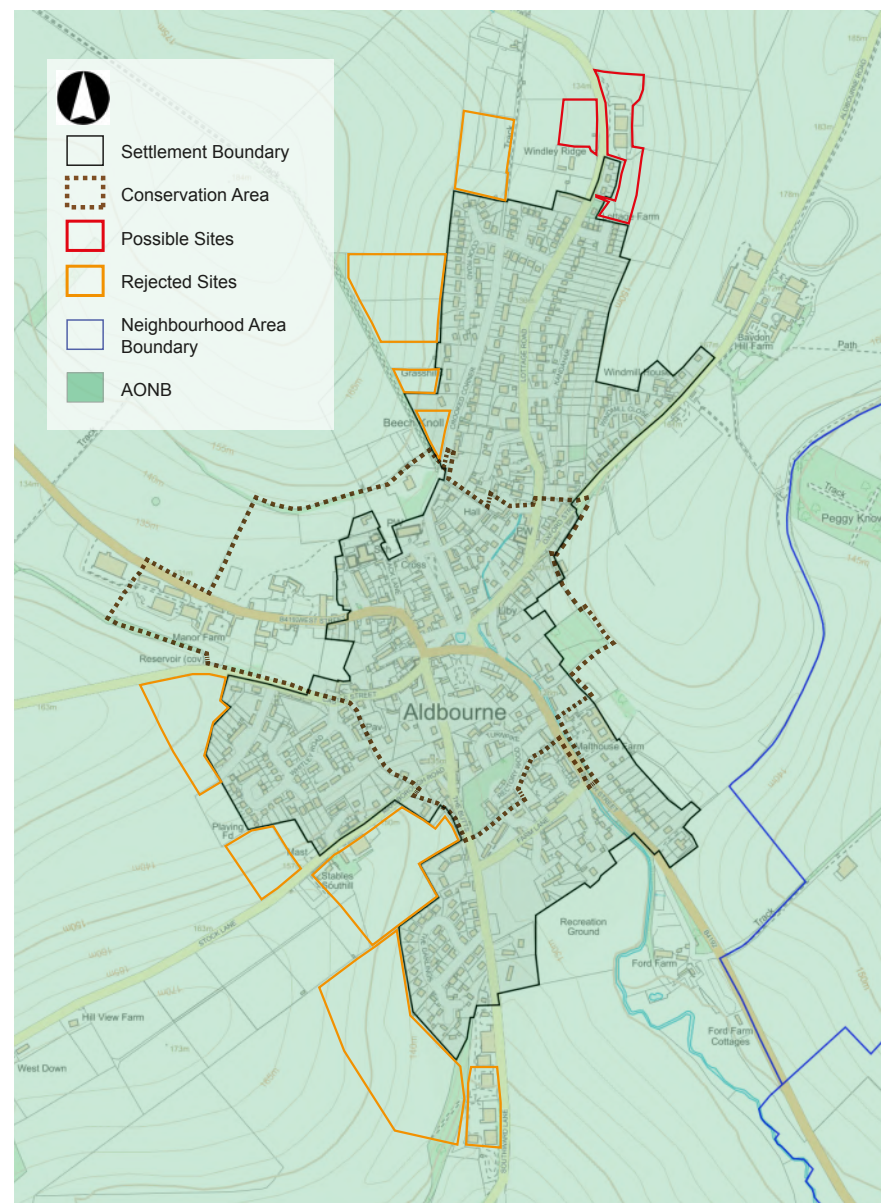


Figure 3: Approach to Development

Section 5 Policies

The planning policies included in the Plan set out requirements for any development in the Parish and they will be used by planning officers in Wiltshire to help determine planning applications within our Parish (or Neighbourhood Plan area). They also include proposed site allocations. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission are determined in “accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise”. Once made, the Aldbourne Neighbourhood Plan will be a full part of the Development Plan.

Policies are shown within a box and in bold text, to clearly distinguish them from supporting text. Two further elements relate to each policy:

Objective(s): Each policy flows from our Vision and Objectives as set out in section 3. The relevant objective(s) that link back to Section 3 are included above the relevant section.

Explanation: An explanation is also included below the policies to summarise the intent of the policy and to set out the context that underpins the policy. Reference is also given here or elsewhere to specific evidence reports.



5.1 Climate Change

Objective 2: Contribute to tackling the causes and effects of climate change in Aldbourne.

This is addressed by all policies but in particular those that follow below on:

- Renewable energy in developments
- Renewable energy production
- Electric vehicle charging
- Sustainable design and construction
- Reducing flood risk
- The use of permeable surfaces



Above: Local examples of solar panels

Renewable Energy in Developments and Renewable Energy Production

Policy 1: Renewable Energy in Developments

Subject to development being found to be acceptable when judged against other policies in this Plan, proposals that demonstrate a commitment to site the generation of renewable energy on a site or in any buildings will be supported.

The retrofit of heritage properties/assets is encouraged, to generate renewable energy where appropriate, providing it safeguards historic characteristics and development is done with the engagement and permissions of relevant organisations (such as Historic England, who have produced guidance on this issue). Reference can be made to Wiltshire Council's Climate Strategy (now adopted)¹.

Explanation

There are a number of ways in which individual buildings and groups of buildings, and their sites, can be used to generate renewable energy, for the direct benefit of the owner/occupier but also to export to the grid. And this can be the case even for buildings constructed to high standards of insulation (something even more important now more people are likely to be working from home). For Aldbourne, two obvious ways are solar/PV (but care is needed in terms of visual impact) and ground and air source energy. Other technologies may be possible, especially as new ones become available, as is likely, over the plan period.

Policy 2: Renewable Energy Production

Proposals for community scale energy production from solar/photovoltaic panels, local biomass facilities, anaerobic digestions and wood fuel products will be supported subject to the following criteria:

- the siting and scale of the proposed development is appropriate to its setting and position in the wider landscape;
- the proposed development does not create an unacceptable impact on the amenities of local residents; and
- the proposed development does not have an unacceptable impact on a feature of natural or biodiversity importance.

Explanation

Delivering a shift at national level from fossil-fuel generated energy to energy generated from renewable sources has been an ambition for some years and, though there has been considerable success, there is still some way to go. Smaller, local projects have always been considered part of the overall strategy and should be supported. Though not directly relevant to the policy, there is also national support for community-developed and community-owned schemes.

¹ <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1004/Climate-strategy>

Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Charging

Policy 3: Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Charging

All new dwellings or buildings undergoing material change of use to create a new dwelling will provide appropriately located charging technology for charging low emission vehicles, such as an electric car charging point. Where shared or off-plot parking spaces are provided, provision must be made for charging vehicles in convenient locations that do not create unsafe pedestrian movement.

Planning applications that propose new employment, leisure or retail developments will also provide charging facilities for staff and/or other users.

The retrospective installation of charging infrastructure at existing dwellings or within other non-residential car parks such as civic/community facilities, churches, pubs etc. will be supported.

Explanation

The need to drive private vehicles is acknowledged, enabling residents of Aldbourne to carry out their every day business. However, facilitating an increase of the use of low or zero emission vehicles is an important driver in the reduction of emissions that contribute to climate change at a local level. An increase in the availability of charging technology would put Aldbourne at the forefront of a national drive towards Ultra Low Emission Vehicles¹.

The UK will end the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040². The government's Road to Zero Strategy (2018)³ outlines a number of ambitious measures including:

- a push for charge points to be installed in newly built homes, where appropriate, and new lampposts to include charging points, potentially providing a massive expansion of the plug-in network, and
- an ambition for at least 50% — and as many as 70% — of new car sales to be ultra low emission by 2030, alongside up to 40% of new van sales.

Hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles are also considered to have the potential to play a significant role in decarbonising road transport, transitioning to vehicles that produce no harmful tailpipe emissions.

¹ As of October 2020 the total number of locations which have a public charging point installed is 12,403 and that number is growing (<https://www.zap-map.com/statistics/>)

² Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee Report, 2018: Electric vehicles: driving the transition

³ Department for Transport, 2018: The Road to Zero Next steps towards cleaner roads transport and delivering our Industrial Strategy

Sustainable Design and Construction

Policy 4: Sustainable Design and Construction

New development, including extensions and restorations, are encouraged to include appropriate measures both through design and materials that address the climate change emergency (such as those listed adjacent to this policy). Proposals that are highly efficient and those which move towards zero carbon emission buildings are particularly encouraged.

Explanation

In the autumn of 2019 the Government launched a consultation on a new Future Homes Standard (FHS) that will be introduced in 2025 to create “world-leading energy efficiency standards”. Ahead of the Future Homes Standard coming into force, major changes to the Building Regulations have been introduced which tighten requirements on standards for the development of new homes.

It is recognised that we can anticipate additional regulations and standards as a result of the urgent need to address climate change, therefore the policies in this section seek to reinforce the importance of the need to act at the Neighbourhood Plan level to promote and support sustainable and climate responsive design where possible. National Planning Policy stresses the importance on all communities to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources (NPPF para .155). (This issue is also supported in the Planning for the Future White Paper.)



A very highly insulated but traditional looking house in the village

5.2 Reducing Flood Risk

Objective 2: Contribute to tackling the causes and effects of climate change in Aldbourne.

Objective 3: Ensure the reduction of flood risk and water pollution throughout Aldbourne.

Policy 5: Reducing Flood Risk

All developments in flood-sensitive areas, and those where development might contribute to increased flood risk, will be designed and constructed to reduce the overall level of flood risk both to the use of the site and elsewhere when compared to current use.

Applications for developments that may impact on any of the hydrological regimes relevant to Aldbourne must address this issue.

Applications for development should include information to confirm the headroom capacity of the Ramsbury Sewerage Treatment Works and the associated sewerage network to ensure the feasibility of the development.

Explanation

The National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance together with the current Wiltshire Core Strategy seek to ensure that development avoids flood risk and to minimise the impact where it does occur. These higher-level strategies provide a clear context for the Neighbourhood Plan's policies in relation to reducing flood risk and dealing with the dual pressures of climate change and housing development. The most effective ways of dealing with flooding are through natural measures such as tree planting, sustainable drainage systems and (see next policy) permeable surfaces. This can also assist in the mitigation of climate change.

The particular circumstances which apply in Aldbourne – poorly picked up by standard assessments - highlight a need for Parish level policies so that flood risk will not be increased overall, and opportunities to reduce flood risk are included. More detail about the specific flooding context of Aldbourne is in the Flooding Report 2020 (see Appendix 1, Item 2).

It is the responsibility of a developer to make proper provision for surface water drainage to ground, water course or surface sewer. It must not be allowed to drain to the foul sewer, as this is the major contributor to sewer flooding.

Permeable Surfaces

Policy 6: Permeable Surfaces

Where planning permission is required, permeable surface paving of house drives, hardstandings and parking areas will be supported where it is in keeping with the local character, and where boundary features such as walls and hedges can be retained or enhanced. Proposals for surface treatments in residential, commercial and public parking areas should demonstrate how surface water and associated run-off can be drawn into the ground in a sustainable way.

Applications for developments must demonstrate compliance with the Thames Abstraction Licensing Strategy.

Explanation

Policy 6 seeks to address hard surfacing of house drives and the removal of vegetation which can have a number of negative effects. In the extreme, water run-off from paved areas can cause damage to storm drains, flooding of roads and property, and can reduce the ability of agricultural land to retain water. There are now a number of reasonably priced and easy to maintain technical solutions to creating permeable or semi-permeable surfaces for drives and parking areas. This is what the policy seeks to promote and ensure.

In some cases, paving front gardens and installing hard-standing can be undertaken without the need for planning permission via permitted development rules. However, careful planning in the design and construction of driveways can reduce and control water run-off¹.

The Plan area lies within the 'Kennet and Vale of White Horse' tributary ledger for the Thames. As such, any physical development may impact on water abstraction. This must be checked by potential applicants in relation to the Thames Abstraction Licensing Strategy of 2019².

¹ (See:https://www.planningportal.co.uk/directory_record/718/guidance_on_the_permeable_surfacing_of_front_gardens).

² https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/849612/Thames-Abstraction-Licensing-Strategy.pdf

Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Policy 7: Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Where appropriate, planning permission for developments which result in the need for off-site upgrades to water and waste water infrastructure, will be subject to conditions to ensure the occupation is aligned with the delivery of necessary infrastructure upgrades.

Explanation

Wiltshire Council will seek to ensure that there is adequate water and wastewater supply infrastructure to serve all new developments in Aldbourne. Developers are encouraged to contact the water/waste water company (Thames Water) as early as possible to discuss their development proposals and intended delivery programme to assist with identifying any potential water and wastewater network requirements. Where there is a capacity constraint Wiltshire Council will, where appropriate, apply phasing conditions to any approval to ensure that any necessary infrastructure upgrades are delivered ahead of the occupation of the relevant phase of development.

The effects of the volume and frequency of ground and surface water infiltration into the sewer system, especially when groundwater levels are high, should be taken into account when assessing whether the sewer system is adequate to accommodate any new development.

5.3 High Quality Design

Objective 4: Enable new developments that are appropriately located and of locally distinctive design.

Objective 5: For housing developments in particular, provide the mix of house sizes and types that meet the local demographic needs and are of locally distinctive design.

Policy 8: High Quality Design

In order to create high quality buildings and places that are beautiful and enduring, development proposals should respond positively and distinctively to the National Model Design Code and the Aldbourne Parish Community Character and Design Statement as appropriate to their scale, nature and location. In particular, development proposals should be designed in a way which takes account of their surroundings in their built form, height, materials, historic character and boundary treatments.

Policy 9: Design in the Conservation Area

The design of developments within the Aldbourne Conservation Area, as shown on Figure 4, and its setting, including alterations and extensions to existing buildings, must demonstrate regard to the significance, character and appearance of the Conservation Area as set out in the Aldbourne Conservation Area Statement and the Aldbourne Parish Community Character & Design Statement.

Explanation

The quality of design in general is a key issue not just for our community but also now at national level. The 2021 update of the NPPF also underscores the importance of high quality design:

“the creation of high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve.” (NPPF, Paragraph 126).

The NPPF sets out that:

“Neighbourhood planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development” (NPPF, Paragraph 127).

This all follows many years of work nationally around locally distinctive design. This has resulted in the publication of the National Design Guide and the National Model Design Code (MHCLG, 2021), as well as clear guidance to support the rejection of planning applications that do not demonstrate high quality design. How best to secure this at very local level is recognised as being through the production by communities of Local Design Statements (or Codes). This is what has been the case in Aldbourne, as in the Aldbourne Parish Community Character and Design Statement (Part B of this Plan).

It is important to note that Aldbourne also has a large and significant Conservation Area (with an Assessment) where additional care – and requirements - are necessary. Bringing the two together, it is the quality of the Conservation Area, rather than that of the more recent surrounding estates, that creates the distinctive character of the village and makes it so attractive to visitors, so any new development outside the Conservation Area should aim to recover those qualities.

Applicants should demonstrate the way in which they comply with the Design Statement in preparing their design and access statements to accompany planning applications. Where appropriate developers should demonstrate compliance with Building for a Healthy Life.

Design Statements are extremely valuable but cannot achieve high quality design on their own. The successful delivery of high quality design on specific sites is also dependent on providing the local community with an early input into the design of new developments.

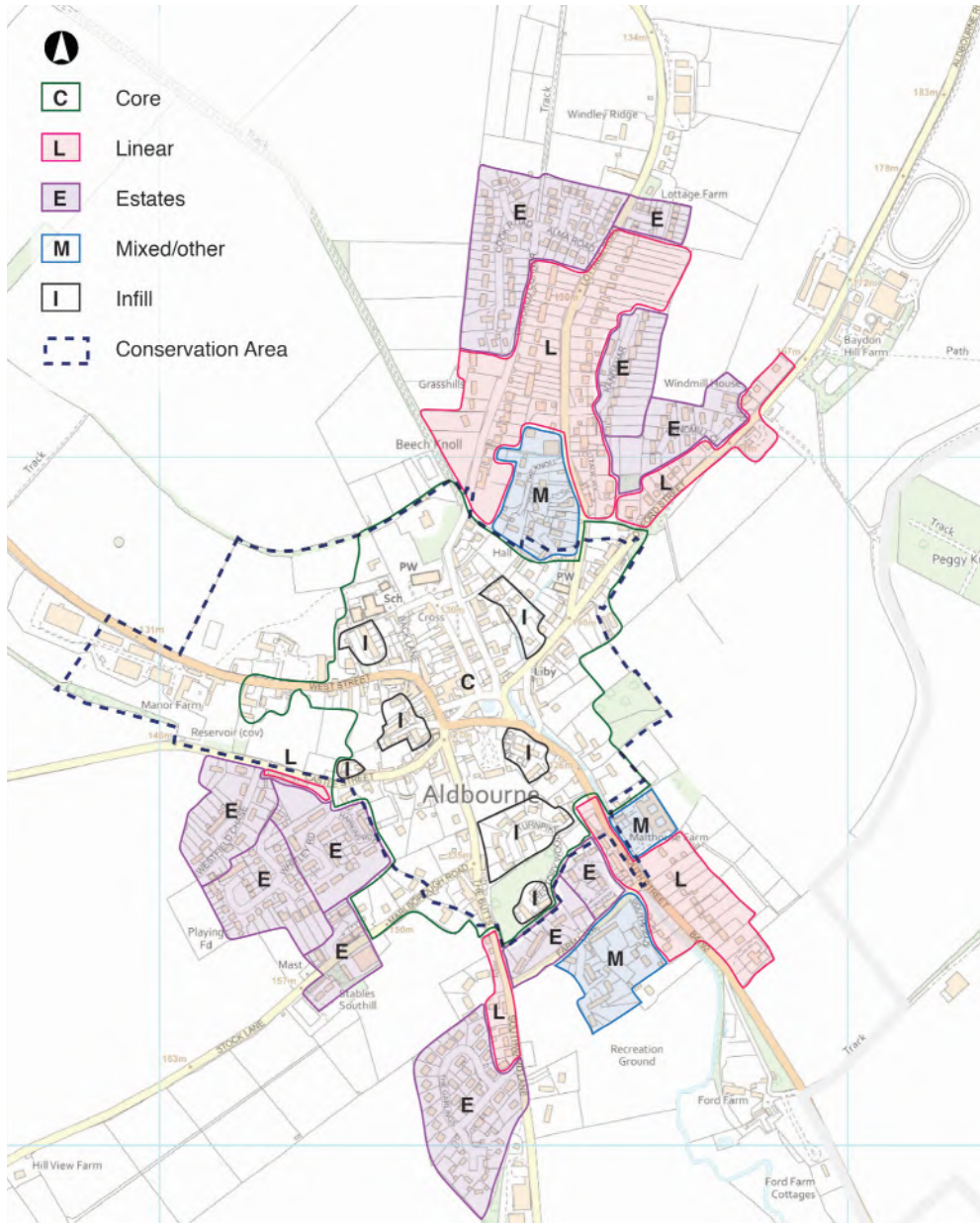


Figure 4: Character Areas & Conservation Area

Figure 4: Character Areas and Conservation Area shows the results of the detailed character survey undertaken as part of the production of this plan. The character areas are described in more detail in the plan Part B Community Character and Design Statement.

5.4 Heritage

Objective 6: Celebrate, protect and enhance the highly valued heritage of the parish.

This section includes three related policies on:

- Overall heritage
- Archaeology
- Locally Valued Heritage Assets



Overall Heritage

Policy 10: Overall Heritage

Development should respect the history and heritage of Aldbourne in accordance with national and local policy by:

- **Conserving and, where appropriate, enhancing listed buildings and their settings or any features of special architectural or historic interest;**
- **Conserving or enhancing the character or appearance of the Conservation Area including having regard for its setting and context in the wider landscape. Development that would restore traditional design details and window styles or route cables and services underground and that accords with other policies in the Plan, will be supported;**
- **New developments should seek to avoid any adverse impacts on the views, landmarks, features and buildings highlighted in the Aldbourne Parish Community Character and Design Statement.**

Explanation

The book quoted in the Foreword highlights the specific significance of Aldbourne's history and heritage (even to very recent times) – something highly valued by local people and a reason why many people visit the village. This is supported by the information in the Heritage Report (Appendix 1, Item 3). Given the setting of the village in an AONB, and the existence of the Conservation Area, all aspects of heritage are extremely important at all levels. This is why this general policy is followed by policies on archaeology in particular and a policy to protect local heritage assets.

The Heritage report includes the full Conservation Area Statement. This was produced in 2003 so some information is now out of date.

Archaeology

Policy 11: Archaeology

Development should take account of the high potential within the Plan area for discoveries of significant archaeological interest. Where a site includes, or has the potential to include, archaeological interest, a proportionate desk based assessment and, where necessary, remote sensing and a field evaluation should be submitted.

Any potential impact upon archaeological assets identified by these prior investigations should be mitigated to reflect the significance of those remains; either by including provision for the preservation of in situ high value remains where any potential loss is not outweighed by the public benefits of the development, or by the recording of any loss via archaeological excavation and record keeping.

Explanation

The Heritage Report includes all details of known archaeological sites. The North Wessex Downs AONB website¹ also highlights the overall importance of the wider area in terms of nationally significant archaeology.

¹ <https://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/>

Locally Valued Unlisted Heritage Assets

Policy 12: Locally Valued Unlisted Heritage Assets

The Neighbourhood Plan identifies buildings, features and structures which are not listed, but which are of local note for their heritage value as shown on Figure 5, in the Aldbourne Conservation Area Statement and the Locally Valued Heritage Assets Report which forms Appendix 2 of this plan.

Any development proposals that would affect the character, setting or integrity of buildings, features and structures which are identified as Locally Valued Heritage Assets should:

- be accompanied by a description of any asset's significance in sufficient detail to allow the potential impacts to be adequately assessed;
- be sympathetic to the building or structure concerned and propose its creative reuse and adaptation; and,
- ensure that recording and interpretation is undertaken to document and understand the asset's archaeological, architectural, communal, artistic or historic significance.

Locally Valued Unlisted Heritage Assets List:

1. Horse and carriage mounting block
2. Sun Fire Insurance plaque
3. Statue of St. Michael
4. Rover the Dog memorial sign
5. WW2 Cookhouse building
6. WW2 Pumphouse
7. WW2 Abbey (Nissan) hut
8. Memorial seat to K.O.G. Nugent
9. All remaining exposed stretches of the Bourne/Brook
10. Thatched Bus Shelter
11. The Pump, West St,
12. Red Post box on Pole
13. Zoar Baptist Graveyard
14. Old Fire Station (engine house)
15. The Old School
16. Road sign on corner of West St. and Marlborough Road
17. The Blue Boar hanging pub sign
18. The Green
19. Muriel Foster's bench
20. Iron kissing gate
21. Iron bench by the Goddard chapel
22. Dr. Who links: Tardis, Dalek, Cloven Hoof and phone box
23. Field Stones c.1869 off Farm Lane
24. Victorian folly, Bramley Cottage

Detailed information on these assets can be found in the Locally Valued Heritage Assets Report which forms Appendix 2 of this plan.

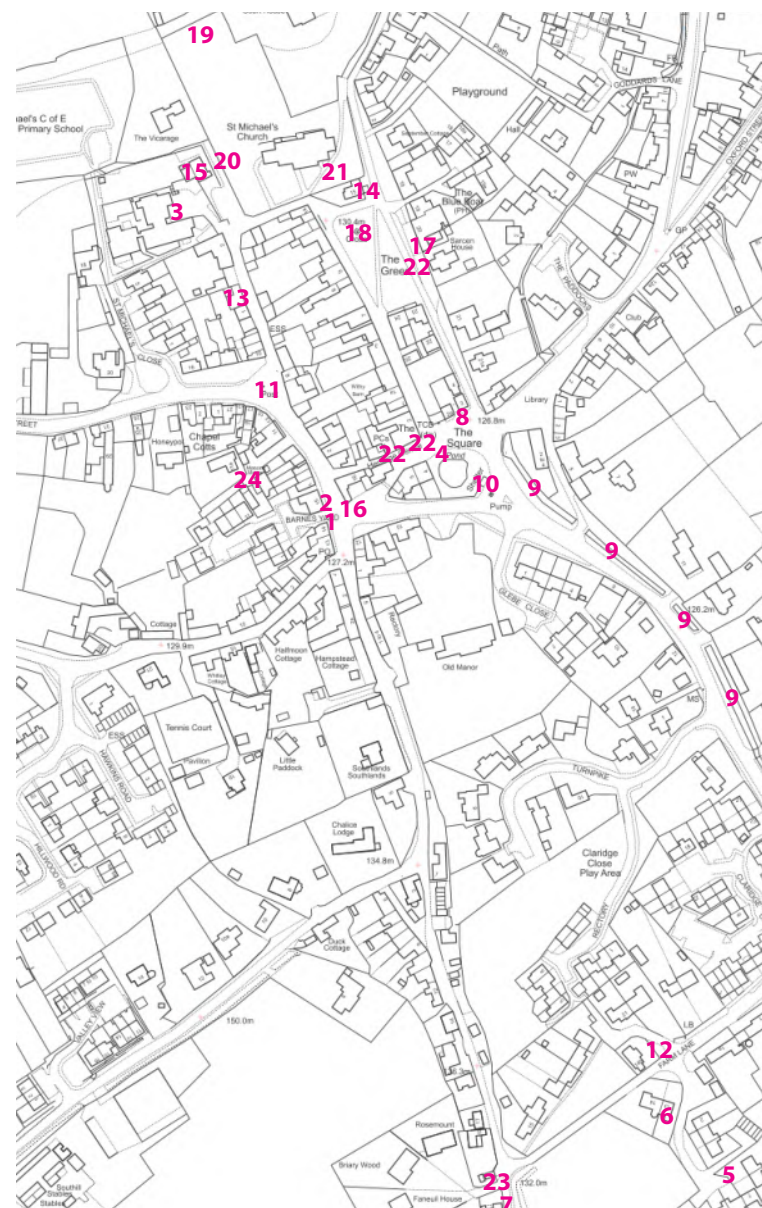


Figure 5: Locally Valued Unlisted Heritage Assets

Explanation

The Conservation Area Statement (in the Heritage Report) highlights a large number of buildings and features of clear significance to the overall character of the area but not formally listed. The local community have updated that information, by noting and assessing against Historic England criteria, a number of other buildings, objects and features, both within and without the Conservation Area, that they regard as important to the overall character of the village. These, and their assessments, are noted in the Locally Valued Heritage Assets report (see Appendix 1, Item 4).

NB. The Conservation Area Statement has not been reviewed or updated since it was produced in 2003. Some issues may have been addressed, some features may have changed or been removed.



5.5 New Housing

Objective 5: For housing developments in particular, provide the mix of house sizes and types that meet the local demographic needs and are of locally distinctive design.

Policy 13: New Housing

The house types and sizes in new housing developments must reflect the demographic needs of Aldbourne at that time. Particular attention must be paid to the need for affordable homes and homes for local people to downsize to.

Explanation

Recent proposals for new housing in Aldbourne have appeared to prioritise larger homes; 3, 4 or more bedrooms. This does not relate at all to the demographic needs of the local population (see the Housing Report in Appendix 1, Item 1), which shows a need for smaller and cheaper properties, especially for older people to downsize to, thus remaining in their village and freeing up the larger properties for families.

Policy 14: Working from Home

Development to provide space and services to enable home working will be supported, subject to it respecting local character, residential amenity and highway safety. Homes must nevertheless be designed to meet the Nationally Described Space Standards so no rooms can be designated specifically and solely for homeworking.

Explanation

Though it is difficult to quantify how many people in Aldbourne work full or part time from home, it seems certain that, post-Covid, this number will increase. Some new homes are already being provided with appropriate space/layouts in the home, and targeted services such as broadband etc., to make homeworking easier for all, especially in smaller houses... and with children! This should be the norm for new developments, improvements and extensions in the Parish.

5.6 Landscape and Views, Biodiversity and Green Spaces

Objective 7: Protect and enhance the green spaces and biodiversity within the village and its overall landscape setting, as well as the paths and cycleways to access them.

This section contains six related policies on:

- Landscape
- Views
- Biodiversity
- Local Green Spaces
- Green and Blue Infrastructure
- Footpaths, Bridleways and Cycleways



Landscape and Views

Policy 15: Landscape

Proposals will need to demonstrate that the special qualities of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, where great weight is given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty, have been taken into account. Proposals will demonstrate that they have taken account of the objectives, policies and actions set out in the relevant Management Plan.

Development that conserves and enhances local landscape character and the features identified in the Aldbourne Community Character and Design Statement will be supported where it otherwise meets the tests for development in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty set out in national and local policy.

Development proposals should demonstrate that the whole scheme, including hard landscape and planting proposals draws on the landscape character area characteristics and features through reference to landscape assessments, including site-specific assessment.

Policy 16: Views

Any development proposals that are likely to affect any of the views listed below, shown on Figure 6 and described in the Aldbourne Neighbourhood Plan Part B: Aldbourne Parish Community Character and Design Statement should assess the effect of the proposals on the view(s), avoid any adverse effects and where those effects are unavoidable demonstrate how they have been addressed.

1. View below looking south east towards Aldbourne village from near the Four Barrows
2. View looking north from Four Barrows public footpath.
3. View from Ewin's Hill with Aldbourne towards the west
4. View of the village on approach to Woodsend.
5. View south East from St Michaels Church Graveyard Bench.
6. View north from green triangle bench at top of Southward lane

Explanation

The character of Aldbourne Parish as a whole is created by the landscape setting within the North Wessex Downs, the character of the village and the links and connections, especially views, between the two. Given that the whole parish, including the built settlement, is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the village has a Conservation Area at its heart, protection of the landscape and its relationship to the village is extremely important not just in national policy terms but also for parish residents.

See also coverage of Key Views in the Aldbourne Parish Community Character & Design Statement (Part B of this Neighbourhood Plan).

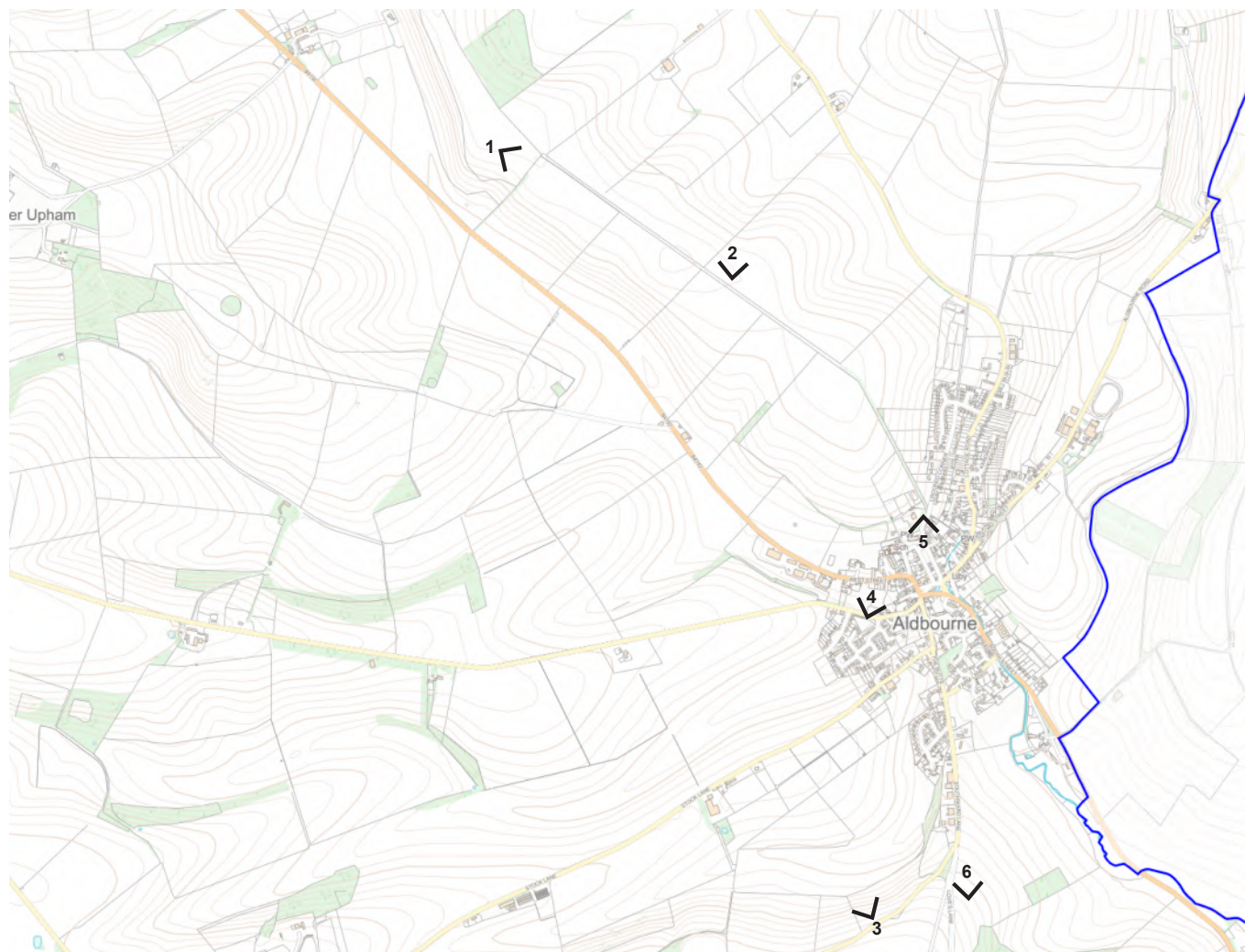


Figure 6: Key Views

Biodiversity

Policy 17: Biodiversity

Development proposals should retain features of biodiversity value including mature trees, species rich hedgerows, ponds, streams and existing areas of woodland.

Development resulting in loss or deterioration of habitats will not be supported, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.

Development proposals are also expected to deliver a minimum 10% net gain in 'biodiversity value' within and, where appropriate, beyond the site in order to deliver tangible benefits for biodiversity. An increase in tree provision in line with paragraph 131 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2021) will be supported.

Explanation

The biodiversity policy seeks to reflect at the local level recently passed legislation in the Environment Act (November 2021) which sets out a duty for developers to include a minimum 10% net biodiversity net gain in new schemes. This figure of 10% and any future amendments made at either a national or Wiltshire level should be regarded as a minimum. The biodiversity net gain approach follows on from the Government's aim to 'leave the environment in a better state than we found it' in its 25 Year Environment Plan.

The 2021 version of the NPPF also reinforces the need to increase biodiversity and specifically states that all new developments require tree lined streets and the provision of trees or community orchards in public spaces (para 131). It will be important to ensuring enough room is provided for the establishment of trees in consultation with highways officers and tree officers, therefore application of the policy will require appropriate discussion and agreement with Wiltshire Council's Landscape Officers.



Local Green Spaces

Policy 18: Local Green Spaces

The plan designates the green spaces shown on Figure 7, and listed below, as Local Green Spaces. Development proposals within the local green spaces will be consistent with national policy for Green Belts.

- 1. Valley View
- 2a. Rectory Wood
- 2b. Rectory Wood Playground
- 3. Whitley Road / Stacey's House Play Area
- 4. The Pond
- 5. West Street A
- 6. West Street B
- 7. Village Green
- 8. Lottage Road / Oxford Street
- 9. Crooked Corner
- 10. Goddard Lane Playing Field

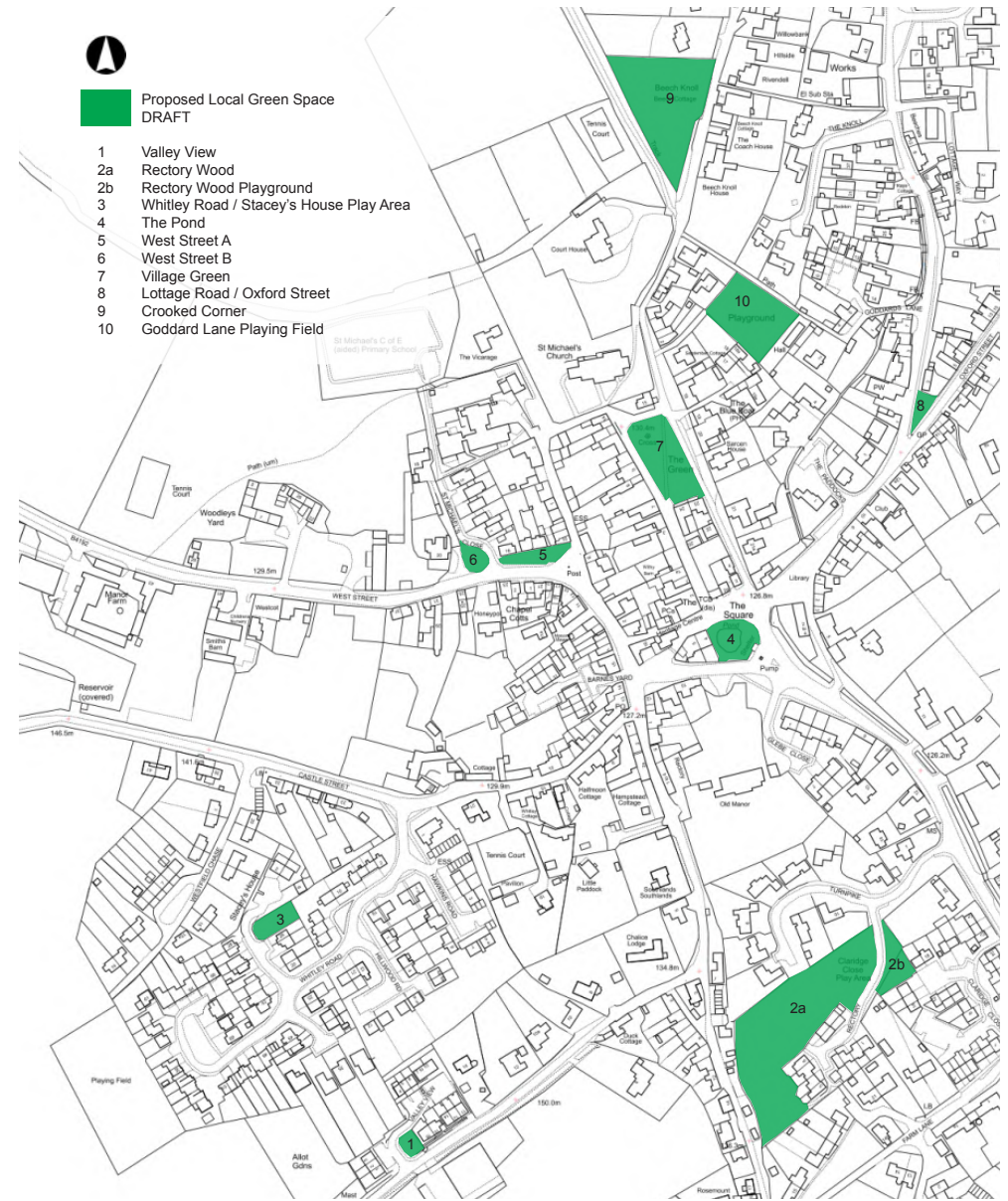


Figure 7: Local Green Spaces

Explanation

In addition to the many physical and built features mentioned in relation to policies above about design and heritage, there are a number of green spaces within the village that contribute significantly to the overall character and quality of the environment. If they satisfy certain criteria, legislation enables these to be designated and therefore protected from development, even minor changes such as (which has already occurred in places) erosion of the perimeter to widen roads or create parking.

These potential Local Green Spaces have been suggested by the community and the Steering Group. The Steering Group has collected evidence from the local community which demonstrates the special nature of each of the potential Local Green Spaces. Landowners of each potential Local Green Space have also been contacted and asked for their comment.

The evidence, along with a full assessment of each space against national planning policy criteria, is detailed in the Local Green Space Report 2020 (see Appendix 1, Item 5).



Green and Blue Infrastructure

Policy 19: Green and Blue Infrastructure

Development that will result in the creation of new green infrastructure and/or contribute to the protection, management, enhancement and connectivity of existing and individual green infrastructure assets and priorities as shown on Figure 8 will be supported.

Development proposals must be accompanied by:

1. A plan of the existing green and blue infrastructure within and around the development site.
2. Information demonstrating how green infrastructure has been incorporated into the scheme in order to increase the function and improve the connectivity of green and blue infrastructure through the site and beyond to identified priorities and assets.

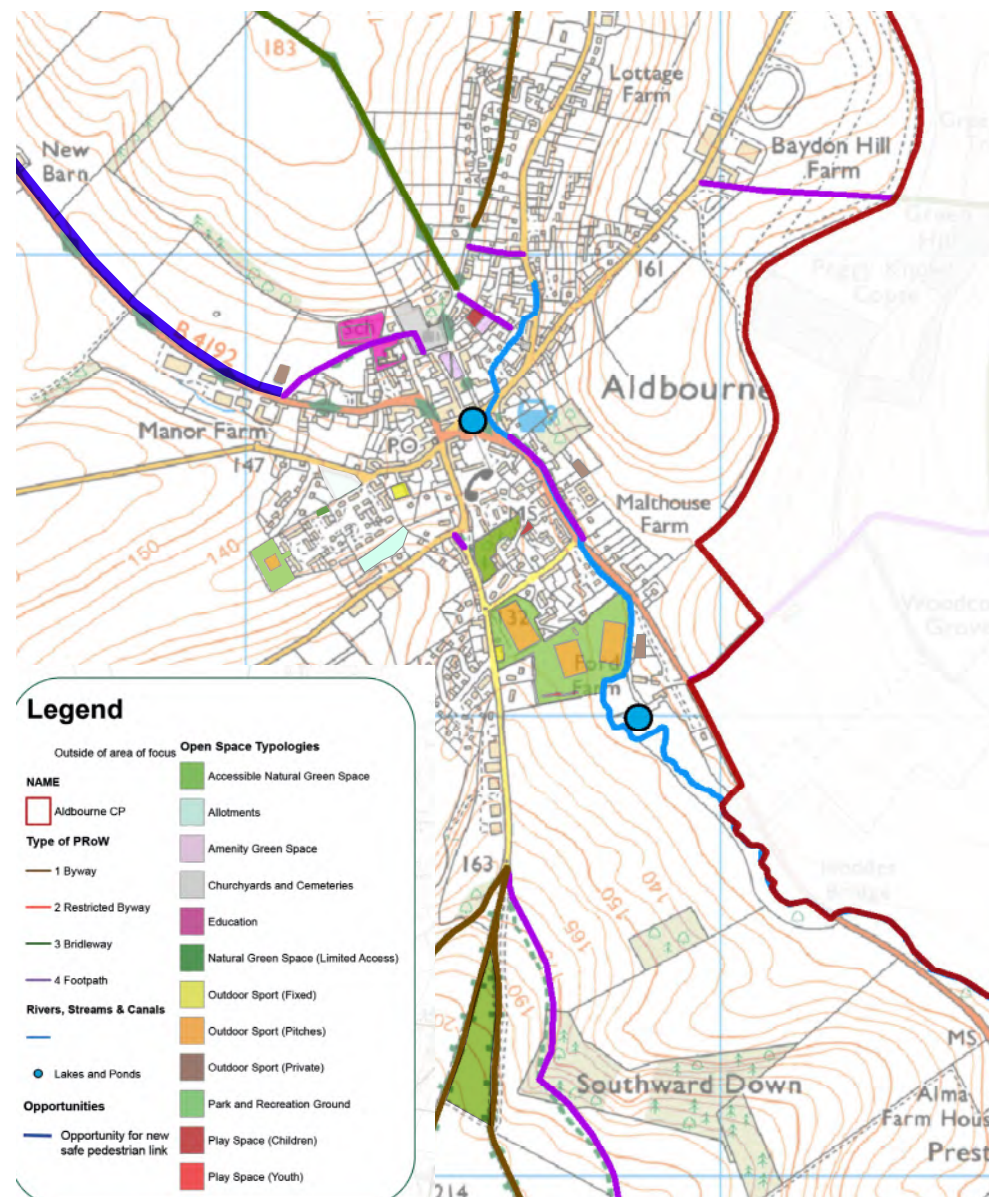


Figure 8: Green Infrastructure Features

SOURCE: Wiltshire Council – adapted for purposes of Neighbourhood Plan – see Aldbourne Green and Blue Infrastructure Report (June 2022)

Explanation

The community of Aldbourne places great value on all its green infrastructure assets and aims for these to not just be retained but also enhanced over time, especially through new developments. For local people, that value is not just about the wider context and the village's place in the North Wessex Downs AONB, but also about all areas of the village itself – from the edge of the settlement right through to the trees that can be found throughout the village, the wide verges associated with the Bourne River to the village green and the pond.

Figure 8 shows the assets identified by Wiltshire Council in 2020. Further information, and specific supporting policies, are contained in the sections above on Biodiversity, Local Green Spaces (several are proposed in this Plan) and Footpaths. Aldbourne Parish Council had also contributed in some detail to Wiltshire Council's Town and Parish Council survey in February 2020 (see Appendix 1, Item 6). The community itself will also play its role on delivering on retention and enhancement of green and blue infrastructure through its own Projects (see Section 6).

A short Aldbourne Green and Blue Infrastructure Report (August 2021) has been prepared as part of the evidence base for this Neighbourhood plan. The report identifies specific opportunities for improving the green and blue infrastructure network. This work can be extended through the Wiltshire Community Environment Toolkit (October 2021). The Wiltshire Community Environmental Toolkit has been developed in partnership with Natural England to allow communities to take the lead in defining and restoring

biodiversity in their community. Designed for use by community groups, local landowners, Parish and Town Councils, schools and youth groups it provides a structure for how local communities can better understand what they already have in terms of biodiverse habitats as well as how to plan for developing greater biodiversity and nature based carbon sequestration in the future.

The Toolkit forms part of a suite of documents that Wiltshire Council is producing as part of the Green Blue Infrastructure Strategy – adopted in February 2022 (as this plan was being prepared for submission following Regulation 14 consultation).

Footpaths, Bridleways and Cycleways

Policy 20: Footpaths, Bridleways and Cycleways

Applications for developments that are adjacent to Public Rights of Way as shown on Figure 9, should, where it is appropriate, ensure that links are provided to those routes.

Applicants will be expected to make development contributions or planning obligations when necessary and appropriate to do so, to other local routes adjacent to or near to those sites that could ensure a more fully linked local network.

Explanation

Enabling and encouraging people to move around by walking, cycling or on horseback has long been encouraged. More recently, and particularly with the advent of climate change and Covid-19, enhancing such provision has become even more important. Its importance for local people is already recognised by those in Aldbourne but it also has value both in encouraging visitors to enjoy the high quality landscape and in using (and thus helping to maintain) local facilities such as pubs and shops. It also makes a valuable contribution to the growing shift to active travel.



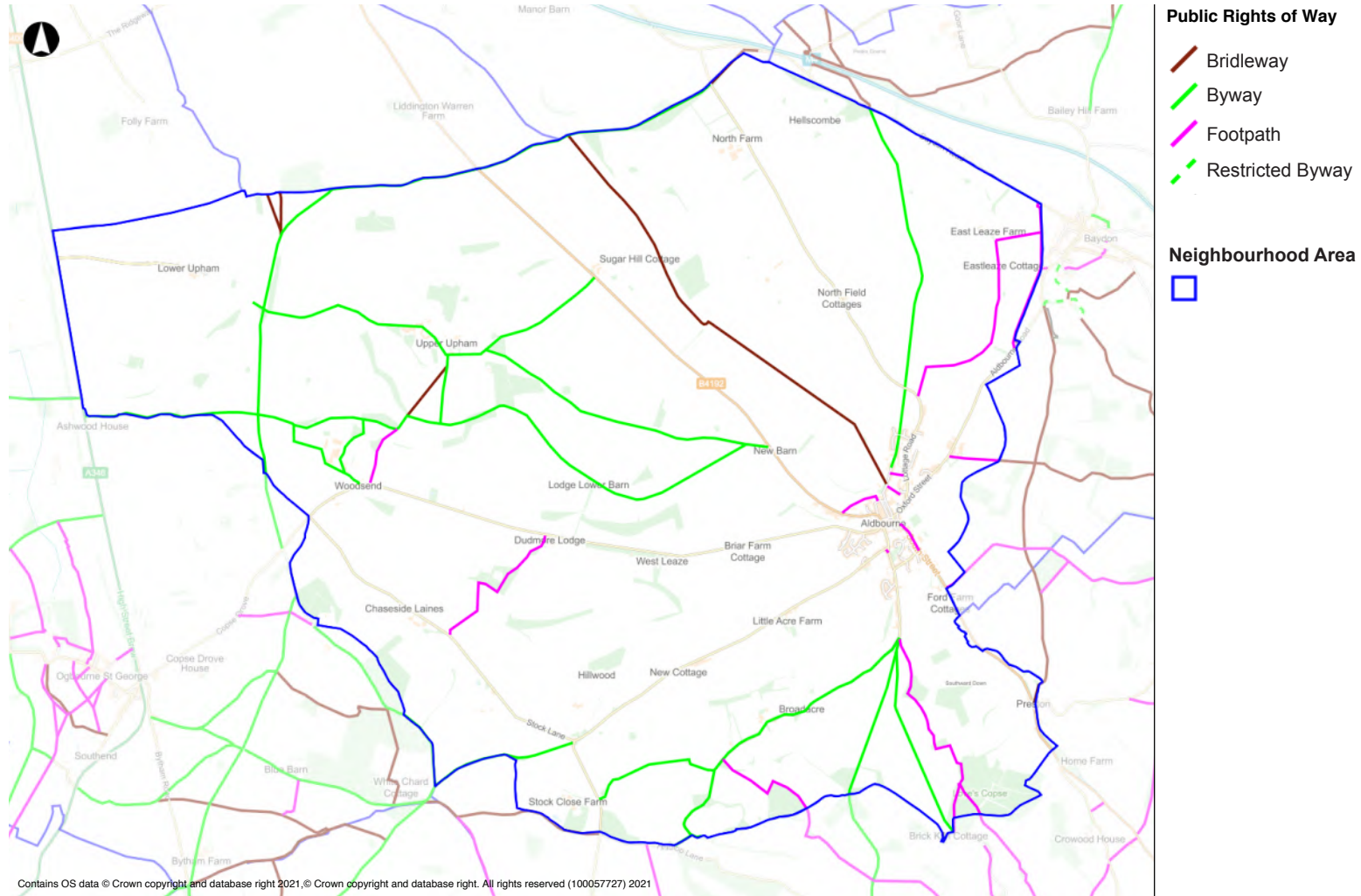


Figure 9: Public Rights of Way

5.7 Community Facilities

Objective 8: Retain and enhance community facilities.

Policy 21: Community Facilities

There will be a presumption in favour of safeguarding existing facilities (shown on Figure 10) against any proposals that would result in their loss.

Proposals that could result in loss of the community facilities identified on Figure 10 or any community facility will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that the facility is no longer fit for purpose or viable, or where an equivalent facility is available in the Parish.

Explanation

There is a very active and vibrant community in Aldbourne, making use of a good number of community facilities, as outlined in the Community Facilities Report and Play Areas Audit (see Appendix 1, Items 7 and 10). Not only is it seen by local people to be extremely important to retain these facilities but the likely addition of new housing and hence a growth in population suggests a possible need to improve or add to these facilities in future.

Those facilities within the Conservation Area are provided with some protection under the changed rules on Permitted Development.

(NB. Open Spaces on the map do not include Local Green Spaces.)

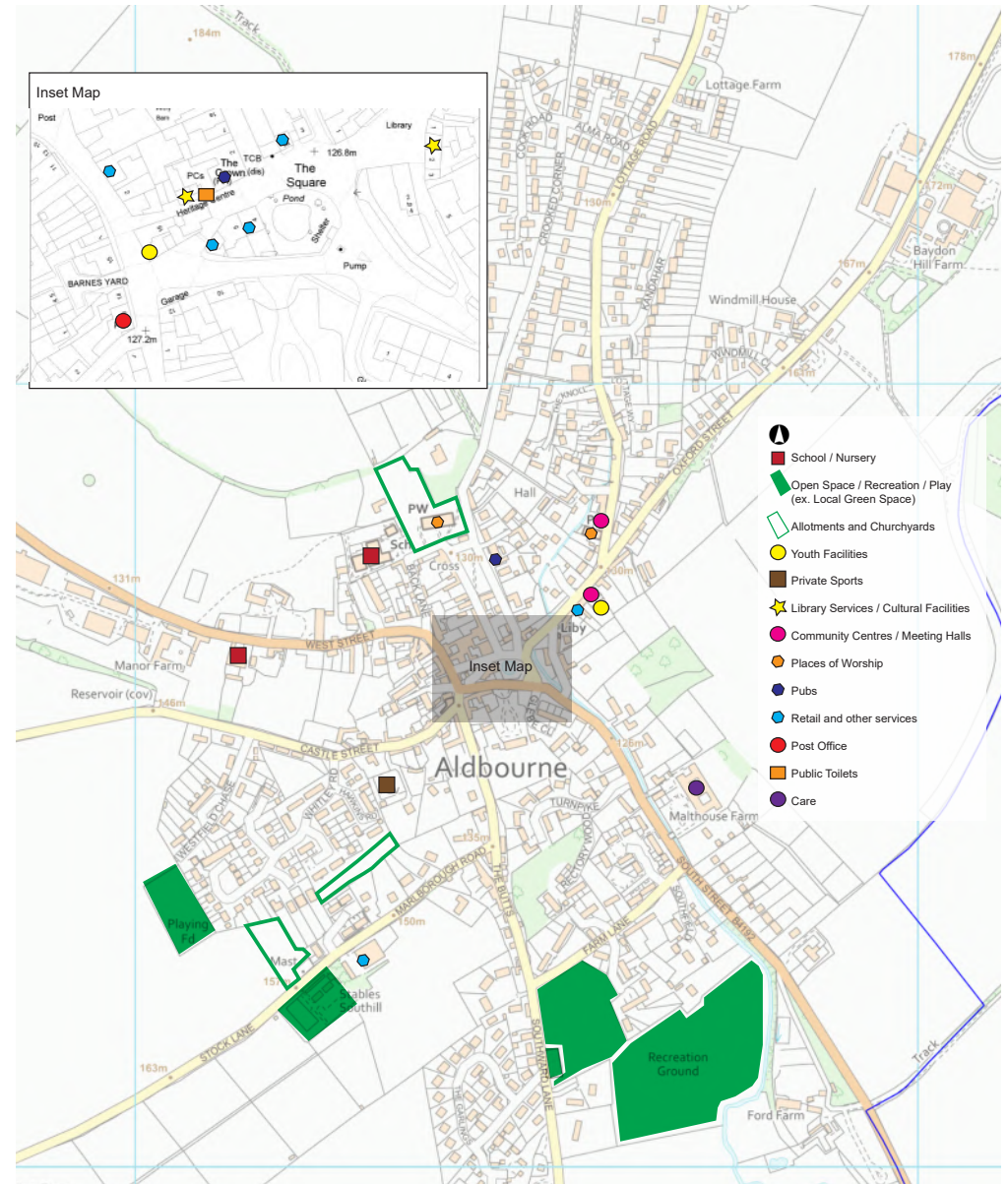


Figure 10: Community Facilities

5.8 Employment

Objective 9: Retain and enhance local employment and commercial services.

Policy 22: Retaining Employment

In so far as planning permission is required, changes of use of existing business premises away from employment activity will be supported where evidence can be produced to demonstrate that the existing use is no longer economically viable; i.e. that the site has been appropriately marketed at a reasonable price for at least one year for that or any other suitable employment or service trade use.

Policy 23: New Employment

The provision of local employment will be supported in principle, subject to an assessment of the impact of the proposals on residential amenity, the transport network and parking provision and biodiversity and the environment. It should also make a valuable contribution to the growing shift to modes of active travel. The design of any new employment development must demonstrate accordance with the Aldbourne Parish Community Character & Design Statement.

Proposals will be expected to demonstrate the above in support of any application.

Explanation

As demonstrated in the Employment Report (Appendix 1, Item 8), Aldbourne has a very good number of local employment sites, employing both local people and those from outside the parish. These contribute greatly to the quality of life in the Parish and also help to maintain the village's attraction as a place to visit. The report also notes but cannot quantify the number of people working full or part time from home.

As elsewhere, the Covid-19 pandemic is likely to be threatening the viability of some of our local employment while, at the same time, the number of those working from home and needing and valuing local services is likely to increase. Retention of local provision is clearly threatened by the increased ability of employers to convert employment premises and sites to housing without planning permission for change of use, so this policy is extremely important for Aldbourne's future as a place to work as well as live.

Despite the cautions raised in the section above, some arguments are being made that the eventual implications of Covid-19 can and should reinforce the provision of employment, especially services such as shops and community transport, in villages such as Aldbourne. This is very much supported locally.

Employment uses within the Conservation Area are provided with some protection under the changed rules on Permitted Development.

5.9 Parking

Objective 10: Ensure that new developments have enough car parking to meet current and future needs.

Policy 24: Loss of Parking

Development proposals that result in the loss of, or which have an adverse effect on, car parking provision will not be supported unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the loss of parking will not have an adverse impact on existing parking issues in the nearby area, or adequate and convenient car-parking of equivalent or better standard will be provided in the nearby area.

Policy 25: Parking Provision

Development proposals must, wherever possible, provide adequate (proportionate to the scale of development) parking on-site and not rely on on-street parking. Development that includes a reliance on parking on existing streets shall not be permitted where the streets are narrow, already heavily trafficked, have identified parking issues, and where such on-street parking would impact on the safety of road users or impact adversely on the character of the area.

Explanation

Various issues around vehicle parking have been of local concern for some time. The Parish Council's 'Aldbourne Traffic Plan' of 2013 stated the following about house-related parking in particular:

"Many households now have more cars than parking spaces and the streets and key spaces are becoming quite congested. Parking at the lower end of Oxford Street (west side) is a problem during the day and night because it restricts visibility for vehicles emerging from Lottage Road. Cars speeding down Oxford Street towards this junction exacerbate the problem."

Since 2013, ever-increasing car ownership, and the use of garages for general domestic storage rather than for cars, has exacerbated the problems of on-street parking. This is particularly true around the village centre as outlined below because so few of the properties in the historic village core have any, or enough, on-plot parking space. But the problems have also worsened in all the main residential areas throughout the village.

While it is not for the Neighbourhood Plan to aim to amend Wiltshire's basic parking standards, the specific circumstances outlined above have led to Policies 25 and 26.

In relation to the village centre, the same report also commented as follows:

“There has been a steady increase in the number of vehicles parking in the village during the day for owners to use facilities such as the Coop, Post Office and other businesses, and during the evening overnight by residents. A particular problem area during the day is the Post Office crossroads, where vehicles park on three of the four corners (sometime all four corners) creating visibility problems for vehicles turning into and out of Marlborough Road / Castle Street, and restricting visibility for pedestrians trying to reach or leave the shops or recreational facilities on the other side.”

These problems have also worsened since 2013 and been further exacerbated by the increase in visitors to the village, damaging the environmental quality and prejudicing pedestrian safety.

Solutions to these problems are beyond the scope of this Neighbourhood Plan, but see the Projects in Section 7.

5.10 Site Allocations

Only three sites put forward during the Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) process and the Local Call for Sites were assessed as potentially suitable for allocation in the AECOM report – the Tennis Club (ANP3), North of Windley Ridge (ANP2), and Lottage Farm (ANP1). For the last two, development would only be supported on part of the proposed sites.

As work proceeded towards completion of the Regulation 14 consultation plan, the owners of the Tennis Club and North of Windley Ridge sites withdrew their submissions, leaving just the Lottage Farm site. This could potentially, however, deliver around 32 of the provisional Wiltshire target of 40 houses, therefore including close to all of the affordable homes target of 17 taken from the Housing Needs Study.

While this plan was being finalised, an outline planning application was submitted for the Lottage Farm Site. At the time of writing (March 2022) this application had not been determined. Even if it is approved, the allocation that follows will remain in this plan in case of potential changes (e.g. to site ownership or developer priorities) during the plan period. If the application is approved, all the criteria listed in Policy 27 will still apply.

Lottage Farm

This site (see map 1) totals 1.5 ha. It is to the north of the village in the North Wessex Downs AONB. It comprises two stretches of frontage land to Lottage Road separated by a group of six semi-detached homes accessed from the road, with flat and open land behind (before a rise in the land). There are currently two barns to the north of these houses, beyond which there is an area of scrubland used for agricultural dumping. There is limited tree and shrub cover on the site, including along the road. The southern small stretch of land along the road is opposite a Listed (Grade II) building, Alma Barn.

It was the view of the AONB Planning Officer (as a result of a site visit to all submitted sites) that development of the land north of the northernmost barn as shown on Map 1 would not be appropriate because of its impact on the AONB – see the boundary of the developable area marked on Map 1. This reduces the developable site area to approximately 1.1 hectare. This opinion was supported in a Landscape Impact Assessment commissioned for this plan.

An important point in terms of character in relation to site design is that the site would become the first built development to be seen on arrival into the village from the north. It is therefore important that designs pick up on Design Principles 1 and 4 in the Aldbourne Parish Community Character and Design Statement (p.36):

1. “The overall ambition is that the design of new developments should help to restore what is most valued by local people – and visitors – about Aldbourne, i.e. the character of the historic core of the village, as seen in the core itself and in any future developments immediately alongside the main roads entering the village”.

4. “Projects on sites with frontage to the main roads into the village should ensure that the design character of frontage buildings respects the overall ambition noted in Design Principle 1 above. notably in terms of their close relationship to the street, building heights and roof shape and materials”.

During the Regulation 14 Consultation, (a) Historic England raised no heritage concerns about the proximity of the site to the listed Alma Barn and Cottage and (b) Thames Water raised no concerns about additional water abstraction resulting from the development.

The regular and as yet unresolved occurrences of flooding (including overspill sewage) all the way down from the site to the village centre requires that serious attention be paid to ensuring that site development does not exacerbate, and ideally might help to improve, this situation.



Map 1: Lottage Farm

Policy 26: Lottage Farm

The site (shown on Map 1) is allocated for housing development in line with the following criteria:

- Designs to be compliant with the Aldbourne Parish Community Character and Design Statement, especially in terms of:
 - The character of the houses facing Lottage Road and forming the entrance to the village.
 - Compatibility with the density of housing to the immediate south of the site
- Development to be of approximately 32 houses.
- Affordable housing to be delivered as part of the development in line with Wiltshire's standards in place at the time.
- The mix of housing types should relate to Policy 14 and its supporting explanation.
- All dwellings to be of 2 storeys.

- Built development shall be restricted to the developable area shown on Map 1. The land north of the existing barns outside the developable area will be improved to provide landscape and biodiversity enhancement as part of an area of public open space.
- No development shall take place until the development proposal has satisfactorily demonstrated that proper account has been taken of flooding implications, including sewer surcharging, run-off and any water abstraction and that any adverse effects have been satisfactorily addressed.
- All aspects of construction phasing must be discussed with Thames Water.
- A contamination report will need to accompany any planning application.

Section 6: Community Engagement

Objective 1: Encourage and enable appropriate, early and positive pre-application engagement on any development proposals.

Explanation

Though this cannot be the subject of a formal policy, the community believes very strongly that better development results from early and positive pre-application engagement.

When introduced at an early stage, community involvement can change the form and nature of development for the better - it affects land use.

The importance and benefit of community engagement is strongly endorsed in national planning policy and guidance as key in shaping great places to live. The National Planning Policy Framework (para. 39) stresses that:

“Early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Good quality pre-application discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community”

Discussion between applicants and the local community, as well as with the Local Planning Authority, from the earliest stages enables a more collaborative approach to the process of preparing a development proposal that will need to balance many factors as the design evolves:

“Applicants should work closely with those affected by their proposals to evolve designs that take account of the views of the community. Applications that can demonstrate early, proactive and effective engagement with the community should be looked on more favourably than those that cannot.”
(NPPF, para. 132)

This Plan therefore includes a ‘Pre-application Involvement Protocol’ intended to facilitate a structured approach to provide a means to enable effective involvement of the local community in development applications, addressing all aspects of a proposal from design and layout to issues of climate change and energy generation.

Although applicants cannot be required, only encouraged, to undertake early stage community involvement, putting in place a coherent and consistent approach, in the form of the Protocol is a key way to deliver this mutual benefit. The nature and scale of engagement should be balanced in appropriate proportion to the scale and likely impact of any proposals.

The Protocol follows overleaf.

Community Involvement Protocol

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL PRE-APPLICATION COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROTOCOL

The aim of this Protocol is to do all possible to ensure that planning applications accord with the Aldbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan and with those of any higher level plans, notably that of Wiltshire Council, as well as all national policy. One particularly effective way of achieving this is through early, planned involvement with the local community via Aldbourne Parish Council.

Use of this Protocol is without prejudice to the eventual judgement of the Parish Council on the merits of any final application, even if a good engagement process has been agreed and followed.

Process

Drawing from the 10 Commitments and other guidance on best practice, potential applicants should work with the Parish Council to fulfil the following principles:

- **‘Day One’ contact:** By far the best results for all emerge when contact is made with our Parish Council, and through us with our local community, at the very start of any process; consulting people late with already prepared schemes is not productive.
- **Agreed Process:** A key aim of this early contact is to discuss and agree the nature, scope, timetable, information and so forth of the engagement – i.e. the process to be followed.

- **Applicant Leadership but Shared Responsibility:** Although it is the applicant’s role to lead and fund engagement, the Parish Council will offer as much support as possible to any agreed process; for example by providing local information, contact details for local groups, advice on meeting places, access to newsletters and so forth.
- **Openness and Transparency:** Building trust between all and ensuring an agreed outcome depend heavily on having a process that is as open as possible on all sides, though the Parish Council will respect any issues of clear commercial confidentiality.
- **Agreed Community:** A project may have an impact on a limited number of people or on all of the parish. The details of those to be involved will need to be discussed and agreed for any project, as will the potential methods to contact and engage them. The methods should include traditional approaches such as exhibitions and leaflets but should also maximise contacts and responses through the use of social media.
- **Agreed Scope:** There will also need to be agreement about the scope of the engagement, i.e. what is and is not open to change (e.g. layout, quantum of development, design etc.).
- **Final Reporting:** The applicant should submit, with any final application, a thorough report – a full ‘audit trail’ - describing and summarising the outcomes of the engagement, showing how the proposals have (or have not) responded to results. If they have not, a short note should be included to explain this. If the process has been followed fully, the Parish Council will endorse this report; if not they may submit their own evaluation of it**. *(The Wiltshire SCI suggests that “this should take the form of a statement of community involvement outlining what public consultation has been carried out and how the results of the exercise have been taken into account in the submitted application”.)*

* There is considerable benefit for applicants in also sharing any process with Wiltshire Council, as planning authority, and securing their agreement to it.

** As per the opening proviso, endorsement of an engagement process and results does not necessarily mean support for the resulting proposals.

Initial contact should be made at the very outset with the Parish Council via the Parish Clerk (aldbournepc@yahoo.co.uk). The Parish Council commits to doing all possible to arrange an initial meeting as soon as possible following this contact.

The Parish Council may also request additional consultation if particularly significant local issues emerge from any list of reserved matters associated with an application.

Section 7 Priorities and Projects

Priorities

The Safety Around the Village Report (see Appendix 1, Item 9) highlights a number of problems for pedestrians moving around the village, notably but not solely in the village centre: incomplete stretches of pavements, poorly maintained pavements, unclear and unsafe crossing points and cars parked on pavements. These are all very important issues for the Aldbourne community and can affect, or be affected by, all the policies in Section 5 above.

All possible should be done, and will be done by the community, to ensure that any changes to traffic management in the village include improvements to pedestrian safety along pavements and for crossing streets, while avoiding approaches that are out of character, especially within the Conservation Area; e.g. inappropriate urban details, signage and lighting. In particular, new developments should ensure safe pedestrian movement both within and outside their sites, especially between any site and the village centre and connecting to main footpaths.

Projects

What follows is a list of community projects intended to support and complement the policies in this plan through local action. One or more might be linked, for example, to the allocated Lottage Farm development, through better flood management along Lottage Road as a whole or through improved links to local footpaths.

Such projects (suitably updated over the plan period), will also form the baseline for the priorities the Parish would set for spending any Community Infrastructure Levy monies arising from development.

Here is a list of community projects, many of which directly support policies in the Plan:

- Maintaining and improving biodiversity and exploring how nature based carbon sequestration (for example through tree planting) can be implemented in Aldbourne using the Wiltshire Community Environmental Toolkit
- Tree planting and management/maintenance programme
- Flood management (e.g. reducing rainwater run-off from front drives)
- Updating of the Conservation Area Statement
- Traffic calming measures
- Parking for cars and visitors' coaches
- Improvements of sporting facilities
- Safe outdoor exercise paths for all ages away from main roads - suitable for mobility buggies and pushchairs, runners and walkers
- Improve and link footpaths and improve signage
- Create a footpath to enable walking from the village to New Barn (on B4192) to link the village circular walk.
- An information pack on addressing climate change

Appendix 1 Evidence Summary

The following lists all the supporting evidence reports noted in the plan. In some cases this is individual reports, in one case the evidence is in a folder, as noted.

Item 1	Assessments and Allocations Folder
Item 2	Flooding Report
Item 3	Heritage Report
Item 4	Locally Valued Heritage Assets Report
Item 5	Local Green Spaces Report
Item 6	Green and Blue Infrastructure Report
Item 7	Community Facilities Report
Item 8	Employment Report
Item 9	Safety Around the Village Report (There is no longer a Safety policy in this Plan.)
Item 10	Play Areas Audit
Item 11	Character Areas Assessment Report
Item 12	Habitat Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment: Folder of process to date
Item 13	Sustainability Report

All evidence reports are available to view at:
www.aldbourne.net/parish-council/

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Appendix 2:

LOCALLY VALUED UNDESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS

1. Introduction

There is much heritage in the Parish of Aldbourne, with over 120 heritage designations. These are mostly listed buildings and structures, many of which lie within the Conservation Area, and also includes 17 Scheduled Ancient Monuments, many of which are in the landscape and are tumuli. One Scheduled Ancient Monument, The Cross, stands on The Green which is an important green space and focal area for the Village.

There are also a number of local features and buildings such as the thatched bus shelter and horse or carriage mounting block which are not formally designated (as Grade 1 or Grade II etc) but are distinctive elements of our very local Parish historic environment. These undesignated heritage assets are important and valued as part of our community's collected sense of place and history.

This evidence report underpins a policy in our Neighbourhood Development Plan which clearly sets out all the identified Locally Valued Undesignated Heritage Assets in Aldbourne Parish and outlines what criteria they meet to be identified as such, to ensure that the importance of their conservation is taken into account as a 'material consideration' or that they have 'a degree of significance meriting consideration' when any planning applications that impact on the asset or its setting are being considered.

The Aldbourne Conservation Area Statement (June 2003) and the Aldbourne Parish Character Assessment (2019), together with the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER) provided useful starting points to identify features that might meet the criteria of 'Locally Valued Undesignated Heritage Asset'. These documents identify features that make that 'positive contributions' to the character of the Aldbourne Conservation Area and the wider Parish.

The Aldbourne Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group also gathered suggestions from the community for what might be locally listed. The community were asked for their suggestions through the local newsletter The Dabchick, Parish Council Facebook and the community website www.aldbourne.net – it was not possible to hold community meetings due to Covid-19 regulations. The Neighbourhood Plan followed guidance to identify Local Heritage Assets that can then be identified in the very local level planning policy that is included in a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Where possible owners of the Locally Valued Undesignated Heritage Assets that were identified through the Neighbourhood Plan evidence gathering process were informed ahead of the formal consultation through discussions and a letter. The draft report was placed on the community website in the Neighbourhood Plan area ahead of formal consultation on the Plan and an article about the draft report was included in The Dabchick (June 2020) that was delivered to all Parish residents.

This is a draft report for consultation as part of the formal consultation (known as Regulation 14) on the Aldbourne Neighbourhood Plan. Following the Reg 14 consultation this report may be updated to be submitted to Wiltshire Council as part of the evidence base

for the Neighbourhood Plan who will run a second formal consultation process (Regulation 16).

This report sets out a brief history of the Parish in section 2 and in section 3 it sets out in maps and lists all the Locally Valued Undesignated Heritage Assets. Section 4 includes all the detailed forms for the Assets identified in 2020 (not those included in the Conservation Area Statement 2003). Our thanks to Aldbourne Heritage Centre for their assistance in adding details to many of the items in this report.

The explanation of the national criteria used by Historic England to identify Locally Valued Undesignated Heritage Assets that are considered to have a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions is included at Appendix 1.

2. Overview of the History of Aldbourne Parish

Farming

The Parish continues to be a rural community with many farms surrounding the village of Aldbourne. In the 18c and 19c many of the houses in the village were farmhouses. There remains a number of traditional barns which give a continuity of historic character and a link to the agricultural heritage of the Parish. Farmers play an active role in the life of the Parish, and there is usually one or more on the Parish Council.

Bell Foundry

Industry was an important part of the development of Aldbourne. In 1694 William and Robert Cor began making bells and were followed in this trade by a succession of others, the last being Robert and James Wells.

Fustian Trade

Other specialist trades carried on since the 17th century have included the manufacture of a hard-wearing cloth of linen and cotton known as fustian, hats made from plaited straw and later from woven willow, and chair making which continued until 1927.

20th Century and onwards

Racehorse Training

There were successful racehorse stables in various locations in the village from the early C20th until the mid-1950s. The most successful stables were at Hightown, the area adjacent to The Green.

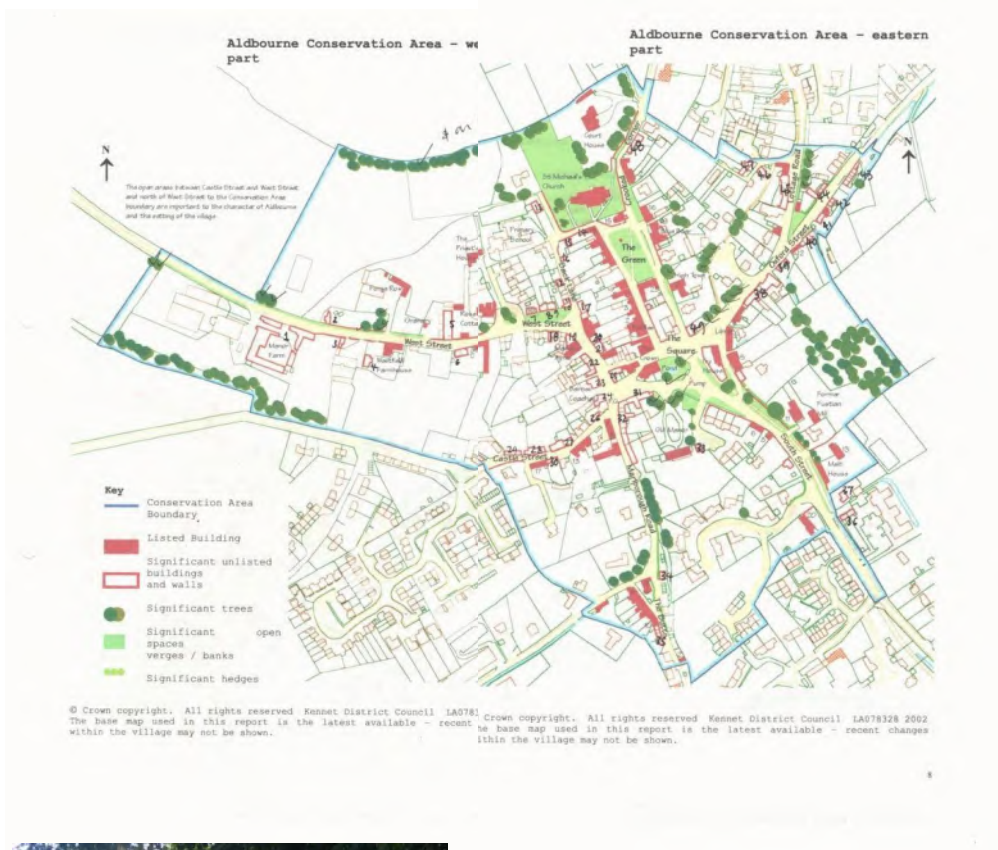
Barnes Coaches

The coach firm of Barnes grew out of an earlier carrier's business in the village. Early 20th century work included an iron foundry and agricultural engineering.

3. Conservation Area Statement Assets

A large number of 'Significant unlisted buildings and walls' are highlighted on the main map in the Conservation Area Statement (pp. 7 and 8, and repeated as Map 1 below). All these assets are included in this evidence base but no list currently exists and there are too many to list from the small map with any certainty. For any developments or changes proposed within the Conservation Area (including for walls, gates etc.), a check must be made with the Parish Council to agree whether those changes might affect one of the mapped assets.

Map 1: Significant Unlisted Heritage Assets (buildings and walls) as identified in the Conservation Area Statement (2003)



Left: Sarsen bank and cobble pathway – a significant unlisted heritage asset as identified in the Conservation Area Statement

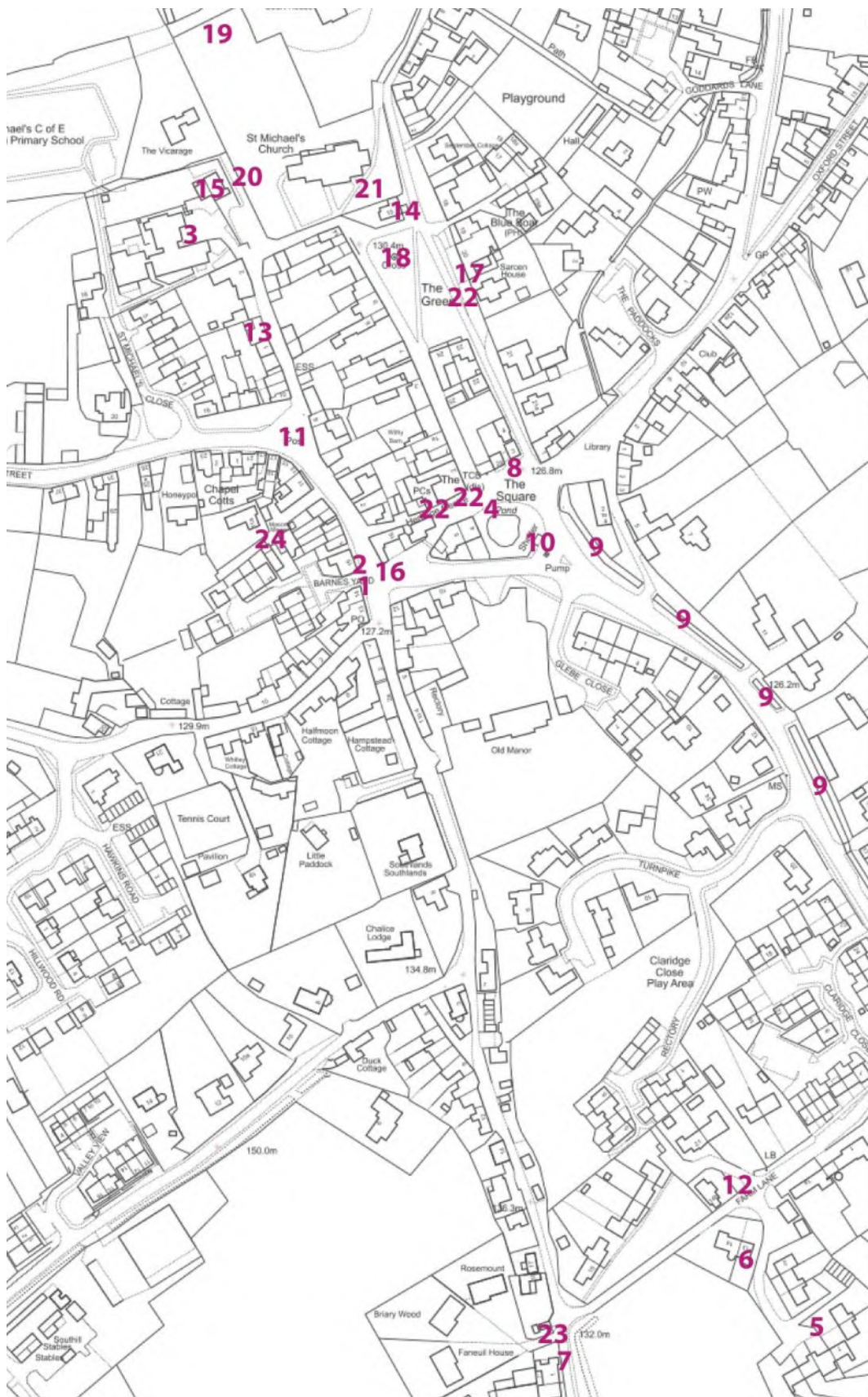
This raised walkway, probably several hundred years old, leading into the rear of the churchyard enabled people to reach the church without getting their feet and clothes muddy from the adjacent trackway. It is constructed of small sarsen pebbles sometimes known as 'setts'. Similar 'setts' can be found elsewhere near The Green and originally also crossed the Green from the Hightown area to the church again serving as a 'pavement'.

4. Aldbourne Parish Locally Valued Unlisted Heritage Assets

Locally Valued Undesignated Heritage Assets have been identified and mapped. A summary list is below, and a map included overleaf. Completed forms and detailed information for each nominated asset follow in Section 5.

1. Horse and carriage mounting block
2. Sun Fire Insurance plaque
3. Statue of St. Michael
4. Rover the Dog memorial sign
5. WW2 Cookhouse building
6. WW2 Pumphouse
7. WW2 Abbey (Nissan) hut
8. Memorial seat to K.O.G. Nugent
9. All remaining exposed stretches of the Bourne/Brook
10. Thatched Bus Shelter
11. The Pump, West St,
12. Red Post box on Pole
13. Zoar Baptist Graveyard
14. Old Fire Station (engine house)
15. The Old School
16. Road sign on corner of West St. and Marlborough Road
17. The Blue Boar hanging pub sign
18. The Green
19. Muriel Foster's bench
20. Iron kissing gate
21. Iron bench by the Goddard chapel
22. Dr. Who links: Tardis, Dalek, Cloven Hoof and phone box
23. Field Stones c.1869 off Farm Lane
24. Victorian folly, Bramley Cottage

Map 2 – Locally Valued Heritage Assets



5. Locally Valued Heritage Assets in Aldbourne – Detailed Information

1. Horse and carriage mounting block – corner of Barnes Yard & West St., Aldbourne (SU 26410 75609)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	It is the only old carriage & horse mounting block in the parish.
Representativeness	Demonstrates the rural history of Aldbourne and its location on a well-used route for carriages etc. in previous centuries.
Architectural interest	This well-worn block clearly shows the years of use in the steps and top of the block.
Townscape/Landscape value	Sitting outside the former 'Bell Inn' (now 14 The Square), this well-worn mounting block has been an important feature in the village going back many years.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	This mounting block is a key feature in the historic setting of Aldbourne.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	The mounting block may reflect the history of "The Bell" as a coaching inn (the stone sits outside that building which is now a house) and certainly may have some relevance to the carrier business carried out by the Barnes family from about 1916 onwards; with Barnes Coaches themselves celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2020.

2. Sun Fire Insurance plaque, 15 West St., Aldbourne (SU 26410 75609)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	There are only a few of these plaques still in existence in situ.
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	An important item from the past and in a prominent position in the village.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Fire insurance marks are metal plaques marked with the emblem of the insurance company which were affixed to the front of insured buildings as a guide to the insurance company's fire brigade. These identification marks were used in the eighteenth and nineteenth century in the days before municipal fire services were formed
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

3. Statue of St. Michael, front of the main entrance to St. Michael's School, Aldbourne (SU263757)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	This statue was sculpted specifically for the school.
Representativeness	The church in Aldbourne is St. Michael's and the school has always been adjacent to the churchyard.
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	
Group value	
Artistic interest	This statue was created by Carleton Attwood (1908-1985). - a sculptor of national repute.
Historic association	This statue was unveiled as part of the opening of the new school building in 1963. Mounted initially on the east wall of the school, it was moved to its current location in 2015.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	This statue is important to the school community both past and present.

4. Rover The Dog memorial sign (SU264756)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	There is only this one memorial to Rover and it proudly sits below the village noticeboard.
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	This sign of Rover, the fundraising dog, is an important part of the community history.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Rover was a brown and white spaniel owned by Harry Liddiard who lived in the Corn Stores, the building which later became Raffles Restaurant and is now Nos 1 & 1a The Green, adjacent to The Crown pub. Rover was a loveable character and Harry used this to the great benefit of the community. Between 1924 and 1933, Rover was frequently to be found at village events, especially at the Carnival, with a collection box strapped to his back, collecting donations for Savernake Hospital (well before the days of the National Health service). Apparently Rover would bark a 'thank you' in response to a donation! He is credited with raising over £70, equivalent to about £4,000 at today's values. When he died in 1933 he was sadly missed.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	This memorial sign is an important feature to the community.

5. Cookhouse building used by the US 101st Airborne Division during WW2 (SU266752)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	No other similar example is known.
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	It is believed that the higher, almost tower-like, section of the building may well have been where the boiler or stove was, with a water tank housed in the upper part. However, no other examples of similar type WW2 cookhouses have been identified. Following the war, the buildings were converted into football and cricket changing rooms with showers, and have more recently been used as the Carnival store.
Townscape/Landscape value	An historic building currently used as the Aldbourne Carnival Store, it has considerable townscape value in this village.
Group value	As with many WW2 survivals in the village, from September 1943 the Cookhouse served the men of the 2 nd Battalion, 506 th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the US Army 101 st Airborne Division. "E" Company who have become known and celebrated world-wide as the "Band of Brothers". It is one of the spots which make Aldbourne an important point of pilgrimage for many American (and other) visitors each year
Artistic interest	
Historic association	The building known locally in Aldbourne as the "Cookhouse" was built as part of the army camp. A local resident remembers it being built when the British army built the huts on the football field, at the beginning of World War 2. It does not appear on any pre-war maps and is first seen on aerial photographs taken in April 1942 The materials and form of its construction also suggest that it was built during the Second World War.
Archaeological interest	Operation Nightingale conducted an Archaeological dig on the sport field in 2019 unearthing items left behind by the US 101 st Airborne Division. This cookhouse is an extremely important part of this village history.
Other? Extra?	

6. Pumphouse used by US 101st Airborne Division, WW2 (SU266752)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	Very few such WW2 structures remain.
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	Extremely utilitarian. Brick construction with concrete base, roof & lintel.
Townscape/Landscape value	
Group value	As for the Cookhouse, this forms part of the memorialisation of the “Band of Brothers”.
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Aldbourn has ongoing strong links with the Band of Brothers - the US 101 st Airborne Division who were located on the sports field in the village in WW2. This pumphouse is an important part of that history.
Archaeological interest	This small building is believed to be the pump house that serviced the latrines and ablutions blocks of the Army camp on the Farm Lane football field. Again, it first appears in the aerial photograph from 1942. Reports from the Ramsbury & District R.D.C. indicate that it remained in use to service the camp’s Nissen huts when they were used to house families for several years after the war.
Other? Extra?	

7. WW2 Abbey (Nissan) hut used by 101st Airborne Division in WW2 - 5 Farm lane, Aldbourne (SU264752)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	A reminder of life in the village in the years after the war.
Group value	As for the Cookhouse, this forms part of the memorialisation of the “Band of Brothers”.
Artistic interest	
Historic association	This building is larger than the majority of the Nissen huts that formed the Farm Lane camp. It was the Red Cross and Recreation hut which stood in the north-east corner of the camp facing the Cookhouse. When the last of the civilians were moved out of the old huts, the local builder, Liddiards, were contracted to remove the huts. While most were destroyed, this reassembled one was the largest hut in their builders yard just to the west of the field. Just one half of the building now remains, used as the workshop for a vintage car conservation business.
Archaeological interest	During the recent archaeological investigation of the campsite by Operation Nightingale, access to this building allowed the scientists a better understanding of finds that were made on the site.
Other? Extra?	There is a very active Heritage Centre in the village who have a wealth of data about this period and they host regular visits of Americans coming to Aldbourne to visit the “Band of Brothers” sites.

8. Memorial seat to K.O.G. Nugent, The Square, Aldbourne (SU264756)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	The bench here has provided a pleasant resting place for well over 100 years. It sits in the Square and is regularly used by the community.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	There has been a seat on this spot for 120 years and more, where it provided a location for village 'parliaments' of old. Flight Sergeant Kingsley Osbern George Nugent (1615659) of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve died 26/11/1944, the son of George and Gladys Nugent, Aldbourne
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

9. All remaining exposed stretches of the Bourne/Brook, Aldbourne (SU265755)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	The village name 'Aldbourn' is believed to derive from 'Alder' and 'bourne', the stream where the alders grow.
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	The Bourne/Brook is an important part of the community identity in the village. Stretches of distinctive wide green verges line the brook in parts of the village over which entrances to homes bridge the water. It provides a 'green' oasis which balances visually with the main road as it runs through the village.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Bournes tend to be seasonal and may only flow when the geological water table is high. The bourne in Aldbourne flows mainly in the late winter and early spring. In times past it had a more substantial flow and drove several watermills.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

10. Thatched Bus Shelter, The Square, Aldbourne (SU264756)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	Aldbourne has a high percentage of thatched properties and this thatched bus shelter is representative of the local vernacular.
Architectural interest	An important feature of the village and visible to all who come through the village.
Townscape/Landscape value	An important townscape feature in the centre of the village, it acts as a landmark and visible to all traffic on the B4192, the main road from Hungerford to Swindon.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	This is a memorial to Flight Lt. Guy Richard Brown of the Manor House, killed in 1945. The Brown family continue to live in the Manor House and farm much of the land around the village.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

11. The Pump, West St, Aldbourne (SU263756)



Restored pump 2019



Pump in 1905

What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	Important central feature of the village, this pump sits in the centre island of the main B4192 (West St) and Back lane.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Smaller, wooden-boxed pump at junction of Back Lane and West St., Aldbourne. Wood was in poor condition. There is a photo dated c.1905 showing this pump with a wooden chute filling a water cart. Renovated in 2019.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	Water used to sell for 6d (pence) a barrel.

12. Red Post box on Pole (SU266753) – still in use.



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	Type of box seen in rural locations.
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	Significant value: vintage box although not yet antique it should be protected. Contributes to the townscape as a distinctive item of street furniture in a rural location.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	From Queen Elizabeth the Second's reign. One of many designs, some now lost. If the post becomes obsolete as it possibly will, the historic association will be lost.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

13. Zoar Baptist Graveyard, Back Lane, Aldbourne (SU263757)



The graveyard today



How it was before the stones were moved.

What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	This graveyard is an important feature in the townscape located on Back Lane, an ancient village road in the centre of the village.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	The Baptist chapel to which this graveyard was attached was built in the mid-19th century and demolished in the late 1920s. This small plot with its stones serves as a memorial to the breadth of religious dissension in Aldbourne. The village also housed both Primitive and Wesleyan Methodist chapels as well as the Parish Church.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

14. Old Fire Station (engine house), The Green, Aldbourne (SU264758)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	Built to house 'Adam & Eve' fire appliance (now inside the church) in 1867.
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	As this building is adjacent to the Green, which is the centre of the village, it is an historic building important to the overall townscape of the community.
Group value	One of the very few remaining 'utility' buildings in Aldbourne which reflect the village history.
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Adam" and "Eve" are two fire pumps that were bought in 1778 with the residue of a relief fund collected in the wake of a devastating fire the previous year which destroyed much of the village. These two old engines remained as the village fire service until 1923.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

15. The Old School, Back Lane, Aldbourne. (SU263758)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	This is the last surviving link to the old village school which existed on this site for over 100 years from the 1850s. The building is still in use and evokes good memories for many in the village.
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	Currently part of St. Michael's Primary School, this building is an important feature in the townscape of the community.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Provision for schooling in Aldbourne dates back to 1668. By 1857 there were 100 pupils and in 1857 the Brown family donated the land for this new building for a mixed junior school designed by William Butterfield. The building today is part of the original school building most of which was demolished in 1963. Since 2013 the old school room returned to educational use.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

16. Road sign on corner of West St. and Marlborough Road, Aldbourne. (SU264755)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	Original style of road signs, the only one remaining in the village.
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	An important sign in appearance and location for the community and all travelers on the B4192 (previously A4192 – you can see where the 'A' has been changed to 'B').
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	An important historic road sign in Aldbourne.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

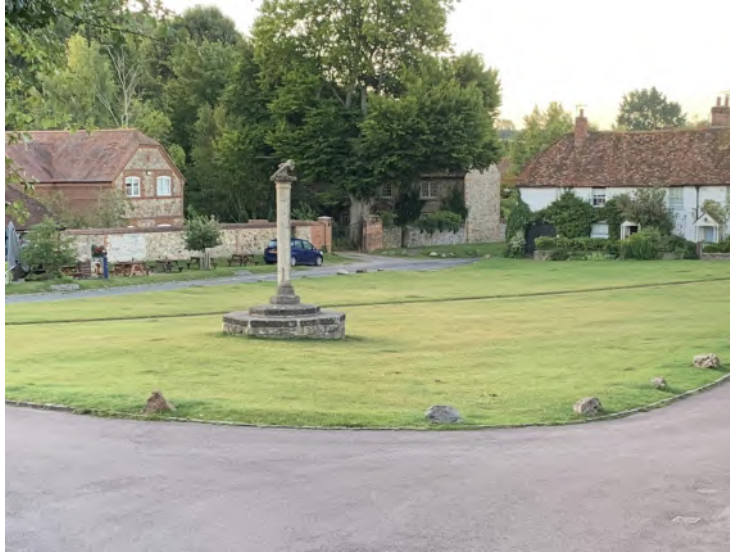
17. The Blue Boar hanging pub sign, The Green, Aldbourne (SU264757)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	This hanging pub sign sits on one of the two last remaining pubs in the village. It is an important part of the townscape on view to all visitors to the village as this pub is on the Green, the centre of the village.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	There has been an alehouse here since at least the 15th century. Blue Boar is a name of many pubs, coming from the badge of the Earls of Oxford. There are records of an Inn on the village green stretching back to 1516. There are records of The Blue Boar at the east of The Green by name from 1822. The pub was closed in 1911 but re-opened in or before 1931. The Blue Boar was regularly visited by the US 101 st Airborne Division soldiers in the 1940s and is today regularly visited by the Screaming Eagles World War II American soldier living history group.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

18. The Green, Aldbourne (SU264757)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	The Green is a significant green space that provides a focal point for the village and is the setting for a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The latter is one of less than 40 'Cross Sundials' in the UK, probably unique in its size, most being small cross sundials serving as memorials in churchyards. I No SRN 3360 in the UK National Sundial Register.
Group value	The Green provides a clear open space surrounded by a number of Listed and significant unlisted buildings, including the church.
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Records suggest that all the area of the current Green was fully built out in medieval times but was then left open following the major fire of 1760.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

19. Muriel Foster's bench. (SU263758)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	<p>The bench provides a tranquil spot in the churchyard from which to view the village. The path that leads to the bench is also an important part of its setting.</p> <p>Amongst its other associations, this path leads past the CWGC grave of Leonard Barnes, which is another of the pilgrimage places for followers of the "Band of Brothers". On his first morning in the village Lt. Richard Winters met Leonard's parents as they tended the grave, and spent the next ten months living with them above the shop which is now the village Post Office.</p> <p>It also leads past the grave of war heroine Mme. 'Pat' Cheramy (born Maud Hawkins in Aldbourne), who was active in the resistance in France as chatelaine of one of the safe houses of an escape line to Spain for Allied airmen and escaped PoWs. She survived SS torture and the Ravensbruck death camp before returning to England.</p>
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	<p>Muriel Foster was a resident in the village from 1930 until her death in 1963. Not only was she very active in village life, especially during the war years, she was a very dedicated fisherwoman who maintained a beautifully illustrated fishing diary from 1913 until 1949 which was published several years after her death.</p>
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

20. Iron kissing gate, the churchyard, Back Lane, Aldbourne (SU263758)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	An important and often used feature in St. Michael's churchyard, it remains regularly used.
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	This kissing gate is over 100 years old.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

21. Iron bench by the Goddard chapel, St. Michaels Churchyard, Back Lane, Aldbourne (SU263758)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	This bench is linked to an important family in the history of this community.
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	The Pembroke Family were a branch of the Goddard Family, a prominent landed family established at Upper Upham House, near Aldbourne, from at least the late 15th century. The Pembroke/Goddard family funded the village school and also funded the Memorial Hall.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

22. Dr. Who links: Tardis bin, Darlek bin, Cloven Hoof and phone box, The Square, Aldbourne (SU264756) Also the 'Cloven Hoof' pseudo pub sign/bin on The Green.



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	These popular reminders of the filming of an episode of Dr. Who in 1971 in the Square are now very much part of the townscape.
Group value	Items related to the Dr. Who TV series – see below.
Artistic interest	Reminders of the popular Dr. Who episode filmed in the village.
Historic association	In May 1971 a five part Dr. Who TV adventure was filmed in and around Aldbourne. In subsequent years it has become regarded as one of the best of the early Dr. Who series and several Dr Who conventions and special events have taken place in Aldbourne in subsequent years, another is planned for the 50 th anniversary in 2021. The Dr. Who related litter bins etc., were built in about 2012 by a local garage man to encourage local youngsters to be more litter aware in the village.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

23. Field Stones C1869 off Farm Lane, Aldbourne (SU265752) – Another field stone with ‘LR’ mark. There are four boundary stones located around the village.



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	These days it is rare to find these field stones in situ.
Representativeness	Demonstrate the rural history of Aldbourne.
Architectural interest	
Townscape/Landscape value	The stones are a significant and important feature in the village, a reminder of its rural history.
Group value	There are several of these ‘field stones’ or ‘boundary stones’ around Aldbourne. The Initials and date usually refer to ownership, mainly based on the village Enclosure Act of 1809.
Artistic interest	
Historic association	As outlined above. The stones may not be exactly in their original position.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	

24. Victorian folly, Bramley Cottage, 11a West Street, Aldbourne (SU264756)



What makes it significant?

Criterion	Explanation
Rarity	This is a unique Victorian folly
Representativeness	
Architectural interest	Placement of sheep skulls on the exterior where glass bottles were inserted to catch the light and a beautiful tiled floor
Townscape/Landscape value	
Group value	
Artistic interest	
Historic association	Dating back to Victorian times, this extraordinary folly is in what was the garden of one of the oldest homes in the village – West Street House.
Archaeological interest	
Other? Extra?	The owner is extremely keen to ensure nothing happens to this unlisted folly in the future.

Appendix 1 – Explanation of Local Heritage Asset Criteria (source: Historic England)

Criterion	Explanation and examples
Rarity	This can include unusual assets such as cast-iron bridges and traditional signage or more common ones of unusual architectural style or materials.
Representativeness	May be representative of a particular architectural period, architect, movement, company or group of its time, for example Quaker, railway, Victorian and industrial.
Architectural interest	Of importance in its architectural design, decoration or craftsmanship; important examples of particular building types, materials and techniques (e.g. buildings displaying technological innovation) and significant plan forms.
Townscape/Landscape value	Key landmark buildings or structures and buildings that strongly contribute to a view or roofscape vista. Valued open spaces, (including designed landscapes, streets, squares, parks, gardens, amenity and green spaces), walls, fences, railings, street surfaces (including cobbles, setts and grass verges). Street furniture (including signposts, streetlights, benches, post boxes and telephone boxes).
Group value	Groupings of assets with a clear visual, design or historic relationship (including farmyards, terraces, group form and layout), contribution to street scene, roofscapes and perception.
Artistic interest	An asset with artistic interest exhibiting some degree of creative skill (including sculpture, painting, decoration, advertisements, memorials, gates, railings, door surrounds, finials and signage).
Historic association	Associated with an historical person or event of acknowledged note (including important local figures or events, for example landowner, commemorative event, charity, ecclesiastical or other community group and former resident). Highly unlikely this would apply to assets associated with a living person.
Archaeological interest	There may be evidence to suggest that a site is of significant archaeological interest.
Other? Extra?	There may be some completely new other, or additional, factor thought to be of significance.