

Meeting Cabinet Member for Place & Local Plan Decision Day

Date and Time Monday, 4th September, 2023 at 9.30 am.

Venue Walton Suite, Guildhall, Winchester and streamed live on

YouTube at www.youtube.com/winchestercc

**Note:** This decision day is being held in person at the location specified above. Members of the public should note that the meeting will be streamed live to the council's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/winchestercc)

A limited number of seats will be made available at the above named location however attendance must be notified to the council at least 3 working days before the decision day. Please note that priority will be given to those wishing to attend and address the decision day over those wishing to attend and observe.

### **AGENDA**

### PROCEDURAL ITEMS

### 1. Disclosure of Interests

To receive any disclosure of interests from Members and Officers in matters to be discussed.

Note: Councillors are reminded of their obligations to declare disclosable pecuniary interests, personal and/or prejudicial interests in accordance with legislation and the Council's Code of Conduct.

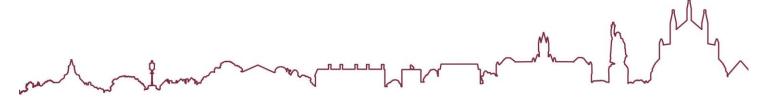
### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

## 2. **Public Participation**

 to note the names of members of the public wishing to speak on items for decision

Note: members of the public wishing to speak about a particular agenda item are required to register three working days in advance if they wish to speak at a Cabinet Member Decision Day.

Members of the public and visiting councillors may speak at decision days on a specific item due for decision, provided they have registered to speak three clear working days in advance. Please contact Democratic Services by **5pm on Tuesday**, **29 August 2023** via <a href="mailto:democracy@winchester.gov.uk">democracy@winchester.gov.uk</a> or (01962) 848 264 to register to speak and for further details.



## 3. Visiting Councillors Representation

To note any request from visiting councillors to make representations on an item for decision.

Note: Councillors wishing to speak about a particular agenda item are required to register three working days in advance if they wish to speak at a Cabinet Member Decision Day. Councillors will normally be invited by the Chairman to speak during the appropriate item (after the Cabinet Member's introduction (and any comments from the leading officer) and any public participation).

4. Littleton Village Design Statement Adoption (DD66) (Pages 5 - 72)

Laura Taylor Chief Executive

All of the Council's publicly available agendas, reports and minutes are available to view and download from the Council's <a href="Website">Website</a> and are also open to inspection at the offices of the council. As part of our drive to minimise our use of paper we do not provide paper copies of the full agenda pack at meetings. We do however, provide a number of copies of the agenda front sheet at the meeting which contains the QR Code opposite. Scanning this code enables members of the public to easily access all of the meeting papers on their own electronic device. Please hold your device's camera or QR code App over the QR Code so that it's clearly visible within your screen and you will be redirected to the agenda pack.



24 August 2023

Agenda Contact: Claire Buchanan, Senior Democratic Services Officer Email: cbuchanan@winchester.gov.uk 01962 848 438

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

<u>Cabinet Member for Place & Local Plan Decision Day</u> – Included within the Council's Constitution (Part 3, Section 2)

## **Public Participation**

Representations will be limited to a maximum of 3 minutes, subject to a maximum 15 minutes set aside for all questions and answers..

To reserve your place to speak, you are asked to **register with Democratic Services three clear working days prior to the decision day** – please see public participation agenda item above for further details. People will be invited to speak in the order that they have registered, subject to the maximum time period allowed for speaking not being exceeded. Public Participation is at the Chairperson's discretion.

## **Filming and Broadcast Notification**

This decision day will be recorded and broadcast live from the Council's YouTube channel. The decision day may also be recorded and broadcast by the press and members of the public – please see the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution for further information, which is available to view on the <a href="Council's website">Council's website</a>. Please note that the video recording is subtitled, but you may have to enable your device to see them (advice on how to do this is on the meeting page).

#### **Disabled Access**

Disabled access is normally available, but please phone Democratic Services on 01962 848 264 or email democracy@winchester.gov.uk to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place.



**DD66** 

<u>DECISION TAKER: Councillor Jackie Porter, Cabinet Member for Place and Local</u> Plan

REPORT TITLE: LITTLETON VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT ADOPTION

## 4 SEPTEMBER 2023

Contact Officer: Steve Opacic Tel No: 01962 848101 Email

sopacic@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): WONSTON AND MICHELDEVER

## **PURPOSE**

This report recommends that the Littleton Village Design Statement is adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document, following public consultation in January / February 2023 and amendments as recommended.

Village Design Statements are produced by local communities and provide guidance for the design of new developments within the local area. In order for these documents to carry weight in planning decision-making process they need to be adopted by the City Council as Supplementary Planning Documents.

Across the Winchester District there are 34 adopted village or neighbourhood design statements. Some of these were adopted some time ago and are now being updated. This is to be welcomed, as it will provide more up to date guidance to be taken into account when determining planning applications. The existing Littleton Village Design Statement was adopted in 2010.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. That the draft Littleton Village Design Statement be amended as set out in Appendix 1 of this report and that the revised Statement at Appendix 2 be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document.
- 2. That the 2010 Littleton Village Design Statement be revoked as SPD following the adoption of the 2023 version.
- 3. That the Strategic Planning Manager is granted delegated authority to make

minor factual corrections and editing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan, to finalise the Planning Guidance in the revised Littleton Village Design Statement, prior to publication on the Council website.

## **IMPLICATIONS:**

## 1 COUNCIL PLAN OUTCOME

1.1 Village Design Statements ('VDS') outline the local community's aspirations for good quality and locally responsive design within their areas. The draft Littleton VDS supports the Climate Change vision which includes the aim that "the natural and built environment is protected, maintained, sustained and enhanced".

## 2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

2.1 Work on the document has and will be undertaken using existing staff resources within the Strategic Planning Team.

## 3 <u>LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS</u>

- 3.1 The statutory procedures for the production, consultation on and adoption of a Supplementary Planning Document ("SPD") are set out in Regulations 11 to 16 of the Town and Country (Local Plan) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The formal consultation process set out in the Regulations must be undertaken prior to adoption by the council as a SPD.
- 3.2 A SPD builds upon policies in the Local Plan to provide more detailed advice and guidance which is then taken into consideration when planning decisions are made. A SPD is a material planning consideration in decision making.

## 4 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 4.1 The draft Littleton VDS has been produced by Littleton and Harestock Parish Council. A request for comments was put on the Parish Council website in April 2020 together with a questionnaire, based upon the existing (2010) VDS. This was followed up with an item in the Community Section of the Hampshire Chronicle, with the same request for information. Comments received were taken into account in drafting the revised VDS.
- 4.2 Progress was reported to Parish Council Meetings, and copies of the draft VDS were provided for information, on request. Following further development of the draft document, a report for a Decision Day on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 (report DD54 refers) was prepared to authorise publication of the draft VDS for formal public and stakeholder consultation. All members, Ward Members and the Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan were therefore consulted as part of the Decision Day process.
- 4.3 The draft VDS was subject to statutory consultation between 9th January and 20th February via the Citizenspace online consultation portal. The consultation included statutory consultees and those on the Local Plan database. Formal notice of the consultation was published in the local press and the draft VDS was published on the City Council's web site. The Parish

Council also put it on its web site and to publicised it through the Parish Newsletter.

- 4.4 The Council received 8 consultation responses, including a number of 'no comments' from several statutory consultees. As a result of these it is recommended that some amendments and additions be included in the VDS and Appendix 1 sets out a summary of the comments received, a recommended officer response, and any proposed changes to the draft VDS. The representations can be viewed on <a href="Citizen Space">Citizen Space</a>.
- 4.5 The 2012 Planning Regulations require a statement of consultation to be published before a SPD can be adopted. This report forms the required statement of consultation and updates the information in the draft VDS; detailing the public consultation undertaken, summarising the issues raised and describing how these issues have been addressed, as required by the Regulations. The final version of the VDS should be updated to refer to this prior to its publication in accordance with the Regulations.

## 5 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 A VDS is used in planning decision making, to encourage developments to conserve important local features and respond positively to the design and appearance of local areas. They therefore benefit the quality of life, health and wellbeing of the local community as well as improving the quality of the built and natural environment, all of which contribute to the aim of sustainable development as a whole.

## 6 PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

The Village Design Statement will supplement the existing Local Plan policies, which have been subject to an equalities impact assessment and accord with the Public Sector Equality Duty. All members of the community were given the opportunity to comment on the draft VDS at the public consultation stage.

## 7 RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
Financial Exposure	N/A	N/A
Exposure to challenge. Regulations require public consultation by the Local Planning Authority prior to adoption of a SPD for a minimum of four weeks. This should encourage public participation and comments and reduce the chance of challenge.	VDS encouraging public participation and comment	An up to date adopted VDS will be a Supplementary Planning Document that will carry greater weight in planning decisions including appeals.
Innovation	N/A	N/A

Reputation. Risk to reputation if planning decisions are perceived not to reflect the VDS.  Achievement of outcome. Once adopted the VDS will be used in planning decisions and encourage developments to respond positively to the design and appearance of local areas. This will achieve the outcome of improving the quality of the built and	Ensure VDS is given appropriate consideration in planning decision making and is sufficiently up-to-date.  Ensure that the VDS is adopted in line with the 2012 Regulations and that comments received on the consultation VDS are incorporated into the adopted document where appropriate.	Ensure VDS sets out realistic expectations for planning decisions and communicate these to the local community.  An up to date adopted VDS will be a Supplementary Planning Document that will carry greater weight in planning decisions including appeals and will improve the quality of the built and natural environment.
natural environment.  Property.	N/A	N/A
Community Support. Risk that planning decisions are seen as not taking sufficient account of the views of the local community.	The VDS allows for the views of the local community to be reflected in a planning document which addresses how the design of new development should respond positively to its location when applications for development are being decided.	Ensure that the VDS contains appropriate and realistic guidance that will be taken into account in planning decisions, improving the quality of the local built and natural environment.
Timescales. Risk that the existing VDS is outdated and does not reflect current planning policy. Project capacity.	Prepare and adopt a new up to date VDS.  Maintain sufficient staff	Adopting an up to date VDS will support policies in the adopted local plan and decision making on development proposals.  Improve staff knowledge
There is adequate capacity within the Strategic Planning Team to progress the Littleton VDS.  Other	capacity.  N/A	and understanding of design matters.
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## 8 OTHER KEY ISSUES

- 8.1 None.
- 9 <u>SUPPORTING INFORMATION:</u>

**Introduction** 

- 9.1 Good design is considered a key aspect of sustainable development and the importance of setting policies to achieve high quality and inclusive design for all development is emphasised in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). This principle is carried forward into policies within Winchester's existing and emerging local plans. Having an up to date VDS will provide detailed local guidance for the assessment and determination of applications for new development whilst reflecting both national and adopted local planning policies.
- 9.2 Across the Winchester district there are 34 adopted village, neighbourhood or local area design statements, many of which were adopted some time ago. A number of communities have undertaken an update of their design statements and this is welcomed. The Council has produced guidance on the preparation and review of local design statements, which is available on the WCC website.
- 9.3 In 2015, the council adopted the High Quality Places Supplementary Planning Document that provides more general guidance on how the high level design principles set out in policy CP13 in Local Plan Part 1 (LPP1) should be applied. Village Design Statements (VDS) however are particularly useful in that they identify the key characteristics of the area to which they relate and provide local guidelines which are intended to inform and encourage new development to respond to these local characteristics in a positive way. To be considered as a material consideration through the planning decision making process it is necessary for such community-led documents to be updated and subsequently adopted to complement policies within the local plan. This is delivered in the form of Supplementary Planning Documents.
- 9.4 Policy DM15 (Local Distinctiveness) Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) sets out how proposals should have regard to any adopted Design Statements, such as Village Design Statements.
- 9.5 The Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, set out the process for the preparation and adoption of SPDs, which includes a requirement to publish a draft VDS for at least 4 weeks' public consultation. The City Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) gives a commitment to a 6-week consultation period, which took place during January and February 2023.

## Background

- 9.6 Littleton Parish Council has a good record of producing and updating its Village Design Statement. The original Littleton VDS was adopted in 2000 and updated in 2010.
- 9.7 Following consultation with local residents a revised VDS was drafted to accord with the relevant policies of the Winchester Local Plan Parts 1 and 2 and WCC's adopted High Quality Places SPD. The draft VDS reflected the principles of the latest version of the NPPF and responded to changes which had taken place within the parish since the existing VDS was adopted in

2010. The Parish Council wishes to update its VDS now, rather than delaying this until the emerging Local Plan is adopted.

## Public Consultation (see also Section 4 above)

- 9.8 The draft VDS was published for public consultation between 9th January and 20th February via the Citizenspace online consultation portal. The Council received 8 consultation responses, which are summarised at Appendix 1. The Appendix includes a summary of the comments received, recommended responses, and any resulting proposed changes to the draft VDS. The individual comments made can be viewed on Citizenspace.
- 9.9 The key issues raised were:
  - Responses from statutory consultees, mostly indicating 'no comments'.
  - Responses from several residents, mostly raising points of detail.
     Some appropriate amendments are recommended.
  - Extensive comments on behalf of the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) about the implications of the VDS for the development of Sir John Moore Barracks. The DIO would prefer the VDS to not include the Barracks area, or to exclude it from its Planning Guidance, suggesting it would be more sensible to prepare the VDS in tandem with the new Local Plan Officers' recommendation is that it would not be appropriate to exclude the Barracks area from the VDS nor delay the VDS so that it can be prepared in parallel with the Local Plan, given the early stage of the emerging Local Plan allocation. Instead a new section is proposed at the beginning of the VDS referring to the emerging Local Plan, the forthcoming proposals for the Barracks, and the relationship with the VDS. Changes are also proposed in response to other comments made by DIO, mainly to the parts of the VDS explanatory text referring to ecology and landscape.
- 9.10 As a result, it is recommended that some amendments and additions be included in the VDS and these are shown at Appendix 1 and included in the revised VDS at Appendix 2..

## Conclusion and Next Steps

- 9.11 Having an up to date VDS will provide guidance which reflects the current character of the village and accords with both national and adopted local planning policies. It is recommended that the Littleton Village VDS is adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document, to replace the previous 2010 VDS.
- 9.12 It is further recommended that delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Planning Manager, in consultation with the Cabinet Member, to undertake any minor editing that may be required prior to publication on the Council's website.
- 10 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 10.1 The City Council encourages the production of Village Design Statements by local communities, in order to improve the quality of development in local area and public involvement in the planning process. In order to carry as much weight as possible in determining planning applications, such Statements need to be adopted by the City Council as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs).
- 10.2 The City Council could, as an alternative approach, informally adopt or endorse the VDS. However, this would carry less weight in determining planning applications. This approach is therefore not recommended.
- 10.3 Comments on behalf of the Defence Infrastructure Organisation suggest that it would be more sensible to prepare the VDS in tandem with the new Local Plan or that the VDS should exclude Sir John Moore Barracks. It is recommended that a new section is included to clarify the relationship between the Local Plan, proposals for the Barracks and the VDS, but that the revised VDS should be adopted as a SPD and should continue to cover the Barracks area, .Other comments were also made by DIO and others on the draft VDS, which are summarised at Appendix 1, along with a recommended response and proposed changes. These involve some changes to the content of the draft VDS, as set out at Appendix 1 and included in the recommended revised VDS at Appendix 2.

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-**

Previous Cabinet/Committee Reports or Cabinet Member Decisions:-

DD54, 5 December 2022, Draft Littleton Village Design Statement

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-**

Adopted Littleton Village Design Statement 2010

<u>Draft Littleton Village Design Statement 2023</u>

## **APPENDIX:**

APPENDIX 1 - Summary of Comments Received and Recommended Changes

APPENDIX 2 – Revised Littleton Village Design Statement Recommended for Adoption

Respondent	Comment Summary	Officer Response	Recommend Action (Additional text shown <u>underlined</u> , deleted text shown <del>crossed through</del> )
Natural England	Natural England letter advising on how the VDS should be put together and what should be included.	Comments noted. The draft VDS generally accords with the advice given and Natural England do not suggest any specific changes.	No change.
Historic England	No comments.	Noted.	No change.
National Highways	No comments.	Noted.	No change.
Marine Management Organisation	No comments.	Noted.	No change.
Defence Infrastructure Organisation	While the emerging Local Plan is still in draft, it holds some (increasing) weight in planning decision-making. It would be illogical for a separate guidance document, which covers the Sir John Moore Barracks Site, to be brought forward/prepared at this stage – given that this would be based on currently adopted Local Plan policies. The current draft LVDS document could ultimately end up being conflicted with the Sir John Moore Barracks site allocation, and new Local Plan.	Village Design Statements are required to supplement the existing development plan, currently the existing Winchester District Local Plan Parts 1 and 2. While the emerging Local Plan has been published in draft form it carries little weight at this stage and may change before being adopted. The VDS is expected to be adopted well before the emerging Local Plan.  Sir John Moore Barracks forms an important part of the setting of	Add to the introduction to the VDS (page 1):  At the time of the preparation of the LVDS the City Council was in the process of reviewing the Wincheste Local Plan. The Regulation 18 draft Local Plan included Sir John Moore Barracks as a proposed site allocati and the redevelopment of the Sir Jo Moore Barracks (SJMB) will have a significant impact on the parish. This Village Design Statement sets out k features and characteristics which contribute to the environment of

Page 14	The LVDS would not be a material consideration in the preparation of the Emerging Local Plan, including the site-specific allocation for Sir John Moore Barracks. Once adopted, the Sir John Moore Barracks site allocation would outrank the LVDS content which is of relevance to the Site and the LVDS would become out of date very quickly. It would be more robust and sensible to prepare the new LVDS in tandem with the new Local Plan to ensure consistency and longevity.  Therefore, the Draft LVDS should explicitly exclude Sir John Moore Barracks from the SPD boundary. If WCC is minded to continue to include Sir John Moore Barracks within the LVDS boundary, the document should be updated to explicitly exclude the Site from the majority of the guidance points	Littleton village and it would not be appropriate to exclude it from the VDS on the basis of a site allocation in the emerging Local Plan. Nor is it appropriate to exclude the Barracks from the majority of guidance points, as suggested by the DIO.  However, it would be useful to add text at the beginning of the VDS in order to clarify the position regarding the VDS and the emerging Local Plan. The recommended change is a combination of text suggested by Littleton Parish Council and the Defence Infrastructure Organisation.	Littleton village and its surroundings. Should the site allocation be carried forward into the adopted version of the new Local Plan it will provide an up to date site specific development plan policy for the site. It is recognised that some of the detailed design guidance in this VDS may not always be applicable to a major redevelopment of the Barracks, but it provides an important reference point for the preparation of a detailed design code for the site.  The two documents should complement each other. The SJMB Masterplan Concept / Framework Document and related / associated design code[s] will need to pay particular attention to the relationship and connectivity between the existing village and the proposed development, and to maintain the feel and ambience enjoyed by the residents of the existing village.
	A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken (enclosed) which sets out the habitats surveyed and identified on the Site. Paragraph 5.4 should be amended as follows:  The remainder of the MOD Flowerdown	The City Council's ecologist has considered the surveys submitted by the DIO and the Parish Council's concerns. It is concluded that the requested changes are factually accurate and that it would be appropriate	Amend paragraph 5.4, 2nd paragraph:  The remainder of the MoD Flowerdown estate consists of grassed areas of grassland, scrub and deciduous mixed woodland, improved

	estate consists of areas of <u>grassland</u> , <u>scrub and deciduous and mixed</u> <u>woodland</u> . <del>woodland grassed areas</del> , improved deciduous woodland, conifers, young trees, downland and playing fields	to make these amendments.	deciduous woodland, conifers, young trees, downland and playing fields
Page	Similarly paragraph 8.2 of the draft VDS should be amended as follows:  The MOD Flowerdown Estate (not open to the public) contains woodland and small areas of remnants of calcareous grassland. There are opportunities to enhance the management of the grassland and woodlands. has not been farmed for 100 years, and most of the village's woodland.	The City Council's ecologist has considered the surveys submitted by the DIO and the Parish Council's concerns. It is concluded that, subject to omitting the word 'small', the requested changes are factually accurate and include a positive statement about enhancement. It would be appropriate to make these amendments.	Amend paragraph 8.2, 2nd paragraph:  The MOD Flowerdown Estate (not open to the public) contains woodland and areas of remnants of calcareous grassland. There are opportunities to enhance the management of the grassland and woodlands. has not been farmed for 100 years, and most of the village's woodland.
15	Map 8 on p.35 of the draft LVDS document should be updated in accordance with the Phase 1 Habitat Survey to ensure that it factually shows the habitats identified on the Site and correctly uses the Phase 1 Habitat Survey definitions which is the standardised system for classifying and mapping wildlife habitats in all parts of Great Britain.	Noted. Map 8 of the VDS shows broad areas of grassland, woodland, recreational space, etc and does not seek to show detailed habitat information. It is not, therefore, necessary to show the details of habitats identified in the Phase 1 survey.	No change.
	Paragraph 8.6 of the Draft LVDS states that the site has yet to be ecologically surveyed which is incorrect as the Site was subject to a	The City Council's ecologist has considered the surveys submitted by the DIO and the Parish Council's concerns. It is	Amend paragraph 8.6, North-west area:  This area comprises areas of

suite of ecological surveys during 2020 and 2021. The ecological survey work has identified that the northwest areas support poor semi-improved grassland and woodland; and does not meet any SINC selection criteria. This section of the LVDS also makes specific comments on the north and south areas of the Site.

Suggest this section is amended as follows to reflect the evidence based survey work undertaken:

North-west Area: This area comprises areas of woodland and grassland is well drained chalkland dominated by woodlands which are close to the Littleton Stud, and the Littleton Recreation Ground. Whilst the areas of grassland have been recorded as comprising species- poor semiimproved grassland of limited intrinsic ecological value, the areas of woodland are likely of higher ecological value providing habitat for a range of species. agriculturally unimproved grassland with indigenous species allowed to develop without the major use of herbicides or inorganic fertilisers. Once surveyed, this area has the potential to be classified as a Site of Importance for Nature

concluded that those parts of the requested changes which are factually accurate should be incorporated, but that other parts which could undermine the importance of the areas concerned should not be agreed. woodland and grassland is well drained chalkland dominated by woodlands and close to the Littleton Stud, and the Littleton Recreation Ground. The areas of is typical of agriculturally unimproved grassland and the areas of woodland provide habitat for a range of species with indigenous species allowed to develop without the major use of herbicides or inorganic fertilisers. Once surveyed, this area has the potential to be classified as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC).

Amend paragraph 8.6, South-east area:

The south-eastern side of MoD Flowerdown (Sir John Moore Barracks) is classified as a SINC (2017, Reference WC0066 Area - 7.6 ha). The SINC area occupies most of the eastern unused part of the MoD Flowerdown site between Kennel Lane and the Andover Road. The citation for the SINC states that classifies this area as 2D: is designated as a SINC as it supports an area of Calcareous Grassland which has become impoverished through inappropriate management, but which-retains

of Littleton is conserved. However, we consider that there is a requirement to undertake a fuller assessment to determine whether development would cause adverse impacts within these views. We therefore suggest that amendments are made to Part A1 to consider these views sensitively, as supported by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, rather than to limit development in the views entirely. We therefore consider that Part A1 should be amended as follows:

Important public views within the parish (as shown on LVDS Map § 8) should be considered sensitively in proposals for redevelopment, including protected and not obstructed by new development, extensions or changes to existing properties. Conversely, Views of new or adapted buildings should not detract from the existing character and unobtrusive appearance of the village when viewed from the open countryside.

Development in open areas that would be unduly intrusive will be resisted. New developments should be landscaped to blend into respect the rural character of the Littleton Area. This may involve adding new important views. The changes proposed by DIO to the first paragraph of Planning Guidance point A1 are considered to weaken the guidance unacceptably and DIO have since suggested retaining the existing text but adding reference to Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. As this is already mentioned in the proposed changes to the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of A1, which it is proposed to accept, it is not considered necessary to add it to the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph.

Development in open areas that would be unduly intrusive will be resisted. New developments should be landscaped to blend into respect the rural character of the Littleton Area. This may involve adding new landscape features or retaining existing ones (particularly historic features) as well as providing new open spaces. Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments will be required as part of major development proposals which are situated within these views. The area of open land and woodland around the MoD Flowerdown Estate to the north and west of the Sir John Moore Barracks buildings (as shown on LVDS Map 2) is of important landscape value. It separates the barracks site from Littleton and protects the setting of Littleton in long views from Andover Road and from the footpath from Church Lane to Andover Road.

the approach to Settlement Gaps. We suggest the wording of this section is amended to be consistent with WCC adopted Local Plan Policy CP18 as follows:  Any proposed development which physically or visually diminishes the natural green space of the WDLP defined Littleton Gap will not be supported.  The 'Flood Risk Track' included on Map 9 actually denotes the extent of 'Flood Zone 3' (as per the Environment)  avoid development which physically or visually diminishes the natural green space of the WDLP defined Littleton Gap will not be suggested change would avoid the potentially  follows:  Any proposed development which physically or visually diminishes the natural green space of the WDLP defined Littleton Gap will not be supported.  It is agreed that the suggested change would avoid the potentially  Amend Map 9, Key as follows:  Any proposed development which physically or visually diminishes the natural green space of the WDLP defined Littleton Gap will not be supported.  It is agreed that the suggested change would avoid the potentially		landscape features or retaining existing ones (particularly historic features) as well as providing new open spaces. Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments will be required as part of major development proposals which are situated within these views.		
Map 9 actually denotes the extent of 'Flood Zone 3' (as per the Environment Agency's 'Map for Flooding'). To ensure that the terminology within the LVDS is accurate, we consider that the annotation alongside Map 9 be updated to state 'Areas at Risk of Flooding' rather than 'Flood Risk  suggested change would avoid the potentially confusing use of different terms.  Environment Agency Zone 3 Flood Risk	Page 19	suggest the wording of this section is amended to be consistent with WCC adopted Local Plan Policy CP18 as follows:  Any proposed development which physically or visually diminishes the natural green space of the WDLP defined Littleton Gap will not be	physically or visually diminishes the Gap. Adding reference to 'natural green space' adds an unnecessary qualification that could cause confusion and potential conflict with the Local Plan policy. Therefore it is agreed that this reference	Any proposed development which physically or visually diminishes the natural green space of the WDLP defined Littleton Gap will not be
The MOD's Safeguarding Manager Noted. Any safeguarding area No change.		Map 9 actually denotes the extent of 'Flood Zone 3' (as per the Environment Agency's 'Map for Flooding'). To ensure that the terminology within the LVDS is accurate, we consider that the annotation alongside Map 9 be updated to state 'Areas at Risk of Flooding' rather than 'Flood Risk Track'.	suggested change would avoid the potentially confusing use of different terms.	Environment Agency Zone 3 Flood Risk Track Areas at Risk of Flooding.

	has reviewed the Draft LVDS as there is a statutory safeguarding zone which lies within the LVDS boundary where any development would trigger a requirement for MOD Safeguarding. The response is included within Appendix IV and includes general considerations for safeguarding in this zone which should be acknowledged in the LVDS.	would more appropriately be defined in the Local Plan rather than the VDS.	
C Ward Page 20	We would like to point out that there are Street Lights in Dale Close as well as in Valley Rd.	Dale Close is off Valley Road and there is no need to amend this reference in the VDS.	Amend paragraph 8.9, 'Lighting' as follows:  Except for Valley Road and Dale Close, there is no street lighting in Littleton Village apart from lighting associated with individual properties
	There is a small copse of trees (horse chestnut) adjacent to our house, which we understand are protected, but not marked as such on the plan.  Agree that footpaths need to be improved. The footpath between the Running Horse and the church is inadequate and sometimes unsafe. Similarly there needs to be a footpath alongside main road going into Winchester from the Dean Down Drove crossroads. Would also love to see the creation of new footpaths in	Noted. The VDS does not seek to show all existing designations or features protected by other legislation.  Noted. The VDS acknowledges the lack of footpaths in various areas (Map 7) and identifies various 'pedestrian risk areas'. The Parish Council is discussing improvements to these with Hampshire County Council.	No change.  No change.

	the direction of Sparsholt to encourage walkers.  Our garden backs on to the Holmes	Noted. This is not a matter for	No change.
Pag	land, previously used as a Nursery, and has been impacted by changing activity from the nursery. The business is no longer run as a commercial nursery and the area immediately behind and to the side of our garden instead is now used for outdoor storage. There has been an expansion in the number of vehicles accessing the site, using the new entrance on Littleton Lane, together with the use of a large pallet lift truck with a noisy reversing alarm.	the VDS and the site concerned is outside the settlement boundary of Littleton.	
A & S Reeves	Not a formal response but 7.7 refers to "curbs" whereas it should be "kerbs".	Noted and agreed.	Amend paragraph 7.7 as follows: There is only a single pavement along Main Road from the Running Horse PH to Flowerdown Barrows, through the heart of the village, broken by lowered kerbs curbs and road entrances
P A Warner	An incredibly bland draft of what should be a VILLAGE Design Statement. It appears to be a selection of "standard" phrases lifted from a bureaucrat's opinion of what a VDS should consist of, containing all the appropriate details required for	The VDS was drafted by local residents and the Parish Council, with advice from City Council officers. There was significant public consultation at key stages by the Parish Council and the draft VDS published for	Add reference to the consultation process and this report in the introduction to the VDS (page 1), delete 'Draft for Public Consultation' page headings, and make any other minor factual corrections and editing as necessary to finalise and

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approval by the local authority. There is simply no Littleton "character", no sense this "draft" has been written by interested villagers who have consulted widely with other residents to produce a vision of what we would like to maintain, preserve and introduce to the community. There are spelling mistakes and many grammatical errors that detract from what the true villagers really feel about their environment and village facilities. What a pity. An opportunity missed and wasted for another decade.

consultation by the Parish Council and WCC. The final version of the VDS should be updated to refer to this report so as to provide details of the issues raised and action taken, in accordance with the Local Plan Regulations.

With regards to the comments about spelling and grammar, the document will be checked prior to final publication.

Delegated authority is sought to make minor factual corrections and editing, as necessary, in consultation with the Cabinet Member Built Environment, to finalise the VDS.

publish the VDS.



# Littleton Village Design Statement (LVDS) 2023

## LVDS (2023)

has been produced by Littleton and Harestock Parish Council in consultation with the Littleton Village Community. It was subject to formal public consultation for six weeks in early 2023.<sup>1</sup>

The purpose of the LVDS is to help maintain, protect and enhance the village of Littleton, its rural setting, character and distinctive features.

Changes to Littleton can originate from many sources and can consist of anything from small day-to-day adjustments to large-scale developments. This VDS is therefore addressed to any person or group who may seek to introduce or control change.

Littleton & Harestock Parish Council (LHPC), The Hall Way, Littleton, Winchester, Hampshire, SO22 6QL.

Telephone: 01962 886507

Website: <a href="http://www.lhpc.org.uk/">http://www.lhpc.org.uk/</a>
e-mail: <a href="clerk@lhpc.org.uk/">clerk@lhpc.org.uk/</a>

## **LVDS 2023**

LVDS (2023) is a **supplementary planning policy document (SPD)** and is based on:

- Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 (LPP1) Joint Core Strategy (2013).
- Winchester District Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) Development Management and Site Allocations (2016).

LVDS (2023) should be a material consideration for the Planning Authority when decisions are made and for Planning Inspectors or the Secretary of State when making appeal decisions.

At the time of the preparation of the LVDS, the City Council was in the process of reviewing the Winchester Local Plan. The Regulation 18 draft Local Plan included Sir John Moore Barracks as a proposed site allocation, and the redevelopment of the Sir John Moore Barracks (SJMB) will have a significant impact on the parish.

This Village Design Statement sets out key features and characteristics which contribute to the environment of Littleton Village and its surroundings. Should the site allocation be carried forward into the adopted version of the new Local Plan, it will provide an up-to-date site-specific development plan policy for the site. It is recognised that some of the detailed design guidance in this VDS may not always be applicable to a major redevelopment of the Barracks, but it provides an important reference point for the preparation of a detailed design code for the site.

The two documents should complement each other. The SJMB Masterplan Concept/Framework Document and related/associated design code[s] will need to pay particular attention to the relationship and connectivity between the existing village and the proposed development and to maintain the feel and ambience enjoyed by the residents of the existing village.

Page 24

<sup>1.</sup> A Public Consultation has been undertaken by Winchester City Council, and comments received have been considered and taken into account. Details of the comments are contained in the WCC report (report DD66) produced as part of the adoption of this VDS in September 2023.

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## Table 1: Abbreviations

Table 1: Abbreviations		
Abbreviation	Description	
СР	Civil Parish	
County	Hampshire County Council Area	
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.	
District	Winchester City Council Area	
НСС	Hampshire County Council	
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle	
LHPC	Littleton and Harestock Parish Council	
LVDS (2023)	Littleton and Harestock Village Design Statement 2023	
MoD	Ministry of Defence	
LP	Local Plan or WDLP (Winchester District Local Plan)	
LPP	Local Planning Policy	
PH	Public House	
PSV	Public Service Vehicle	
RVEI	Roadside Verge of Ecological Importance	
SDNPA	South Downs National Park Authority	
SHELAA	Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment	
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document	
WCC	Winchester City Council	
WD	Winchester District	
VDS	Village Design Statement	

## 1 WINCHESTER LOCAL PLAN MARKET TOWN AND RURAL AREA (MTRA) POLICY.

The Littleton Village Design Statement should be considered in context with the Winchester Local Plan Market and Rural (MTRA) policy, which is summarised as follows:-

## Policy MTRA 1 Development Strategy Market Towns and Rural Areas.

- MTRA 1 Policy is about meeting the needs of settlements relative to role and function and the provision of new
  homes to meet the local housing demands for the Winchester District. A range of housing types, sizes and
  tenures, including affordable housing, should be expected to meet a range of requirements, including those of
  older people, people with disabilities and people who have social inclusion needs.
- Development proposals should maintain and enhance natural or human-made local characteristics to retain settlement identity. Development should be of an appropriate scale so as not to exceed the capacity of existing services and infrastructure or should be accompanied by any required improvements to physical and community infrastructure provision, including rural transport initiatives and communications technology.

## Policy MTRA 3 Other Settlements in the Market Towns and Rural Areas.

(Inside the Littleton Village development Boundary and Conservation Area Boundary.)

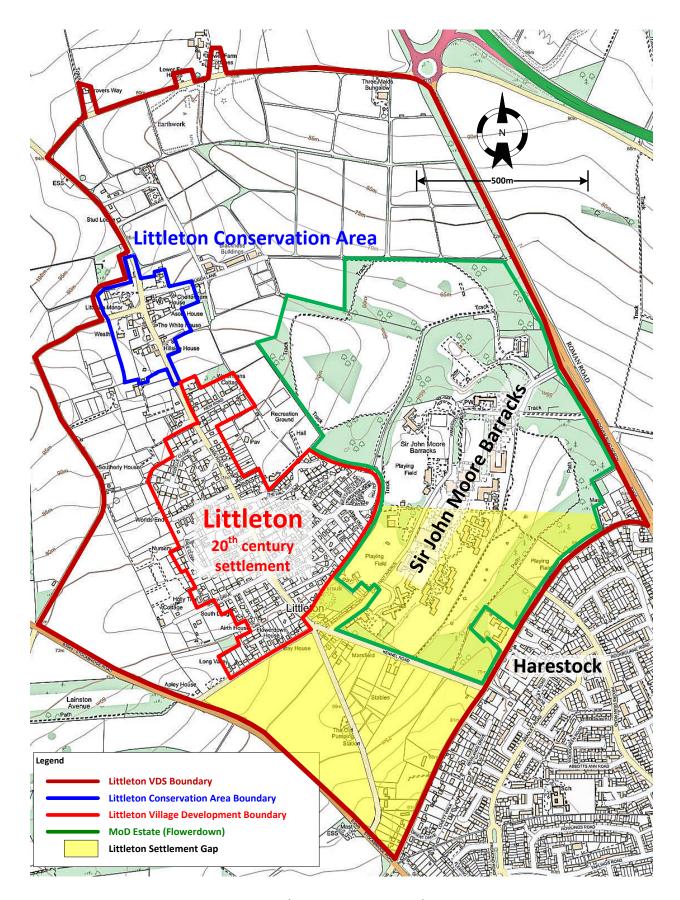
- MTRA3 Policy recognises settlements such as Littleton are very modest both in terms of their population and the
  level of service provision. Littleton's size is typical of a diverse rural area where there is a high degree of
  personal mobility and choice.
- Although Littleton may be small and does not necessarily perform well on traditional 'sustainability' criteria, the
  need for some new housing, often smaller, more affordable housing for older people may need to be developed
  or retained. The Policy recognises Littleton residents will be particularly concerned about the impact of any
  development on the character of the village and its immediate area and will want development to contribute
  positively to their environment.
- The challenge to balance the need for development to respond to local needs, whilst ensuring that the Littleton area retains its overriding rural characteristics. There may be opportunities for sites to be brought forward as 'exception sites', to allow small scale rural affordable housing schemes to be permitted, where market housing would not be permitted, e.g. Paddock View, Littleton. Otherwise, the Policy states that it would not be appropriate or acceptable to allow uncontrolled or sporadic development to occur across the District. The intention is that the Littleton Development Boundary will be retained in its existing form. The purpose is to ensure that change is possible, but through a controlled and considered process.
- Development proposals should protect important areas, such as settlement gaps, e.g. the Littleton Gap.
- Overall, the Policy identifies Littleton as a settlement which may be considered suitable for development/redevelopment opportunities within its defined boundaries and the Local Planning Authorities will support such
  opportunities which are appropriate in scale and design. Developments are expected to conserve the
  settlement's identity, countryside setting, key historical characteristics and local features as identified in a
  Village Design Statement.

#### Policy MTRA4- Development in the Countryside.

(Outside the Littleton Village Boundary and Conservation Area Boundary - the local rural environment.)

MTRA4 Policy requires proposed developments should not cause harm to the character and landscape of the area or neighbouring uses or create inappropriate noise/light and traffic generation. The WDLP 2013 states that the Local Planning Authority will only permit the following types of development in the rural environment for:

- development which has an operational need for a countryside location, such as for agriculture, horticulture or forestry;
- proposals for the reuse of existing rural buildings for employment, tourist accommodation, community use or affordable housing (to meet demonstrable local housing needs). Buildings should be of permanent construction and capable of use without major reconstruction;
- expansion or re-development of existing buildings to facilitate the expansion on-site of established businesses or to meet an operational need, provided development is proportionate to the nature and scale of the site, its setting and countryside location;
- Small scale sites for low key tourist accommodation appropriate to the site, location and the setting.



Map 1: Littleton Important Boundaries.
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## **2 LITTLETON VILLAGE**

Littleton village, located to the northwest of Winchester, is a linear settlement just over 1 km in length. Littleton Village has a population of approximately 900, and there are about 480 dwellings. The village is set between two historic routes north out of Winchester, which are, to the east the Andover Road, a Roman Road (B3420), and to the west the Stockbridge Road (B3049). The northern part of the Littleton village is 12<sup>th</sup> century in origin and is a Conservation Area. The southern part of the village is mainly 20<sup>th</sup> century in origin with some 21st century buildings. At the southern end of the village, Littleton is separated from Harestock, a suburban area of north Winchester, by a defined settlement gap (The Littleton Gap).



Figure 1: View southeast of the 'Littleton Gap' (2020).

The Littleton Recreation Ground (about 6.5 ha) offers an open space for public use, playground facilities and sport. Flowerdown Barrows (Bronze Age Tumuli) is a historically important scheduled monument under English Heritage supervision and is located at the southern end of Littleton village. Littleton Village and the Littleton Recreation Ground sit alongside the boundary of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) Flowerdown Estate, an area in which Sir John Moore Barracks (Army) is located.

The Policy Guidance Boundary for LVDS 2023, which includes the Littleton Conservation Area, the 20th-century Littleton settlement and MoD Flowerdown Estate, is shown on LVDS Map 1.

## 3 LITTLETON: A BRIEF HISTORY

Littleton's earliest identifiable origins lie in the Tumulus Field (Flowerdown Barrows). There are three well-preserved Bronze Age burial mounds constructed 4,000 years ago, and they were once part of a much larger 'barrow cemetery'. There are two bowl barrows and an extensive disc

barrow described as the finest in Hampshire (English Heritage, 2020; Historic England, 2020).

It is likely that the Saxons founded the settlement, which evolved into Littleton as we know it today, the name Littleton being Anglo-Saxon for a small farmstead. In written records, 'Littletone' appears in a Charter dated 1171. St Catherine's Church (12<sup>th</sup> century) is mentioned in the Domesday Book, dedicated to St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr). The church was built on a mound located at the crossroads in the centre of the old settlement, although the layout suggests an older Saxon Church on the same site.

In 1541 Henry VIII granted the Manor of Littleton to the Dean and Chapter of Winchester Cathedral. In the 16th century, several houses were built, and some survive to this day. Monks Rest (15<sup>th</sup> century) nearby was built to accommodate sick monks from St Swithins's Priory in Winchester. Other medieval buildings may have been associated with an ecclesiastical hospital (Downs Benefice, 2020).



Figure 2: St Catherine's Church, Littleton (2020).

The shape of present-day Littleton originated with the Inclosure Act (1843), which brought together a consolidation of plots of land shared over open fields into more compact blocks surrounded by hedges, fences and gates for more effective farming. By 1870 three major farms had emerged: Littleton Farm, Woodridge Farm and Harestock Farm (Holman, 1993). In 1844 the Flowerdown Barrows area was made over to the village inhabitants for recreational purposes. The Flowerdown Barrows area was not suitable for sport, and the villagers used other fields. In 1922, the villagers raised enough money to purchase six acres of fields to create a Cricket Ground. In 1926 a Memorial Hall was opened in the Recreation Ground to commemorate the five residents killed in the Great War. Later

development included areas for tennis and football. In 1978 the Parish Council was able to rent six acres of Defence land for football fields. In 1986, the Parish Council was able to purchase this land and two other attached areas from the MoD. This created the present 6.5 ha (16 acre) Littleton Recreation Ground (Hooker, 1993). In 1999, the modern Millennium Memorial Hall was built in the Recreation ground, and the historic wooden Memorial Hall nearby was demolished.



Figure 3: Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall (2020).

Most of Littleton's residential growth took place in the 20th century, with new development south of the Running Horse Public House. The principal landowners subdivided their property into long parcels of land facing the existing roads. Sales of many small building plots commenced in 1907, resulting in numerous varied and individual developments. Many of these lots were initially smallholdings, market gardens and nurseries, which led to a relatively low-density rural appearance (Hooker, 2016). After World War 1, there was increasing housing development along Main Road, and plots were subsequently further subdivided, giving rise to development behind the Main Road properties. This process of subdivision has continued to the present day.

Littleton has long been associated with equestrian activity. The proximity of the old racecourses of Worthy Down, Flowerdown and Stockbridge was probably the reason for the stables being located here during the mid-19th century. The first racing stables were established at the Red House, although racehorses had been kept at Sidney House (now Hillside House) during an earlier period. The studs and stables created a patchwork of small enclosed fields to the north and west, which continues to contribute to the rural feel of the village.

In 1918, the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) established a school for Wireless Operators on the downland the Second World War, under the control of the Page 30 ridge at the southeast end of Littleton. During

Royal Navy (HMS Flowerdown), the site was used as a signal interception 'Y Station' which provided material for the code breakers at Bletchley Park. Remnants of ariel foundations can still be seen in the Littleton Recreation Ground. In 1956, the Flowerdown site was taken over by GCHQ for Government use, but the establishment was closed in the 1970s (Middleton, 2020).

In 1986, the MoD constructed Sir John Moore Barracks at Flowerdown, which has been an Army Training site and a significant part of Littleton to the present day. The MoD Flowerdown estate has been substantially enhanced with trees and natural landscaping, which contribute to the southern and eastern rural views from the village.



Figure 4: Sir John Moore Barracks (2020) East Gate Entrance. MoD Flowerdown is a major contributor to Littleton's green infrastructure.

Over the past 100 years, the settlement of Littleton has grown considerably. Littleton today is a thriving village, and its inhabitants are aware of its historic roots and are eager to retain its distinct identity as a village settlement.

## 4 LANDSCAPE PATTERN

Littleton village lies about 3 km to the northwest of Winchester on a dominant east-west chalk ridge (Sparsholt to Littleton), which is a continuation of the main South Downs chalk landscape.

The Littleton area has an undulating nature based on its underlying well-drained chalk geology; therefore, there is little standing water or running streams in dry conditions.



Figure 5: Northern view of Littleton's undulating downland landscape.

Littleton is situated approximately 60-100 metres above sea level in a landscape of spurs and mini escarpments, where finger valleys fall eastwards to the Itchen Valley. The River Itchen is about 4 kilometres to the east and is around 40 metres lower than Littleton village. The undulating chalk downland landscape can offer far-reaching views in and out of the village, but also screens pockets of Littleton village from view.

Along with the settlements of Sparsholt, Crawley, Headbourne Worthy, Kings Worthy and Abbots Worthy, Littleton is one of the villages which make up the rural spatial setting of northern Winchester.

LVDS Map 2 shows how Littleton is encircled on three sides by a rural landscape of open or wooded spaces, fields mainly set aside for arable farming, equestrian paddocks and pastures, mature trees, small woodlands, and hedgerows which carry on into the settlement.

#### **LPP Notes: Rural Areas**

See the short explanation of Spatial Strategy Policy MTR4 (Section 1) for land outside the Littleton settlement.

## **5 SETTLEMENT PATTERN**

## 5.1 Littleton Village Conservation Area

The Littleton Conservation Area is the original hamlet of Littleton centred on the Church and Manor House. This part of the village has architectural merit, has remained physically distinct and retains much of its historic character.

The northern part of Littleton contains several buildings which are listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as being of special architectural or historical interest, together with various 20th-century infill or replacement houses.

The locations and descriptions of the historic buildings are described in the Section: Littleton Characteristics and Features.

The Littleton Conservation Area Boundary is shown on Maps 2 and 3. The undeveloped space between the northern Littleton Conservation Area and the southern 20th-century settlement is shown on LVDS Map 3.

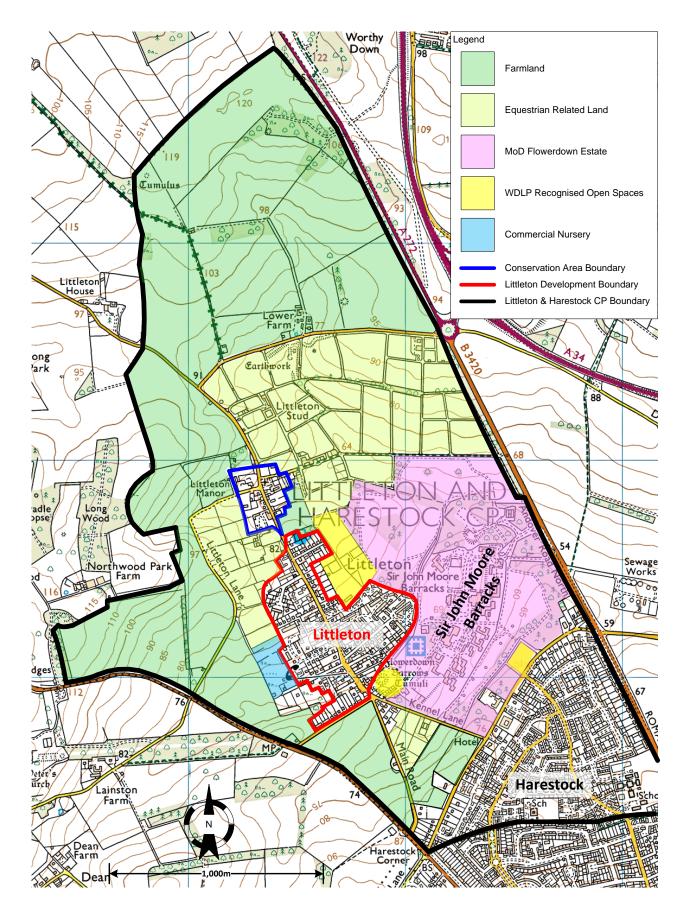


Figure 6: View south: Main Road, Conservation Area (2020).

## LPP Notes: Littleton Village Conservation Area

The Littleton Conservation Area is identified in WDLP Part 2 Development Management Map 24 (2017) and is subject to strict Heritage and Landscape Character Policies. WDLP Development Management Policies DM26 (Development in Conservation Areas) and DM27 (Demolition in Conservation Areas) apply.

The rural landscape which surrounds the Conservation Area is subject to WDLP Policy MTRA4.



Map 2: Overall Littleton Landscape and Settlement Pattern.

(Note: This map is diagrammatic only)
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# 5.2 Littleton Village (20th Century Settlement)

The main part of the linear settlement of Littleton is mostly 20<sup>th</sup> century in origin and established along Main Road with backfilling to the east and west. This part of the village starts at the Running Horse PH and runs southwards down Main Road to the road junction at Kennel Lane. Most Littleton residents live in this southern part of the village.

The **Littleton Village Development Boundary** is shown on LVDS Map 3.

#### LPP Notes: Littleton (20th Century Settlement)

The main southern part of Littleton is identified in LPP Part 1 Spatial Strategy Policy (2013) as a settlement covered by Policies MTRA 3 and DM 1., where within defined boundaries, development and re-development opportunities should be supported.

The defined Littleton (South) Development Boundary is identified in LPP Part 2 Development Management (2017), Map 24. Outside of this area, MTRA4 countryside policies will apply.



Figure 7: View south along Main Road, Littleton 20th-century settlement, Note the historic earth banks.

## 5.3 The Littleton Gap (LVDS Map 1)

The main settlement gap (the Littleton Gap) separates the Littleton settlement from the higher-density urban development of Harestock, which is part of St Barnabas Ward, Winchester. The principle is that the land in the 'gap' will not be developed further.

#### LPP Notes: The Littleton Gap

The Littleton Gap is formed from parcels of land and registered under WDLP Part 1 Spatial Strategy Policy (2013), Policy CP18 and the boundary is shown on WDLP Part 2 Development Management (2017), Map 24. The defined Littleton Gap is shown on LVDS Map 1.

## 5.4 MoD Flowerdown Estate (LVDS Map 2)

About one third of the MoD Flowerdown estate is the built Sir John Moore Barracks (brownfield area).

The remainder of the MoD Flowerdown estate consists of areas of grassland, scrub and deciduous mixed woodland. The MoD Flowerdown Estate is due for development and is shown on LVDS Maps 2 & 4.

## LPP Notes: MoD Flowerdown Estate & Sir John Moore Barracks

WDLP Part 2 Development Management (2017), Map 24 shows the MoD Flowerdown Estate but was not identified specifically.

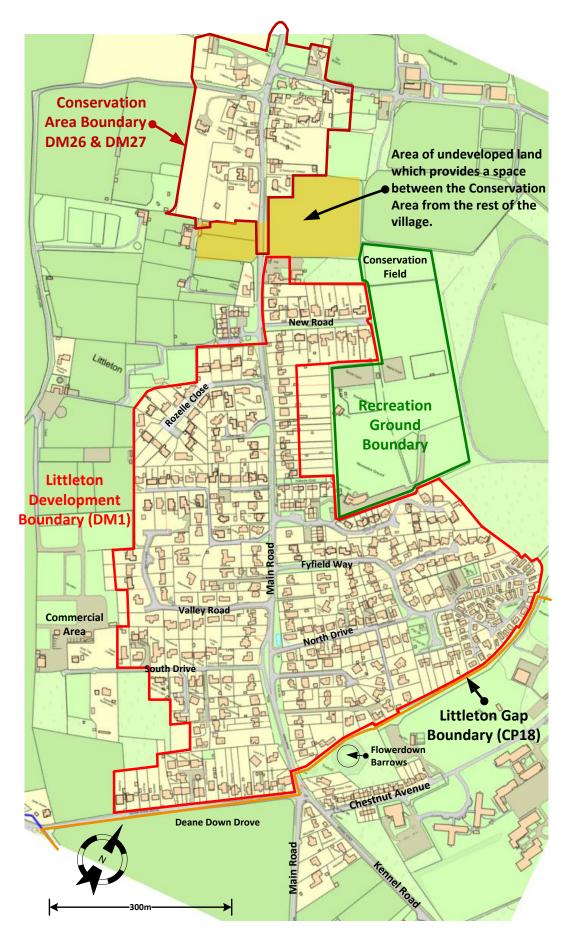
The northern part of the MoD Flowerdown Estate is covered by WDLP MTRA4 Policy, and the southern part of the Estate is shown as belonging to the Settlement Gap (Littleton Gap) and is subject to LPP CP18.

## 5.5 **Littleton Open Spaces**

Recreation Ground. The Recreation Ground is an identified open space (6.5 ha) owned and maintained by the Littleton and Harestock Parish Council. The Littleton Recreation Ground was created with Parish Council land purchases in 1922 and 1988. The area of the Littleton Recreation Ground is shown on LVDS Map 4. There are three football fields, six tennis courts, a separate Cricket pitch, and green enclosed spaces for Bowling and Croquet. The Village Hall (Millennium Memorial Hall), good parking facilities and a Sports Pavilion are in the Recreation Ground.



Figure 8: Littleton Recreation Ground West Side (2020).



Map 3: Littleton Village Boundaries and WDLP Policies. (Reference WDLP Part 2 Policies Map 24 (Policies MTRA 3 &4, CP18, DM1, DM26 & DM27) © Crown copyright and database rights (2020) OS (100062348)

Playground Equipment. There is an equipped Children's Play Area which contains a range of equipment maintained by the Parish Council for all preschool and primary age children (swings, slides, climbing equipment, zip wire, and static equipment).



Figure 9: Littleton Playground (2020).

**Teenage Play and Adult Equipment**. There are areas for adult exercise (outdoor gym) and teenagers' activities (Parkour climbing frame, netball court and outdoor table tennis).

Littleton Conservation Field. The Parish Council owns the Littleton Conservation Field. The development of the Conservation Field commenced in 1993 with the participation of residents, school children, teachers and conservation volunteers. The area has been left in its natural state and is relatively biodiverse. There are mown walkway areas, and volunteers maintain the area.

#### **Littleton Village Pond.**



Figure 10: Littleton Village Pond Area (2020).

This open space is a small LHPC managed garden surrounding the village pond. The Parish Council maintains it as an attractive village feature which masks its functional purpose as a balancing pond which is part of the road drainage soakaway system. The village pond, a concrete-lined sump, is a source of water for wildlife, although occasional aggressive cleaning prevents it from developing a stable ecosystem.

Flowerdown Barrows. The tumulus area is a scheduled monument which has been owned by the Parish since the Inclosure Act (1843). English Heritage supervises the monument. Flowerdown Barrows is a public right of way, and residents use the field as a recreational space.



Figure 11: Flowerdown Barrows (2020).

Harestock Road Football Field. The Football Field is part of the MoD Flowerdown Estate and has been leased by LHPC for the period 2020-23. The field is used for football training and is open to the general public for recreational activities. There are no toilet facilities which limit its use.

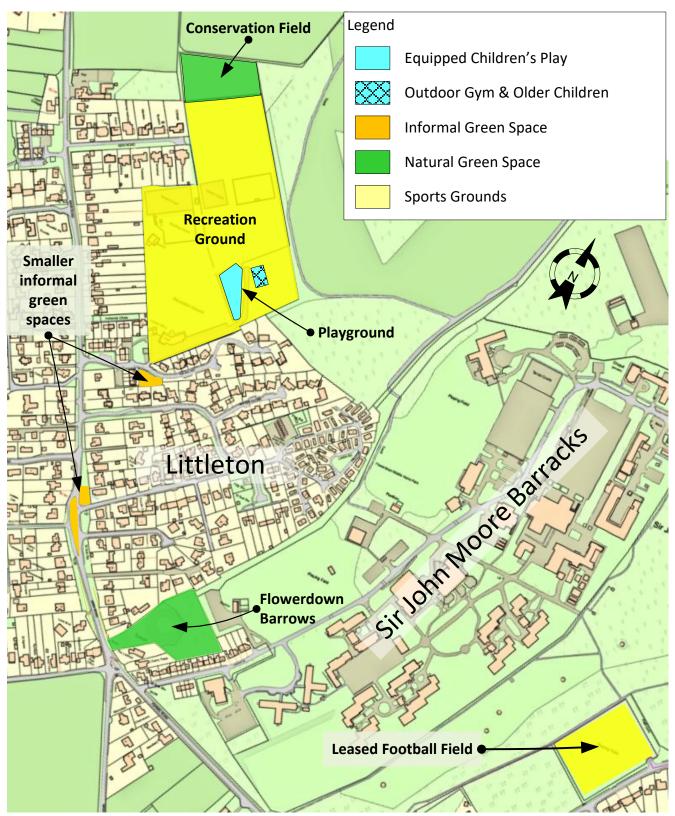
#### LPP Notes: Open Spaces

(Open Space Strategy September 2017).

The Parish Council considers Flowerdown Barrows as a natural open space (and an enclosed public right of way) and has been included in the open space return to WCC (July 2020).

The western boundary of the Littleton Recreation Ground is shown (but not identified specifically) on WDLP Part 2 Development Management (2017), Map 24. The Recreation Ground is subject to LPP CP7 & MTRA4.

The rented Harestock Road Football Field is an open space as part of the WDLP listing for Harestock, however, it is not located in the WDLP Harestock Settlement Boundary. The Harestock Road Football Field is surrounded by woodland and located in the defined Littleton Gap.



Map 4: Littleton Village Open Spaces. (Reference WDLP Part 2 Open Space Strategy) © Crown copyright and database rights (2020) OS (100062348)

# **OPEN SPACE EXAMPLES**



Figure 12: Natural Green Space: Littleton Conservation Field.



Figure 13: Informal Green Space: small defined open space, Hall Way, Littleton.



Figure 14: Sports Ground: Harestock Road Football Field (2020) (Rented from the MoD)

# 5.6 Littleton Village Distinctive Features and Views.

Distinctive features and views within and around the village are shown in Table 2 and Table 3 and are specifically located in Map 5 and Map 6. They should be conserved, maintained and enhanced to support the feeling of space and preserve the individual nature of the village and not visually or physically diminished by development.

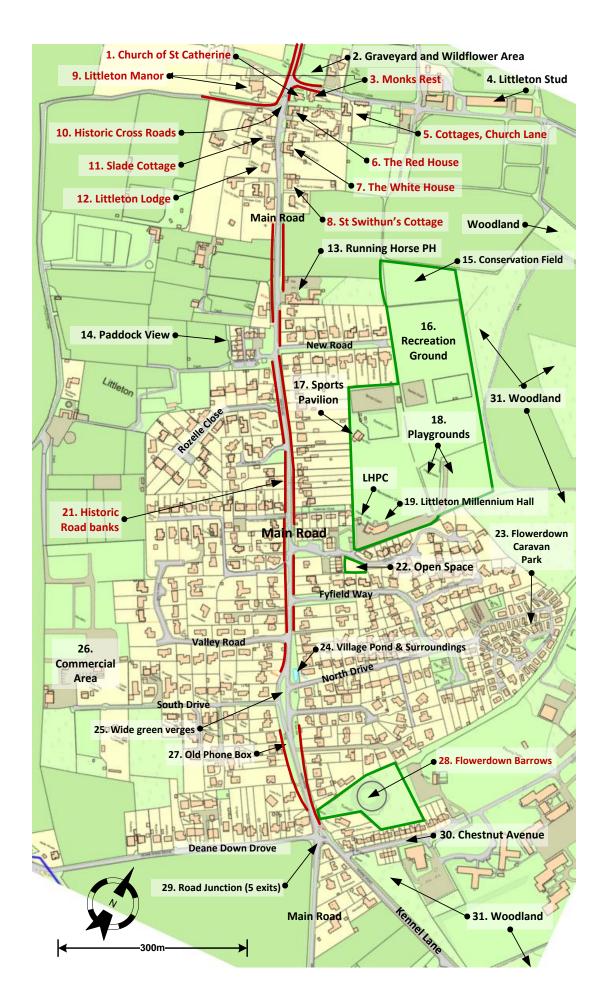
Table 2: Main characteristics and features of Littleton village (\* Listed)

		and features of Littleton village (* Listed)
Id	Feature	Description of Littleton Village feature
1	Church of St Catherine*.	Small country Saxon-style church. Constructed in flint with stone dressings. Heavily restored 1885-97.
2	Graveyard & Wildflower Meadow.	Graveyard extension opposite the Church with two Commonwealth War Graves.
3	Monks Rest*.	15th-century timber framed house and probably the house or hospital of St Mary Magdalene. Former priests' house and school. House for sick monks from St. Swithun's priory in Winchester. Village School 1871-1909 and 1918-1921 (Davis, 1994).
4	Littleton Stud, 4B.  Masons Stud and 4C.  Winchester Stables	Equestrian Facilities.
5	Cottages	Thatched cottages.
6	Red House*.	Victorian Villa & 15th-century stables.
7	The White House*.	15th or 16th century three-bay timber-framed open hall house with smoke bay. Encased with brick and extended in the 19th and 20th centuries. Distinctive walls, gates and railings face onto Main Rd. Probable yeoman's dwelling house.
8	St. Swithun's Cottage*.	17th-century cottage and example of a thatched hall house.
9	Littleton Manor*.	15th-century three-bay hall house, timber framed with arch-brace roof. Altered in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.
10	Historic Crossroads.	The oldest part of the village. – shown on the earliest maps. (marked as red lines)
11	Slade Cottage*.	16th-century timber framed thatched cottage with added 18th-century bay.
12	Littleton Lodge*.	Early 19th-century house of rendered brick with a slate roof. Distinctive walls, gates and railings face onto Main Rd.
13	Running Horse PH	The current Public House replaces an earlier Public House in the old village, which was licensed c1881.  To the rear of the Public House, there is a small woodland with paths, which abuts the Recreation Ground.
14	Paddock View.	Twelve modern homes were built by the Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing (HARAH) in 2009 and funded by the Homes and Communities Agency.
15	Conservation Field	Hedged field (0.7ha) in the Recreation Ground. Limited mowing with downland style grass growth & wildflowers planted. Small clumps of trees hide some military aerial foundations. Left to natural plant growth.
16	Littleton Recreation Ground	The Recreation Ground and its large car park are owned by LHPC. This is a major village resource which is open to the public. In 1926, 6 acres of elevated hedged land were purchased by the Parish Council with fine rural views to the north and east. Extended in 1978 with 6 acres of land rented from the MoD. In 1986 the rented land (6 acres) plus 2 additional acres were purchased from the MoD. Current size 16 areas (6.4 ha). Facilities: bowls, cricket, croquet, football, playground, adult fitness equipment, netball mini-pitch, parkour frame, conservation area, parking and village Millennium Memorial Hall.
17	Littleton Sports Pavilion.	The Sports Pavilion (1972) is owned by the LPHPC and used by the Sports Clubs.
18	Playgrounds and Adult Fitness Area	Maintained by LHPC. Children's Playground. Outdoor Gym, Table Tennis, Netball and Parkour Frame.
19	Millennium Memorial Hall	The Village Hall is located in Littleton Recreation Ground (1999).
20	Littleton & Harestock Parish Council Office.	Repurposed building part of the 1920s Littleton Memorial Hall (demolished 1999). Used as a small Post Office (Closed 2008). Now Littleton & Harestock Parish Council Office.
21	Historic Road Banks	Main Road is an ancient route from Winchester to villages further north. The high grassy banks date from medieval times or earlier and result from farm animals and wagons being driven along the earth road, gradually deepening the tracks. Due to erosion and 20th-century housing development, these banks are now not as high as they were.
22	Hall Way Open Space.	Small open space in front of a housing development.
23	Flowerdown Caravan Park	A residential area of 52 mobile homes.
24	Village Pond and Surrounding Green Space	See Open Spaces above.
25	Wide Green Road Verges	Wide road verges make a significant contribution to the rural feel of the village.
26	Commercial Area	Small area currently in commercial use.
27	Red Telephone Box. (K6 Jubilee style)	Repurposed as a mini library and village book exchange.
28	Flowerdown Barrows.	A Scheduled Monument (Number 1012690, designated 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar 1949). The area contains well-preserved Bronze Age burial mounds constructed 4,000 years ago. Passed to Parish ownership in 1843 and is now supervised by English Heritage. This area is an enclosed public right of way.
29	Main Road/Kennel Lane Road Junction	A five-way junction in a village setting. This junction is discussed below under Transport and Traffic.
		Page 38

30	30		Early 20th-century houses along the original access route into MoD Flowerdown. Chestnut Avenue is discussed further below under Transport and Traffic.
	31	MoD Woodland	Developed woodland in the MoD Flowerdown makes a significant contribution to the rural feel of the village.

# Table 3: Littleton Village Views

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Id	View Location	Description of view		
1	Conservation Area	The view southwards on Main Road as seen on entering the Conservation Area.		
2	Conservation Area	The view, southwards from Church Lane and Main Road, towards the ridge that screens the 20th-century settlement.		
3	Conservation Area	The views from the public footpath to Andover Road (entrance in Church Lane) up the hill towards Littleton, the Recreation Field and Running Horse Public House.		
4	20th Century Settlement	The view northwards on Main Road from the pond area.		
5	20th Century Settlement	The view to the south on Main Road from the pond area.		
6	20th Century Settlement	View from the Hall Way looking north.		
7	20th Century Settlement	View from the Hall Way looking south.		
8	20th Century Settlement	View from the Recreation Ground looking towards the Sir John Moore Barracks.		
9	LVDS Boundary	From Three Maids Bungalow southwest towards the settlement.		
10	LVDS Boundary	View south southeast from Littleton Lane towards the settlement.		



Map 5: Littleton Village Characteristic Features. (See Table 2 for brief explanations.



Map 6: Littleton Village Views.
(See Table 3 for brief explanations.
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View 1: The view southwards on Main Road as seen on entering the Conservation Area.



View 4: The view northwards on Main Road from the pond area.



View 2: The view, southwards from Church Lane and Main Road, towards the ridge that screens the 20th-century settlement.



View 5: The view to the south on Main Road from the pond area.



View 3: The view from the public footpath to Andover Road (entrance in Church Lane) up the hill towards Littleton, the Recreation Field and Running Horse Public House



View 6: View from the Hall Way looking north.



View 7: View from the Hall Way looking south.



View 8: View from the Recreation Ground looking towards the Sir John Moore Barracks.



View 9: View south southeast from Littleton Lane towards the settlement.



View 10: From Three Maids Bungalow southwest towards the settlement.

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# PLANNING GUIDANCE: LANDSCAPE AND SETTLEMENT PATTERN

#### LITTLETON LANDSCAPE

#### A1. Landscape (Distinctive Features and Views).

Important public views within the parish (as shown on LVDS Map 6) should be protected and not obstructed by new development, extensions or changes to existing properties. Conversely, views of new or adapted buildings should not detract from the existing character and unobtrusive appearance of the village when viewed from the open countryside.

New developments should be landscaped to respect the rural character of the Littleton Area. This may involve adding new landscape features or retaining existing ones (particularly historic features) as well as providing new open spaces. Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments will be required as part of major development proposals which are situated within these views. The area of open land and woodland around the MoD Flowerdown Estate to the north and west of the Sir John Moore Barracks buildings (as shown on LVDS Map 2) is of important landscape value. It separates the barracks site from Littleton and protects the setting of Littleton in long views from Andover Road and from the footpath from Church Lane to Andover Road.

(Supplements LPP DM6 Open Space Provision for New Developments, CP20 Heritage and landscape character and DM15 Local Distinctiveness)

## LITTLETON SETTLEMENT

#### A2. Settlement (Conformity).

Development or re-development should conserve the existing varied pattern of the village and reflect the height, curtilage sizes and character of the locality with individual properties varying in size and designed to avoid the appearance of repetitive units and positioned to enhance visual variety in the landscape. Preservation of the 'Street Scene' is encouraged.

(Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness.)

# A3. Settlement (Development Integration).

Any new multi-house development (private, social, or affordable housing) is to be carefully and appropriately integrated within the village areas to maintain the overall existing character of the Littleton area.

(Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness.)

# A4. Settlement (Development Density).

Any new multi-house development should consider density and plot sizes from the perspective of a village rural environment. Development should not appear disproportionate to the plot size relative to neighbouring properties.

(Supplements LPP DM17 Site Development Principles.)

## A5. New Housing (Affordable).

Development of affordable/social housing (especially where it would not normally be permitted) should be indiscernible from other private housing and integrated into the village. The aim is to conserve the village setting and reflect the curtilage sizes and character of other properties in the area. It is critical that units should match a semi-rural environment and avoid repetition.

(Supplements LPP DM1 Location of New Development, DM2 Dwelling Sizes, DM3 Small Dwellings in the Countryside.)

## A6. Settlement (Community Assets).

St Catherine's Church, and the Running Horse Public House and their respective facilities and car parks are examples of important assets in the village. Any proposal or development which would result in the loss of important assets and associated services should not be permitted.

(Supplements LPP CP7 Open Space, Sport and Recreation, DM29 Heritage Assets, DM30 Change of use of Listed Buildings, DM31 Locally Listed Heritage Assets and DM32 Undesignated Rural Heritage Assets.)

LPP CP6 Local Services and Facilities applies if protecting facilities and services.)

## A7. Settlement (Small scale, non-residential).

Small scale commercial, business or recreational use is encouraged to provide work and facilities close to where people live. Development should take account of important distinctive village features identified and scheduled in this VDS including important landscape and settlement characteristics. Applications should demonstrate that they will not be detrimental to the amenities, operation, use or enjoyment of nearby properties particularly with noise pollution, light pollution, hours of operation and traffic generation prior to planning permission being granted. (Supplements LPP CP8 Economic Growth and Diversification, MTRA3 Other Settlements in the Market Towns and Rural Area, and MTRA 4 Development in the Countryside.)

# A8. Settlement (Multiple Occupancy).

Multiple occupancy of properties within the Littleton area is discouraged, particularly if it leads to excessive parking requirements, loss of garden spaces and pedestrian hazards.

(Supplements LPP DP15.)

## **SETTLEMENT GAPS**

# A9. Settlement Gap (the Littleton Gap).

Any proposed development which physically or visually diminishes the **WDLP defined Littleton Gap** will not be supported.

(Supplements LPP CP18 Settlement Gaps.)

## A10. Settlement Gaps (Between the Conservation Area & 20th Century Littleton Settlement).

The landscape setting of the Conservation Area separated from the 20th century settlement by open green slopes leading up to woodland and shown on Map 3 is important since it retains the integrity of the medieval valley settlement in the landscape. Development which would damage this setting should be resisted.

(Supplements LPP CP20 Heritage and Landscape Character.)

#### **OPEN SPACES**

## A11. Open Spaces (Utility).

Development should always take account of the requirement for open space, sport and recreation. This should include mobile recreations such as cycling, horse riding and walking. Therefore, only developments which do not impact on the utility of existing open space and provides additional open space to support sport and recreation to at least minimal WDLP standards will be supported.

(Supplements LPP CP6 Local Services and Facilities, and CP7 Open Space, Sport and Recreation.)

#### A12. Open Spaces.

Proposed multi-unit developments should offer well-designed green open spaces for public access and to permit movement through the local settlement. The provision of private and public amenity open space within the new multi-unit developments should be adequate, in terms of character, design, scale and extent and should not be reduced to a scale that harms the character of the local settlement or adversely affects the enjoyment of adjoining properties.

(Supplements LPP CP6 Local Services and Facilities, CP7 Open Space, Sport and Recreation, CP13 High Quality Design, CP14 The Effective Use of Land, and CP15 Green Infrastructure.)

# A13. Open Spaces (Highly valued open spaces).

The important open spaces shown on Map 4 should maintain public access and should not be encroached on by buildings.

(Supplements LPP CP7 Open Space, Sport and Recreation.)

## **CONSERVATION AREA**

#### A14. Conservation Area.

Development should protect conservation areas and listed buildings and in the case of development adjacent to a conservation area, ensure that it would not compromise the character, appearance, and landscape setting of the conservation area.

(Supplements LPP CP20 Heritage and Landscape Character.)

# 6 BUILDING FORM AND DESIGN

# 6.1 Littleton (North): Conservation Area

The medieval part of the village lies in a valley and is designated as a Conservation Area. The important buildings are listed in Table 1 and are shown on LVDS Map 5. Many of these Grade II listed buildings have been altered in previous centuries.



Figure 15: Monks Rest. 15th-century timber framed house Littleton.

There is a wide range of attractive architectural features within the medieval settlement, including brick walls, white lime-wash rendered walls, chimneys, timber framing, use of flint chequerwork and long straw thatched roofs, stone dressings and medieval style roof and ridge tiles. There are examples of doors, windows, roofs, ironwork, hedges, and boundary walls which are important to the external character of the individual buildings in the Conservation Area.



Figure 16: Conservation Area Building (2020).

The Conservation Area is surrounded by open countryside and paddocks to the north and is separated from the 20th-century part of the Littleton settlement to the south by a gap of undeveloped fields and some woodland.

# 6.2 Littleton (South): Modern Settlement

The main part of the village, mostly comprising 20th-century development, runs from the Running Horse Public House southwards down Main Road. This part of the settlement accommodates the majority of the Littleton population. The earliest houses, with a late Edwardian style, were built on plots facing onto Main Road and were constructed using red brick and pitched roofs, often with more complex roof shapes such as hip roofs. There are a few good examples of Edwardian brick detail and pitched gables.



Figure 17: Early 20th-century property, Main Road, Littleton.

Many of these original 20th-century houses have been redeveloped. Further 20th-century backland development on either side of Main Road during different periods used a variety of building styles and finishes popular of their time.



Figure 18: Early 20th-century property, Main Road, Littleton.

Houses in Littleton have tended to be built around cul-de-sacs of varying shapes or alongside roads with no direct access outside of the village.



Figure 19: Cul-de-sac mid-20th century bungalows, Littleton.

Within the Littleton Village Development Boundary, there is little scope for new development on previously undeveloped land. In recent years most developments have been based on renovation, demolition or garden infilling. As a result, there are some fine examples of sensitive and thoughtful small-scale development.



Figure 20: Redeveloped 20th-century property, Main Road, Littleton.



Figure 21: 21st-century garden infill property.

Bungalows are common in Littleton and were constructed between the 1920s and 1970s. Many bungalows have been extended, and some completely rebuilt into substantial properties. The stock of bungalows of varying sizes is vital in

meeting the need for smaller dwellings for young families and older people.

There are many horizontal and vertical extensions to houses and bungalows with dormer and roof windows, generally constructed using the same materials as their parent building. There are a few houses with a full third storey, and this is unusual in Littleton. There are no blocks of flats. There are only a few examples of houses which could be classified as 'modern' and which do not conform to the general style of the village.



Figure 22: 21st century three-storey large modern property.

The general style of the 20th-century developments in Littleton is that buildings are generally discreet and unobtrusive when viewed in their landscape setting. Plot sizes are generally well proportioned with gardens, and many have detached garages. Many houses within the village are set back from the road on building lines defined by covenants to their deeds. Most of the housing is of low density providing enough space for fair-sized gardens, which help to maintain the green and airy feel of the settlement with open spaces between buildings and roads.

Since the 1980s, there have been several grouped developments of well-designed larger houses on smaller plots with reduced gardens. These areas have a more suburban look.



Figure 23: Late 20th-century estate-style houses, Littleton.



Figure 24: Rural affordable housing (2009)

located just outside the village development boundary,

Littleton.

# 6.3 **Development Policies for Littleton**

## **Conservation Area.**

The Conservation area development is regulated and must conform to restrictive development policies.

# LPP Notes: Conservation Area

The Conservation Area is identified on Map 24, of the WDLP Part 2 Development Management (2015). See:

Policy DM26: Development in Conservation Areas. Policy DM27: Demolition in Conservation Areas.

# 20th Century Settlement.

The blend of housing Littleton architectural styles is based on a balanced mix of building forms (fashionable in their day). In general terms, the older the property, the larger the curtilage, and this has led to a mixed housing density. Littleton sits within a green infrastructure which creates a semi-rural environment. In general, buildings are balanced in their context and complemented by many trees, old hedges, brick and flint walling, and historic sunken roadways and banks.

The 20th century architectural features and variety of the dwellings present an overall diverse use of building materials. The use of red brick is very common, along with painted render, pebbledash, hanging tiles, weatherboarding, mock tutor framing and various embellishments.

Paintwork tends to be white or brown, with the occasional use of more fashionable colours.

A notable feature of the southern part of the village is the effective blend of different shades of brickwork, weathered roofing materials set with boundaries of brick and flint walling, wood boundaries, hedges and mature trees.

## LPP Notes: 21st century development

It is expected that all future development proposals (inside or outside the current Littleton Village Development Boundary) must conform to the standards defined under 'High Quality Environment' in the Local Plan and subject to the local Planning Guidance Statements in this supplementary planning document.

# PLANNING GUIDANCE: BUILDING FORM AND DESIGN

# **GENERAL GUIDANCE**

#### B1. Development Scale.

When considering new development of any size (particularly building in existing gardens), the development area should be protected from **over-development** and **insensitive** or **inappropriate infilling**. The scale of new development should respect Littleton's rural environment, and maintain reasonable levels of privacy, open spaces and amenities for all residents.

(Supplements LPP CP14 The Effective Use of Land.)

## B2. Local Distinctiveness.

High quality design is to be encouraged and concepts (new styles or traditional) for new buildings should be of a scale, mass, form and height appropriate to the size of the plot in the context of neighbouring buildings including the rural landscape setting of Littleton. New buildings should not have an unacceptable adverse impact on adjoining land, uses or enjoyment of existing properties, reduce important public views or harm the character of the area.

(Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness, DM16 Site Design Criteria and DM17 Site Development Principles.)

## B3. Incremental Development.

Construction of substantially larger buildings to replace existing buildings which are demolished should be avoided where it would be more visually intrusive or out of scale and character with its setting and surroundings. (Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness and DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### **B4.** Building Extensions.

Extensions to existing homes should be in sympathy and visually subservient to the existing property and be compatible with the shape, scale and character of the main property. Proposals for extensions, garages, driveways, doors, windows, dormers, roof windows, re-roofing, renewable energy installations, conservatories, garden rooms and porches should have regard to those already present in the vicinity; extensions should not create a negative impact on the village character or be an imposition on neighbouring properties.

(Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness and DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B5. Roofs.

Roof pitches should not vary markedly from those in the vicinity and should be made from materials that are sympathetic or distinctive of the area with traditional decorations or occasional use of slate. Roof sizes should not appear to dominate the development or the surrounding buildings.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

## **B6.** Roof Lines and Windows.

The 20th century settlement buildings are mostly one or two storeys in height and there are a few 3 storey buildings, but most taller buildings are 2.5 storey (as built or roof extensions) mostly with dormer or flat roof windows. New developments should conform to this 1, 2 or maximum 2.5 storey style. New roof lines should not be higher than those of the adjacent properties (Note: in Littleton care must be taken with lowering property heights by trenching into hillsides as there may be groundwater risks).

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B7. Privacy of Neighbours.

New development will not normally be permitted which does not respect the neighbours' privacy or creates overlooking between properties that is detrimental to the private use and amenity space of a neighbours' gardens and surrounding areas.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

## B8. Boundaries.

New boundaries between properties should be created by hedges planted with indigenous species or appropriate timber fencing, sympathetic with the environment and location in which it is sited. Brick/block boundary walls and more urban features are discouraged.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B9. Walls.

Whilst there is a variety of building materials in existence, extremes of colouration in brick, tile hanging, and rendering should be avoided.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B10. Dormers.

The use of dormers should be encouraged in the Littleton rural landscape where these can reduce the impact of increasing roof areas.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B11. Flat Roofs.

The use of flat roofs should be avoided in the Littleton rural landscape.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B12. Garages & Carports.

Where a new garage or carport is required, it should, wherever possible, be sited so as not to dominate and/or intrude greatly on the main property or beyond the obvious building line of nearby properties.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B13. Porches.

Porches should be in proportion to the over-all building frontage and reflect the style of its parent building. The angle and pitch of any new porch roof should echo those of a dormer or gable ends of the same or neighbouring property.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

## B14. Windows and Doors.

New and replacement windows and doors should be chosen to harmonise with the house style and surrounding houses. Replacement windows should present an appearance similar to that replaced in terms of size and frame colour (subject to Building Regulations). All windows in a dwelling should be compatible in terms of colour and finish with the palette used in neighbouring buildings. Conversely a multi-property development should not use colours and finishes which make its older neighbours look out of place in the settlement.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B15. Plastic & Timber Cladding.

The use of plastic cladding is to be avoided where possible except in context or where it provides a maintenance free, wood textured, and colour matched cladding appropriate to the local building style. Cladding to existing brick faced buildings should only be used where it will enhance and improve the character of the building and the area in which it is used and should not be detrimental to the immediate surrounding properties and street scene. (Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

## B16. Refuse Storage.

New developments should normally have sufficient enclosed and adequate storage for household waste. The arrangements for refuse storage are to be shown in planning applications.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

## B17. External Lighting.

Security lights and other forms of external lighting should be restrained as to colour, wattage, and position. Lights should not be directed towards other properties or triggered by passing pedestrians or vehicular traffic on the highway.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B18. Infrastructure.

New power and telephone cables should be located underground where possible and existing overhead installations relocated underground when the opportunity arises.

(Supplements LPP DM22 Telecommunications, Services, and Utilities.)

#### **CONSERVATION AREA**

#### B19. Development, Repair and Maintenance.

Any development and repair work in the Conservation Area should be carefully designed to a high standard and integrated to **conserve or enhance** existing features, views and character. Where appropriate, local traditional methods and materials should be used.

(Supplements LPP DM27 Development in Conservation Areas, DM28 Demolition in Conservation Areas and DM30 Change of Use of Listed Buildings.)

#### **B20.** Replacement Doors and Windows.

The style and materials used for replacement doors and windows should where possible match the original previous materials and style.

(Supplements LPP DM27 Development in Conservation Areas, DM28 Demolition in Conservation Areas.)

# 7 ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

Littleton village is set between two historic routes north out of Winchester, which are, to the east the Andover Road, a Roman Road (B3420), and to the west the Stockbridge Road (B3049). Littleton is a linear village built along one single through road (Main Road) running north-south with many unconnected side roads which mostly provide no exit from the village.

# 7.1 Characteristics of local roads

Main Road is the singular route through Littleton and is an ancient route from Winchester to villages further north. One of the interesting features of this road is the high grassy banks through the village (see LVDS Map 5). Church Lane and Littleton Lane are the oldest spurs from Main Road and are included in 18th-century maps. Other roads (Kennel Lane, Harestock Road, Deane Down Drove and Lower Farm Lane) date from the 19th century.

The 20th-century settlement has grown in an economical manner, with minimum space being used for wide over-engineered roads. Several existing small side roads are un-surfaced, which adds to the rural nature of the village. Overall, much of Littleton was designed before the current volume of motor vehicle use, and this has resulted in pedestrian safety risks.

The narrow widths and geometry of many of the village roads mean the verges, kerbs and carriageways are regularly damaged by vehicle movements.

## 7.2 Traffic Management

Residents are becoming concerned with the apparent increase in traffic volumes and vehicle sizes using the village roads and junctions between the A34 and Stockbridge Roads. Large commercial vehicles now appear to be using the village roads as shortcuts to and from the A34 to pass around to the north of Winchester.

An emerging problem is the use of Deane Down Drove as a shortcut by Heavy Good Vehicles (HGVs) from Main Road to Stockbridge Road. This may be caused by HGVs using Satnav directions.

Traffic is likely to increase through the village as the major development of Kings Barton is completed and with the associated planned closure of the Andover Road (B3420). If there are problems with traffic flow on the Andover Road (B3420), then Hampshire Highways have been known to reroute traffic through Littleton. An example of this was in 2014 when the B3420 was flooded and the traffic was re-routed through Littleton, which was also flooded.

Main Road is a minor road of limited width in places, and over most of its length, it is subject to a 30-mph speed limit. Given the undulating nature of the road, many drivers appear to be unable to keep within the speed limit. Residents are becoming concerned about the speed of vehicles. LHPC participates in a peripatetic scheme of mobile traffic speed measuring signs.

In 2005, a temporary traffic calming system was installed along Main Road. After public consultation, the chicanes were found to be unpopular and were removed. It is regrettable that the safety statistics collected by HCC still do not warrant buildouts or further traffic calming measures.

# 7.3 Parking

There are no general-purpose WCC or private parking areas in Littleton. In Littleton, vehicles either park on:

- Private land and driveways.
- Main Road and other minor roads, which can cause obstructions and loss of lines of sight.
- Pavements (increasingly prevalent) despite it being illegal to park vehicles on the footpath.
- Limited undefined spaces formed at road edges, e.g. opposite the Church.
- The areas of organised off-road parking in common use are:

St Catherine's Church Car Park. The Running Horse PH Car Park. Recreation Ground Car Park.

The entrance to the Hall Way from Main Road, which is also the approach to the Recreation Ground, is a particular problem area. There is insufficient parking for residents. Despite a series of white lines, there is parking congestion, with many vehicles of different forms (daily peak 60+

vehicles per hour) using the road to access the Recreation Ground.



Figure 25: Parking Problems, Hall Way, Littleton (2020).

# 7.4 Public Rights of Way (HCC, 2008).

There is no network of interconnecting footpaths, bridleways, or cycleways within the settlement of Littleton or connecting it to the open countryside. There are four defined public rights of way in the Littleton Parish.

- Byway (Path No. 2). (OS Grid SU451335 to SU448342). Stud Lane north to the Parish boundary, (850m).
- Footpath (Path No. 501). (OS Grid SU455330 to SU457330). Church Lane east of St.
   Catherine's Church to Footpath 3, (210m).
- Footpath (Path No. 3). (OS Grid SU457330 to SU464330) connects to Footpath 501 to Andover Road at the Old Dairy (750m).
- Flowerdown Barrows. Flowerdown Barrows is a public Right of Way.

There is no footpath connecting the medieval settlement and the modern settlement. The only access is along Main Road, walking on the highway from the Running Horse PH down the hill to St Catherine's Church. This part of Main Road is narrow and is a hazard for pedestrians.

There are three significant equestrian establishments in the village, but no particular provision for them to exercise on the highway or gain access to the countryside safely by horseback.

# 7.5 Street furniture, utilities and services

The design, state of maintenance and variety of signs varies considerably and reflect the period in which they were erected. The older cast iron fingerposts, such as those on the triangle between Kennel Lane and Main Road, are considered of more architectural interest than the later functional signs.

overhead wires resulting in a rather unsightly appearance. Recent housing developments have underground service connections, which should be encouraged in future developments. It is considered appropriate to reduce the size, impact and regularity of modern traffic signs wherever possible, as long as the safety of road users is not compromised in any way.

In 1994, LHPC and HCC agreed that in Littleton (north of Harestock Road), there would be no street lighting on Main Road and no new lighting in housing developments off Main Road.

Therefore, with the exception of Valley Road, there is no street lighting, and this is considered an important aspect of maintaining the rural nature of the village (HCC/LHPC, 1994).

# 7.6 Cycling and equestrian access

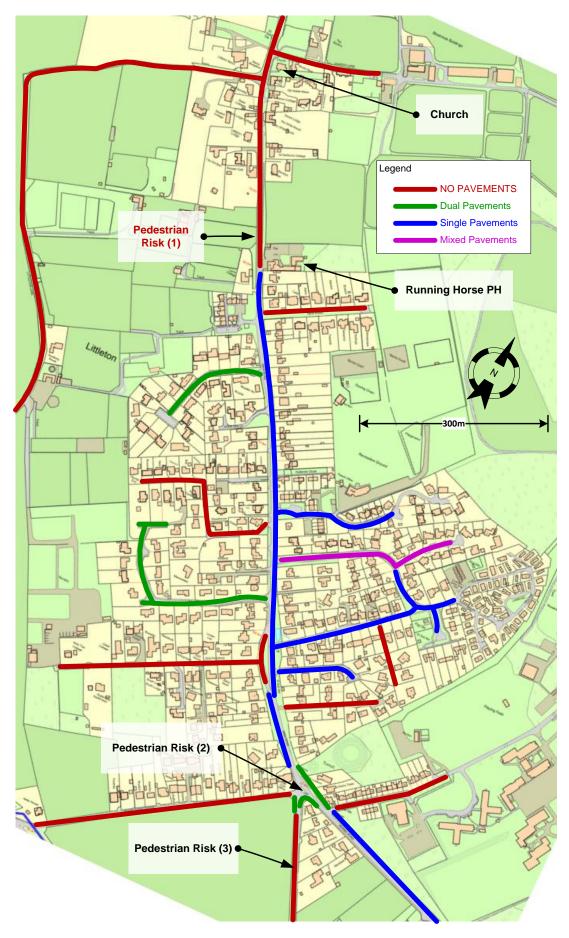
There are no designated cycle or equestrian routes in the Littleton Parish apart from the limited designated public rights of way. All cycle and equestrian users must proceed via Main Road to transit the village.

# 7.7 Pavements

The provision of pedestrian walkways is shown on LVDS Map 6. There are no pavements in the northern conservation area. In the other parts of the village, there are a limited number of dual pavements on either side of the road. There is only a single pavement along Main Road from the Running Horse PH to Flowerdown Barrows, through the heart of the village, broken by lowered kerbs and road entrances. Several roads off Main Road in the southern area have no pavements.

The side roads off Main Road, where most residents live, are generally narrow and can be without footways. There is almost no street lighting. These features help provide a semi-rural village environment, which residents would wish to maintain but present risks to pedestrians.

The majority of electricity and telecommunications services are routed via may age 52



Map 7: Littleton Pavements, Road Junctions and Main Pedestrian Risk Areas © Crown copyright and database rights (2020) OS (100062348)

## 7.8 Pedestrian Risks

Apart from the general risks to pedestrians using roads without pavements, there are three particular risk areas for pedestrians which must be planning factors in any future large development in the village (See LVDS Map 6).

• Pedestrian Risk Area 1: Running Horse PH north to the Church. The road from the Running Horse narrows and drops downhill. It is a particularly shaded area with high sides. Two vehicles have difficulty passing on opposite sides of the road, and there is no escape space for pedestrians. Pedestrians are not visible clearly, even in daylight. This is a pedestrian danger area and is a major factor in isolating the northern part of the village from the main southern part of Littleton.



Figure 26: Pedestrian Risk Area 1
Main Road north towards the Conservation Area (2020).
Narrow road with poor protection for pedestrians.

 Pedestrian Risk Area 2: The Main Road/Kennel Lane Crossroads. This is a pedestrian danger area because of the change of slope, poor road geometry, poor sight lines and some ambiguity in the perceived rights of way. The positioning of the bus stops requires pedestrians to cross the roads several times to access pavements.



Figure 27: Pedestrian Risk Area 2
Main Road/Kennel Road crossroads (2020).

Pedestrian Risk Area 3: Main Road (South). Main Road from the Kennel Lane crossroads to the Stockbridge Road has no pedestrian walkways, and there are sight line issues for vehicles and pedestrians approaching the Stockbridge Road. Two vehicles on opposite sides of the road must take care when passing, and there is only limited escape space on the verges for pedestrians. In 2014 the Hampshire Highways Agency attempted to provide a gravelled verge along this route. This development failed because the verges were not prepared properly. Therefore, this route remains a pedestrian risk area and is a major factor in preventing pedestrian access to the shops, supermarkets and medical facilities within walking distance at Weeke.



Figure 28: Pedestrian Risk Area 3

Main Road south towards Stockbridge Road (2020). Narrow road with poor protection for pedestrians.

# PLANNING GUIDANCE: ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

#### **CHARACTERISTICS OF LOCAL ROADS**

#### C1. Surfaces.

New roads, driveways and potentially hard-surface areas should not be over engineered and should, where possible, be permeable and sustainable in view of the local flood risk, substrate drainage issues and topography. Water run-off across hard surfaces, which will result in an increase of flood water in any part of the village, should be avoided.

(Supplements LPP CP17 Flooding, Flood Risk and the Water Environment, DM15 Local Distinctiveness, DM18 Access and Parking, DM23 Rural Character.)

## C2. Sight Lines.

Applications for new development accessing directly onto and off Littleton Main Road/Kennel Lane should take into account traffic sight lines in three dimensions. These details are to be submitted in the form of plans and sectional elevations to establish that vehicles can access and exit in forward gear safely prior to planning permission being granted.

(Supplements LPP DM18 Access and Parking.)

#### TRAFFIC

## C3. Traffic Assessment.

The layout and design of new developments should consider the implications on existing traffic movements. When considering new developments, traffic volume, particularly HGV/PSV traffic, should be taken into account. (Supplements LPP DM23 Rural Character.)

# C4. Parking Provision.

All developments should ensure adequate (not minimum) parking for residents and visitors to meet current local authority standards. Developments should also provide enough parking space to remove the need for on-street road or pavement mounted parking by residents/visitors.

(Supplements LPP DM18 Access and Parking.)

# **ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC GENERAL**

#### C5. Street Furniture.

Any street furniture should be in keeping with the general rural nature of the Civil Parish. Where there is a lack of or narrow footways, all street furniture which present pedestrian obstructions should be kept to a minimum. (Supplements LPP DM34 Signage.)

## C6. Lighting.

No highway lighting should be approved or allowed on new or existing roads and developments (LHPC, WCC & HCC, 1994). Security lighting etc. should be restrained and point away from highways. Pedestrian and bollard lighting on new developments may be used in moderation and only where it can be justified. Other lighting proposals requiring planning permission should be considered in relation to this policy and accord with it.

(Supplements LPP DM17 Site Development Principles and DM19 Development and Pollution.)

#### C7. Footpaths/Bridleways.

Existing footpaths and bridleways around the village should be protected, maintained, enhanced, and extended where possible. Larger developments should take opportunities to introduce new connecting footpaths and public rights of way where appropriate.

(Supplements LPP CP10 Transport.)

## C8. Non-motorised Traffic.

Road improvements should consider the needs of non-motorised road users. Opportunities to develop facilities for cyclists, pedestrians and equestrian use are to be encouraged.

(Supplements LPP CP10 Transport.)

# 8 LITTLETON NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

# 8.1 Climate Emergency

In June 2019, WCC declared a Climate Emergency and created a Carbon Neutrality Action Plan for 2020-2030. It is expected that WDLP 2039 (to be adopted in 2024) will contain extensive climate change related policies which will impact this Village Design Statement.

Sustainable Low and Zero Carbon Development Environment. There is little scope within the existing Village Development Boundary for any substantial low or zero-carbon property development, except for replacement or infill property. It is expected that any future development inside or outside the Littleton Development Boundary (if permitted) will be built to the highest extant standards for sustainable homes with low or zero carbon neutrality, high energy performance, contribution to renewable energy supply, sewage management including suitable Carbon/Nitrate/Phosphate reduction offset arrangements as required.

Renewable and decentralised Energy. As a mature settlement, Littleton has a low take up of roof-mounted photovoltaic panels. As part of the village's response to the climate emergency, the adoption of domestic solar panels will be respected, although their installation should avoid any adverse impact on the village's character. Littleton has no solar farms and there are no major wind turbines in sight of the village. Further development of local renewable energy generation must be balanced against the need to conserve the historic building and rural form of the village.

#### 8.2 Littleton Green Infrastructure

Littleton village is surrounded by managed agricultural land, equestrian paddocks, downland fields and woodland which creates its rural setting. The major parts of Littleton's mosaic of green infrastructure are shown on LVDS Map 7. Most houses have gardens, mature trees and hedges, adding to the green and rural feel of the village.

The MoD Flowerdown Estate (not open to the public) contains woodland and areas of calcareous grassland. There are opportunities to

enhance the management of the grasslands and woodlands.

The Main Road was developed from a historic sunken roadway with historic earth banks, which provides a green corridor through the village with trees, hedges, and wide grassy verges.

Littleton village is endowed with a Recreation Ground, which presents a large contiguous green open space. This open space is five times the minimal expected area for the size of the village population. The elevated Recreation Ground provides long views north across paddocks to open countryside and downland, and east to improved woodland, which screens the buildings of MoD Flowerdown.

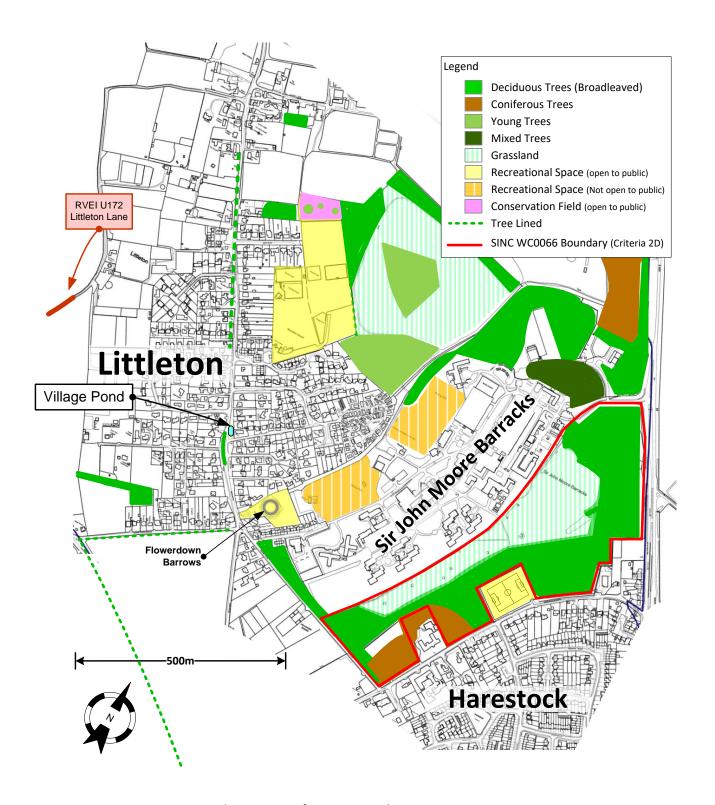


Figure 29: Green infrastructure, Littleton (2020)
Ancient, hedged field boundaries, mature trees, housing, sports field, sports players/spectators and walkers come together in the green open space of the Littleton Recreation Ground.

Flowerdown Barrows provides additional green infrastructure at the southern end of the village, where there are open views across the (Littleton Gap) which consists of fields, paddocks, woodland, trees, and hedges.

Future development proposals of any size must be sensitive to the natural rural environment. Development proposals should aim to conserve and enhance the existing green infrastructure as well as include well positioned new trees (indigenous species), further hedge planting and green spaces. Hard landscaping features such as fences and walls should be minimised.

Community access to green infrastructure should be retained and enhanced whenever opportunities arise for the wider benefits to wellbeing and enjoyment that it provides.



Map 8: Littleton Green Infrastructure and Nature Conservation Areas.

Priority habitats data: National Forest Inventory (DEFRA, 2020)

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# 8.3 **Encouraging Biodiversity**

Littleton has a wealth of wildlife habitats, including woodland, trees, hedges, grassland, farmland and paddocks. Littleton has no streams or standing water except for the village pond and garden ponds. Development proposals should aim to enhance, maintain or restore biodiversity in the village.

The village also has several informal green open spaces, such as in The Hall Way or the eastern end of North Drive. Such areas are generally just left as grass but should be recognised as having wider value. Opportunities to improve the biodiversity value of open spaces in the village (e.g. establishment of wildflower areas) should be pursued whenever possible.

## 8.4 Trees and Woodland

The village has many mature trees and hedgerows consisting of native types, including ash, beech, blackthorn, elm, hawthorn, hazel, horse chestnut, field maple, lime, oak, sycamore, and yew. The abundance of mature trees, woodland and hedgerows hide the village perimeter within soft green edges and line the approach roads. Inside the village, trees and hedgerows screen much of the housing which stretches along Main Road.

Most of Littleton's woodland is located within MoD Flowerdown. This woodland has been well maintained and improved over the years. Areas of young trees are well positioned to provide the basis for future green infrastructure in the developing landscape.

To maintain the character that trees and woodland provide for the village, policies covering tree protection, management, replacement plans, any necessary removal (e.g. due to disease or safety) and new housing development will be implemented.

Where trees are unavoidably lost, at least one tree should be planted to compensate. A broader tree planting plan will be introduced to help maintain the overall rural character of the village and address the climate emergency.

# 8.5 Village Pond

The Littleton Village Pond at the junction of Main Road and North Drive is a natural low point historically called 'flood bottom'. The Parish Council maintains the Pond area as an attractive

focal point in the village. The Pond attracts wildlife, but it is a concrete-lined sump, which is part of the road drainage system where it acts as a balancing tank for the large soakaways nearby.

The Pond is aggressively emptied about every three years, and the contents and debris are treated as contaminated waste. Therefore, while the Pond is unsuitable for the managed development of a biodiverse stable ecosystem, it remains a useful source of water for birds and other wildlife.

# 8.6 MoD Flowerdown

The entire MoD Flowerdown site has yet to be ecologically surveyed and a strategy for future land use developed in the context of its future commercial development (See LVDS Map 7).

North-west Area. This area comprises areas
of woodland and grassland close to the
Littleton Stud and the Littleton Recreation
Ground. The areas of grassland and the areas
of woodland provide habitat for a range of
species.



Figure 30: Trees/Woodland MoD Flowerdown.
A military building (just visible) shows how wooded this area is.

MoD Flowerdown (Sir John Moore Barracks) is classified as a SINC (2017, Reference WC0066 Area - 7.6 ha). The SINC area occupies most of the unused eastern part of the MoD Flowerdown site between Kennel Lane and Andover Road. The citation for the SINC states that this area is designated as a SINC as it supports an area of Calcareous Grassland which has become impoverished through inappropriate management, but retains sufficient elements of relic unimproved grassland to enable recovery. This area also includes areas of mixed

deciduous woodland listed in the National Forest Inventory as shown on LVDS Map 7.

# 8.7 Littleton Lane Roadside Verge of Ecological Importance (RVEI)

Littleton contains one RVEI (U172 Littleton Lane (SU45123210) [43-0089] (26072016). This RVEI is located close to the entrance to an unadopted gravel road to the Nursey at the end of South Drive. The roadside verge is subject to special cutting regimes.

## 8.8 The Littleton Conservation Field

The Parish Council reserved a 0.6 ha field from the 1988 purchase of land from the MoD to create a small conservation field. This field has been left to develop naturally, and there is only limited mowing to provide walkways.

The area has some undisturbed remnant concrete foundations dating from WWII and screened from view by vegetation. There are developed patches of wildflowers, including some rare species.

## 8.9 Littleton Pollution Factors

#### LPP Notes: Environmental Protection

WDLP Part 2 Development Management (2015) covers Environmental Protection. See Policy DM18 Development and Pollution.

Lighting. Except for Valley Road and Dale Close, there is no street lighting in Littleton Village apart from lighting associated with individual properties. In general, the lighting in Sir John Moore's Barracks cannot be seen in most of the village. There is lighting associated with the Tennis facilities in the Littleton Recreation Ground.

**Noise.** Littleton is outside of the normal M3, A34, Andover or Stockbridge road noise corridors. Occasionally, emergency and loud vehicles can be heard. Depending on the prevailing wind, intermittent noise from the motocross facility at Three Maids Hill can be heard.

Occasional live small arms firing and bugles/music at Sir John Moore Barracks can be heard throughout the village area. There are also occasional military helicopter movements into Sir John Moore Barracks, with arrivals and departures typically over open countryside.

There is only minor noise from commercial and private air traffic.

Water Pesticide Issues. The village of Littleton lies outside of the area to the west, which is mapped by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) as subject to surface water pesticide issues (Defra, 2020).

Nitrates and Phosphates. Littleton Parish lies in the Defra mapped high priority zone for surface water Nitrate and Phosphate issues. Such pollution is likely to be a critical factor in gaining approval for planning applications for sites within the village development boundary, the Conservation Area and other proposed nearby development sites of the future.

**Environmental Assessments**. It is necessary to ensure appropriate assessments and surveys are conducted to not only maintain and preserve the village's character, but also to enhance it as opportunities arise in the context of environmental change.

## 8.10 Water Environment

**Drainage and Sewage**. In general, there is no mains sewerage or surface water drainage in Littleton. Rainwater is collected in soakaways of various forms on private property and highways.

A limited amount of sewage is pumped to intermediate sewage treatment plants and then pumped uphill and out of Littleton into the mains sewage system of North Winchester.

Most Littleton foul waste and water is collected in septic tanks and small sewage treatment systems of variable age and effectiveness. Some of these systems discharge 'grey water' to the ground and can be a pollution risk.

Littleton is located above the upper chalk formation, a principal aquifer from which drinking water is extracted further south. The southern part of the village lies within a groundwater source protection zone, and care must be taken to ensure that pollution does not occur.

# Flooding.

 Littleton is located above the chalk aquifer, which presents a groundwater flood risk.

- The Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning shows a 'Flood Zone 3' for Littleton. The potential flood risk axis, after a prolonged period of wet weather coupled with an elevated level of groundwater (water table), is shown on LVDS Map 8.
- Further Information about Littleton Flooding is available on the LHPC Website (Community Resilience Section).



Figure 31: Traffic diverted from the A34 travelling north on Main Road Littleton. Traffic is shown crossing the flowing flood water (2014).

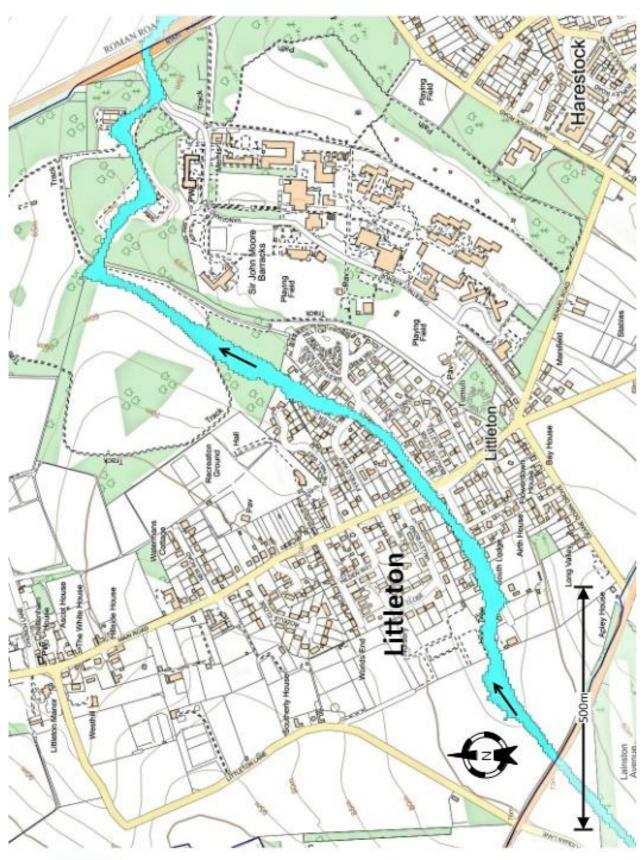
- Developers are advised to make a careful assessment of the relationship of new/developed property to the expected highest levels of groundwater in the chalk aquifer. (Note: see data from the Environment Agency Harestock Corner borehole and the relationship of the undulating surface to the likely water table surface).
- Developers should be aware that areas of ground which are normally dry could be subject to flash flooding, groundwater inundation or the appearance of an unexpected 'winterbourne' stream.
   Developments can also be the cause of new and unexpected flooding downslope.
- Groundwater level impact analysis is vital for positioning sewage arrangements.
  - Given the predicted impact of climate change (increased rain/increased storms), developers must assess and respond to how groundwater conditions are likely to change for future Littleton developments.
  - how surface water reception and disposal will be managed in the development location.

As part of any flooding mitigation measures, developers should also consider taking opportunities to create water-related habitats for water storage (subject to the geological constraints of the chalk aquifer).



Figure 32: Example of a development in the Littleton district.

The building had trenched into the hillside in an area normally dry. The excavation breached the water table in the chalk aquifer during a period of high groundwater.



Environment Agency Zone 3 Areas at Risk of Flooding

Map 9: Littleton Village Flood Risk (Zone 3).

Environment Agency Flood Data: Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning (2020)

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## PLANNING GUIDANCE: LITTLETON ENVIRONMENT

#### **CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

## D1. Development of existing and new Buildings.

All development proposals should select energy efficient and low carbon building design, construction techniques and renewable energy options which are compatible with current environmental initiatives in the district. (Supplements LPP CP11 Sustainable Low and Zero Carbon Built Development.)

## D2. Energy Ratings of Existing Buildings.

Improvements in the energy saving standards of existing buildings are encouraged.

(Supplements LPP CP11 Sustainable Low and Zero Carbon Built Development.)

#### D3 Renewable Energy.

The use of renewable energy resources, e.g. solar panels, solar collectors, high efficiency boilers and improved insulation is encouraged. Care should be taken to avoid locating energy collectors in a conspicuous position which is detrimental to the surrounding area and buildings.

(Supplements LPP CP11 Low and Zero Carbon Built Development, and LPP CP12 Renewable and Decentralised Energy.)

#### D4 Electric Charging Points.

Where possible, in existing buildings, electric vehicle charging points should be permitted. In new buildings, the installation of integral electric charging points is to be encouraged as standard.

(Supplements LPP CP11 Low and Zero Carbon Built Development, and LPP CP12 Renewable and Decentralised Energy.)

#### LITTLETON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

## D5. Conservation and maintenance of existing green infrastructure.

The existing indigenous green infrastructure is important for the rural setting of the village. The rural character of the lanes should be respected, particularly in retaining and maintaining the hedgerows and trees that define them. Naturalised woodland, hedgerows, road banks (a characteristic of Littleton), green verges and green open spaces should be protected, and removal or reduction will be resisted. Developments should retain and integrate important woodland, trees, hedgerows, and historic banks and boundaries by appropriate siting of buildings, their accesses and car parking. All hedges and trees which are in good condition and contribute to the area should be conserved or replaced during development. Development proposals which will damage existing green infrastructure will be resisted.

(Supplements LPP CP15 Green Infrastructure, CP20 Heritage and Landscape Character, DM15 Local Distinctiveness, DM23 Rural Character, and DM24 Special Trees, Important Hedgerows, and Ancient Woodlands.)

# D6 Greenfield Development.

Development on greenfield areas outside the present limits of the Conservation Area or the Littleton Village Development Boundary, which would undermine the existing character of the village, should be avoided in accordance with the policies of the Local Plan and will be resisted.

(Supplements LPP CP15 Green Infrastructure.)

# D7 Green infrastructure and landscaping (Retention and Integration).

New developments (where approved) which will implement new informal green infrastructure should use indigenous planting particularly on plot frontages (native trees, shrubs and hedges), local materials and minimal hard detailing (wooden bar gates and post and rail fencing) to maintain the rural character of the village. New landscaping should be integrated into the existing green infrastructure without the loss or erosion of existing features which provide a valuable habitat for plants and wildlife. Development proposals which will not conform to these ideas will be resisted. Development plots should be adequate in size to retain existing important trees because of their contribution to the overall setting and character of the village. Planning applications which may affect important trees should be accompanied by a detailed tree and hedge survey together with an arboriculture report. Planning for new trees should consider the suitability of the long-term setting and potential impact on neighbours

(Supplements LPP CP15 Green Infrastructure, DM15 Local Distinctiveness and DM24 Special Trees, Important Hedgerows, and Ancient Woodlands.)

#### **TREES & WOODLAND**

#### D8 Tree Protection.

The existing tree cover (native trees) are an important contribution to the Civil Parish and the setting of the village as a whole and should where possible be protected and maintained. Planning applications for developments that would remove locally important, mature or veteran trees (with or without a TPO) and hedgerows will be resisted. (Note: LHPC sponsors a Tree Warden.)

(Supplements LPP CP15 Green Infrastructure, DM15 Local Distinctiveness and DM24 Special Trees, Important Hedgerows, and Ancient Woodlands.)

## **ENCOURAGING BIODIVERSITY**

# D9. Development of Littleton Village Biodiversity.

Developments should take up opportunities to create or improve biodiversity and conserve the green infrastructure by maintaining, renewing, and strengthening landscape features such as open spaces, woodland, trees, hedgerows, banks, habitats and other features of nature conservation interest in the village. (Supplements LPP CP16 Biodiversity.)

#### WATER ENVIRONMENT

#### D10 Flood Risk Assessment.

To prevent the flooding of property, discharge of surface water onto the highway and flooding of neighbours' properties, planning applications for locations in the Littleton Valleys should provide details of drainage resilience measures assuming worst case flash flood and groundwater flood conditions. Planning applications for developments of any size located in Littleton areas subject to potential flooding (Environment Agency Flood Risk Zone 3) should be subject to a detailed Flood Risk Assessment (FRA).

(Supplements LPP C17 Flooding, Flood Risk and the Water Environment.)

## D11. Sewerage Arrangements.

New developments in the Littleton area should have a planned and sustainable sewerage system which can be managed and maintained easily to prevent the discharge to watercourses and the Chalk Aquifer during high groundwater conditions. (Supplements LPP C17 Flooding, Flood Risk and the Water Environment.)

## D12. Active Sewage Treatment.

New developments, without a mains sewer system, should include active sewage treatment prior to grey water discharge to the ground (with discharge approval by the Environment Agency, as required).

(Supplements LPP C17 Flooding, Flood Risk and the Water Environment.)

# LITTLETON POLLUTION

#### D13. Nitrates/Phosphates.

Developments should seek to ensure that there are net Zero Nitrates/Phosphates deposited into the ground (include discharge to sewerage arrangements).

# **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS**

#### D14. Environmental Assessment of Developments.

Proper and adequate environmental surveys and reports are encouraged prior to a planning application being considered. The ecological impact on existing plants, wildlife and landscape of any development, the impact any development might have on such habitats, and mitigation schemes are to be identified in such reports. Where appropriate, habitats and wildlife should be protected, maintained, and enhanced and new areas created.

## D15. Environment Assessment of Larger Developments.

Larger developments should be assessed according to the Building Research Establishment Environment Assessment Method (BREEM). Special consideration should be given to Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) or other potential nature conservation areas including the Sir John Moore Barracks SINC. The extent to which any development may generate light, noise, air, land, surface water or groundwater pollution and how these will affect local residents and be controlled, mitigated and managed requires detailed assessment

(Supplements CP16 Biodiversity, and DM20 Development and Noise.)

# 9 LITTLETON VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT 2023: SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

## **Littleton Parish Landscape & Settlement Pattern**

- Maintaining the heritage and landscape character of Littleton.
- Maintaining the Conservation Area and its historic buildings.
- Maintaining Littleton as a rural village that provides part of the established spatial environment in the general setting of north Winchester.
- Development of MoD Flowerdown Estate as an integral part of Littleton in the context of District requirements.
- Maintaining the Littleton Gap.
- Development aspirations adjacent to the Littleton Development Boundary.
- Maintaining Littleton's Equestrian heritage and associated green infrastructure.

# **Littleton Village: Characteristics and Features**

- Conservation of the Flowerdown historic monument.
- Maintenance of the Littleton Recreation Ground as an accessible facility for all residents and future expansion of recreational facilities in line with local population growth.
- Retention of Littleton's open spaces and future expansion of open spaces in line with further development.
- Maintenance of the Littleton playground facilities and future expansion of playground facilities in line with further development.
- Maintenance of vistas to and from the surrounding open countryside.
- Retention and conservation of the historic road banks along Main Road (a key feature of the Littleton landscape).

# **Littleton Village Building Form and Design Elements**

- Management of Grade II listed building development proposals.
- Development of housing stylistically consistent with its location.
- Satisfactory use of vertical and horizontal extensions (including garages and conservatories) within the Littleton Development Boundary.
- Satisfactory use of architectural features, embellishments, and colour pallets in future developments.

# **Littleton Village: Access, Transport and Traffic**

- Increasing volume of road traffic through the village.
- Limiting traffic speed through the village.
- Improving pedestrian routes through and from the village (developments in the 3 pedestrian risk areas).
- Improvements for cyclists.
- Footpath and bridleway development.
- Main Road/Kennel Lane junction safety issues, particularly in the context of access to the MoD Flowerdown Estate during and after development.
- On road parking issues.

## **Littleton Parish: Environment and Sustainability**

- The ageing Littleton housing stock in an era that demands energy efficiency and carbon neutrality.
- Low take up of renewable energy sources.
- Maintenance of the rural village environment.
- Development of new housing with sufficient associated green infrastructure (gardens, trees and hedges) to match the provision elsewhere in the village.
- Future of Littleton's wooded areas, which lie mostly in the MoD Flowerdown area which is subject to development.
- Continuing loss of trees.
- Maintenance and development of biodiversity in Littleton village and its environment.
- Full ecological assessment of the Littleton Recreation Ground and the MoD Flowerdown estate.
- The potential for development nearby and around the Littleton Conservation Area.
- Management of flood and sewage risks through the built environment without proper surface water drainage or sewage disposal.
- Flood alleviation as part of a larger HCC Scheme along the axis Littleton, MoD Flowerdown, across the Andover Road, Well House Lane Valley, Headbourne Worthy and on towards the River Itchen Flood Plain.
- Pollution of surface water with agricultural chemicals.

# **Appendix A. LVDS (2023) PLANNING GUIDANCE STATEMENTS**

The LVDS planning guidance information is divided into four planning guidance tables as follows:

- Part A: Landscape & Settlement.
- Part B: Building Form & Design.
- Part C: Access, Transport & Traffic.
- Part D: Littleton Environment.

Table 4: PLANNING GUIDANCE PART A: LANDSCAPE & SETTLEMENT.

# PLANNING GUIDANCE PART A: LANDSCAPE & SETTLEMENT

#### A1 LITTLETON LANDSCAPE - Landscape (Distinctive Features and Views).

Important public views within the parish (as shown on LVDS Map 6) should be protected and not obstructed by new development, extensions or changes to existing properties. Conversely, views of new or adapted buildings should not detract from the existing character and unobtrusive appearance of the village when viewed from the open countryside.

New developments should be landscaped to respect the rural character of the Littleton Area. This may involve adding new landscape features or retaining existing ones (particularly historic features) as well as providing new open spaces. Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments will be required as part of major development proposals which are situated within these views. The area of open land and woodland around the MoD Flowerdown Estate to the north and west of the Sir John Moore Barracks buildings (as shown on LVDS Map 2) is of important landscape value. It separates the barracks site from Littleton and protects the setting of Littleton in long views from Andover Road, and from the footpath from Church Lane to Andover Road.

(Supplements LPP DM6 Open Space Provision for New Developments, CP20 Heritage and landscape character and DM15 Local Distinctiveness)

## A2 LITTLETON SETTLEMENT - Settlement (Conformity).

Development or re-development should conserve the existing varied pattern of the village and reflect the height, curtilage sizes and character of the locality with individual properties varying in size and designed to avoid the appearance of repetitive units and positioned to enhance visual variety in the landscape. Preservation of the 'Street Scene' is encouraged. (Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness.)

## A3 LITTLETON SETTLEMENT - Settlement (Development Integration).

Any new multi-house development (private, social, or affordable housing) is to be carefully and appropriately integrated within the village areas to maintain the overall existing character of the Littleton area.

(Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness.)

## A4 LITTLETON SETTLEMENT - Settlement (Development Density).

Any new multi-house development should consider density and plot sizes from the perspective of a village rural environment. Development should not appear disproportionate to the plot size relative to neighbouring properties. (Supplements LPP DM17 Site Development Principles.)

## A5 LITTLETON SETTLEMENT - New Housing (Affordable).

Development of affordable/social housing (especially where it would not normally be permitted) should be indiscernible from other private housing and integrated into the village. The aim is to conserve the village setting and reflect the curtilage sizes and character of other properties in the area. It is critical that units should match a semi-rural environment and avoid repetition. (Supplements LPP DM1 Location of New Development, DM2 Dwelling Sizes, DM3 Small Dwellings in the Countryside.)

#### A6 LITTLETON SETTLEMENT - Settlement (Community Assets).

St Catherine's Church, and the Running Horse Public House and their respective facilities and car parks are examples of important assets in the village. Any proposal or development which would result in the loss of important assets and associated services should not be permitted.

(Supplements LPP CP7 Open Space, Sport and Recreation, DM29 Heritage Assets, DM30 Change of use of Listed Buildings, DM31 Locally Listed Heritage Assets and DM32 Undesignated Rural Heritage Assets.)

LPP CP6 Local Services and Facilities applies if protecting facilities and services.)

## A7 LITTLETON SETTLEMENT - Settlement (Small scale, non-residential).

Small scale commercial, business or recreational use is encouraged to provide work and facilities close to where people live. Development should take account of important distinctive village features identified and scheduled in this VDS including important landscape and settlement characteristics. Applications should demonstrate that they will not be detrimental to the amenities, operation, use or enjoyment of nearby properties particularly with noise pollution, light pollution, hours of operation and traffic generation prior to planning permission being granted.

(Supplements LPP CP8 Economic Growth and Diversification, MTRA3 Other Settlements in the Market Towns and Rural Area, and MTRA 4 Development in the Countryside.)

# A8 LITTLETON SETTLEMENT - Settlement (Multiple Occupancy).

Multiple occupancy of properties within the Littleton area is discouraged, particularly if it leads to excessive parking requirements, loss of garden spaces and pedestrian hazards. (Supplements LPP DP15.)

#### A9 SETTLEMENT GAPS - Settlement Gap (the Littleton Gap).

Any proposed development which physically or visually diminishes the **WDLP defined Littleton Gap** will not be supported. (Supplements LPP CP18 Settlement Gaps.)

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## PLANNING GUIDANCE PART A: LANDSCAPE & SETTLEMENT

#### A10 SETTLEMENT GAPS - Settlement Gaps (Between the Conservation Area & 20th Century Littleton Settlement).

The landscape setting of the Conservation Area separated from the 20th century settlement by open green slopes leading up to woodland and shown on Map 3 is important since it retains the integrity of the medieval valley settlement in the landscape. Development which would damage this setting should be resisted.

(Supplements LPP CP20 Heritage and Landscape Character.)

# A11 OPEN SPACES - Open Spaces (Utility).

Development should always take account of the requirement for open space, sport and recreation. This should include mobile recreation such as cycling, horse riding and walking. Therefore, only developments which do not impact on the utility of existing open space and provides additional open space to support sport and recreation to at least minimal WDLP standards will be supported.

(Supplements LPP CP6 Local Services and Facilities, and CP7 Open Space, Sport and Recreation.)

#### A12 OPEN SPACES - Open Spaces.

Proposed multi-unit developments should offer well-designed green open spaces for public access and permit movement through the local settlement. The provision of private and public amenity open space within the new multi-unit developments should be adequate, in terms of character, design, scale and extent and should not be reduced to a scale that harms the character of the local settlement or adversely affects the enjoyment of adjoining properties.

(Supplements LPP CP6 Local Services and Facilities, CP7 Open Space, Sport and Recreation, CP13 High Quality Design, CP14 The Effective Use of Land, and CP15 Green Infrastructure.)

#### A13 OPEN SPACES - Open Spaces (Highly valued open spaces).

The important open spaces shown on Map 4 should maintain public access and should not be encroached on by buildings. (Supplements LPP CP7 Open Space, Sport and Recreation.)

#### A14 | CONSERVATION AREA - Conservation Area.

Development should protect conservation areas and listed buildings and in the case of development adjacent to a conservation area, ensure that it would not compromise the character, appearance, and landscape setting of the conservation area. (Supplements LPP CP20 Heritage and Landscape Character.)

# Table 5: PLANNING GUIDANCE PART B: BUILDING FORM & DESIGN.

#### PLANNING GUIDANCE PART B: BUILDING FORM & DESIGN

#### B1 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Development Scale.

When considering new development of any size (particularly building in existing gardens), the development area should be protected from **over-development** and **insensitive** or **inappropriate infilling**. The scale of new development should respect Littleton's rural environment, and maintain reasonable levels of privacy, open spaces and amenities for all residents. (Supplements LPP CP14 The Effective Use of Land.)

# **B2 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Distinctiveness and Restrictions.**

High quality design is to be encouraged and concepts (new styles or traditional) for new buildings should be of a scale, mass, form and height appropriate to the size of the plot in the context of neighbouring buildings including the rural landscape setting of Littleton. New buildings should not have an unacceptable adverse impact on adjoining land, uses or enjoyment of existing properties, reduce important public views or harm the character of the area.

(Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness, DM16 Site Design Criteria and DM17 Site Development Principles.)

#### **B3** GENERAL GUIDANCE - Incremental Development.

Construction of substantially larger buildings to replace existing buildings which are demolished should be avoided where it would be more visually intrusive or out of scale and character with its setting and surroundings.

(Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness and DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

# **B4** GENERAL GUIDANCE - Building Extensions.

Extensions to existing homes should be in sympathy and visually subservient to the existing property and be compatible with the shape, scale and character of the main property. Proposals for extensions, garages, driveways, doors, windows, dormers, roof windows, re-roofing, renewable energy installations, conservatories, garden rooms and porches should have regard to those already present in the vicinity; extensions should not create a negative impact on the village character or be an imposition on neighbouring properties.

(Supplements LPP DM15 Local Distinctiveness and DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

## **B5 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Roofs.**

Roof pitches should not vary markedly from those in the vicinity and should be made from materials that are sympathetic or distinctive of the area with traditional decorations or occasional use of slate. Roof sizes should not appear to dominate the development or the surrounding buildings.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

## **B6** GENERAL GUIDANCE - Roof Lines and Windows.

The 20th century settlement buildings are mostly one or two storeys in height and there are a few 3 storey buildings, but most taller buildings are 2.5 storey (as built or roof extensions) mostly with dormer or flat roof windows. New developments should conform to this 1, 2 or maximum 2.5 storey style. New roof lines should not be higher than those of the adjacent properties (Note: in Littleton care must be taken with lowering property heights by trenching into hillsides as there may be groundwater risks). (Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### PLANNING GUIDANCE PART B: BUILDING FORM & DESIGN

# B7 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Privacy of Neighbours.

New development will not normally be permitted which does not respect the neighbours' privacy or creates overlooking between properties that is detrimental to the private use and amenity space of a neighbours' gardens and surrounding areas. (Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B8 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Boundaries.

New boundaries between properties should be created by hedges planted with indigenous species or appropriate timber fencing, sympathetic to the environment and location in which it is sited. Brick/block boundary walls and more urban features are discouraged.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

## **B9 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Walls.**

Whilst there is a variety of building materials in existence, extremes of colouration in brick, tile hanging, and rendering should be avoided.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### **B10** GENERAL GUIDANCE - Dormers.

The use of dormers should be encouraged in the Littleton rural landscape where these can reduce the impact of increasing roof areas.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### **B11** GENERAL GUIDANCE - Flat Roofs.

The use of flat roofs should be avoided in the Littleton rural landscape.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### **B12 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Garages & Carports.**

Where a new garage or carport is required, it should, wherever possible, be sited so as not to dominate and/or intrude greatly on the main property or beyond the obvious building line of nearby properties.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### **B13 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Porches.**

Porches should be in proportion to the overall building frontage and reflect the style of its parent building. The angle and pitch of any new porch roof should echo those of a dormer or gable ends of the same or neighbouring property.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B14 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Windows and Doors.

New and replacement windows and doors should be chosen to harmonise with the house style and surrounding houses. Replacement windows should present an appearance similar to that replaced in terms of size and frame colour (subject to Building Regulations). All windows in a dwelling should be compatible in terms of colour and finish with the palette used in neighbouring buildings. Conversely, a multi-property development should not use colours and finishes which make its older neighbours look out of place in the settlement.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B15 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Plastic & Timber Cladding.

The use of plastic cladding is to be avoided where possible except in context or where it provides maintenance free, wood textured, and colour matched cladding appropriate to the local building style. Cladding to existing brick faced buildings should only be used where it will enhance and improve the character of the building and the area in which it is used and should not be detrimental to the immediate surrounding properties and street scene.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### B16 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Refuse Storage.

New developments should normally have sufficient enclosed and adequate storage for household waste. The arrangements for refuse storage are to be shown in planning applications.

(Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

# B17 GENERAL GUIDANCE - External Lighting.

Security lights and other forms of external lighting should be restrained as to colour, wattage, and position. Lights should not be directed towards other properties or triggered by passing pedestrians or vehicular traffic on the highway. (Supplements LPP DM16 Site Design Criteria.)

#### **B18 GENERAL GUIDANCE - Infrastructure.**

New power and telephone cables should be located underground where possible and existing overhead installations relocated underground when the opportunity arises.

(Supplements LPP DM22 Telecommunications, Services, and Utilities.)

## **B19** CONSERVATION AREA - Development, Repair and Maintenance.

Any development and repair work in the Conservation Area should be carefully designed to a high standard and integrated to conserve or enhance existing features, views and character. Where appropriate, local traditional methods and materials should be used.

(Supplements LPP DM27 Development in Conservation Areas, DM28 Demolition in Conservation Areas and DM30 Change of Use of Listed Buildings.)

#### B20 | CONSERVATION AREA - Replacement Doors and Windows.

The style and materials used for replacement doors and windows should where possible match the original previous materials and style.

(Supplements LPP DM27 Development in Conservation Areas, DM28 Demolition in Conservation Areas.)

# PLANNING GUIDANCE PART C: ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

## C1 CHARACTERISTICS OF LOCAL ROADS - Surfaces.

New roads, driveways and potentially hard-surface areas should not be over engineered and should, where possible, be permeable and sustainable given the local flood risk, substrate drainage issues and topography. Water run-off across hard surfaces, which will result in an increase of flood water in any part of the village, should be avoided.

(Supplements LPP CP17 Flooding, Flood Risk and the Water Environment, DM15 Local Distinctiveness, DM18 Access and Parking, DM23 Rural Character.)

## C2 CHARACTERISTICS OF LOCAL ROADS - Sight Lines.

Applications for new development accessing directly onto and off Littleton Main Road/Kennel Lane should take into account traffic sight lines in three dimensions. These details are to be submitted in the form of plans and sectional elevations to establish that vehicles can access and exit in forward gear safely prior to planning permission being granted.

(Supplements LPP DM18 Access and Parking.)

## C3 TRAFFIC - Traffic Assessment.

The layout and design of new developments should consider the implications on existing traffic movements. When considering new developments, traffic volume, particularly HGV/PSV traffic, should be taken into account. (Supplements LPP DM23 Rural Character.)

#### C4 TRAFFIC - Parking Provision.

All developments should ensure adequate (not minimum) parking for residents and visitors to meet current local authority standards. Developments should also provide enough parking space to remove the need for on-street road or pavement mounted parking by residents/visitors.

(Supplements LPP DM18 Access and Parking.)

#### C5 ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC GENERAL - Street Furniture.

Any street furniture should be in keeping with the general rural nature of the Civil Parish. Where there is a lack of or narrow footways, all street furniture which present pedestrian obstructions should be kept to a minimum. (Supplements LPP DM34 Signage.)

#### C6 ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC GENERAL - Lighting.

No highway lighting should be approved or allowed on new or existing roads and developments (LHPC, WCC & HCC, 1994). Security lighting etc. should be restrained and point away from highways. Pedestrian and bollard lighting on new developments may be used in moderation and only where it can be justified. Other lighting proposals requiring planning permission should be considered in relation to this policy and accord with it.

(Supplements LPP DM17 Site Development Principles and DM19 Development and Pollution.)

#### C7 ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC GENERAL - Footpaths/Bridleways.

Existing footpaths and bridleways around the village should be protected, maintained, enhanced, and extended where possible. Larger developments should take opportunities to introduce new connecting footpaths and public rights of way where appropriate. (Supplements LPP CP10 Transport.)

## C8 ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC GENERAL - Non-motorised Traffic.

Road improvements should consider the needs of non-motorised road users. Opportunities to develop facilities for cyclists, pedestrians and equestrian use are to be encouraged.

(Supplements LPP CP10 Transport.)

Table 7: PLANNING GUIDANCE PART D: LITTLETON ENVIRONMENT.

## PLANNING GUIDANCE PART D: LITTLETON ENVIRONMENT

## D1 CLIMATE EMERGENCY - Development of existing and new Buildings.

All development proposals should select energy efficient and low carbon building design, construction techniques and renewable energy options which are compatible with current environmental initiatives in the district.

(Supplements LPP CP11 Sustainable Low and Zero Carbon Built Development.)

#### D2 CLIMATE EMERGENCY - Energy Ratings of Existing Buildings.

Improvements in the energy saving standards of existing buildings are encouraged.

(Supplements LPP CP11 Sustainable Low and Zero Carbon Built Development.)

# D3 CLIMATE EMERGENCY - Renewable Energy.

The use of renewable energy resources, e.g., solar panels, solar collectors, high efficiency boilers and improved insulation is encouraged. Care should be taken to avoid locating energy collectors in a conspicuous position which is detrimental to the surrounding area and buildings.

(Supplements LPP CP11 Low and Zero Carbon Built Development, and LPP CP12 Renewable and Decentralised Energy.)

## D4 CLIMATE EMERGENCY - Electric Charging Points.

Where possible, in existing buildings, electric vehicle charging points should be permitted. In new buildings, the installation of integral electric charging points is to be encouraged as standard.

(Supplements LPP CP11 Low and Zero Carbon Built Development, and LPP CP12 Renewable and Decentralised Energy.)

## D5 LITTLETON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE - Conservation and maintenance of existing green infrastructure.

The existing indigenous green infrastructure is important for the rural setting of the village. The rural character of the lanes should be respected, particularly in retaining and maintaining the hedgerows and trees that define them. Naturalised woodland, hedgerows, road banks (a characteristic of Littleton), green verges and green open spaces should be protected, and removal or reduction will be resisted. Developments should retain and integrate important woodland, trees, hedgerows, and historic banks and boundaries by appropriate siting of buildings, their accesses and car parking. All hedges and trees which are in good condition

#### PLANNING GUIDANCE PART D: LITTLETON ENVIRONMENT

and contribute to the area should be conserved or replaced during development. Development proposals which will damage existing green infrastructure will be resisted.

(Supplements LPP CP15 Green Infrastructure, CP20 Heritage and Landscape Character, DM15 Local Distinctiveness, DM23 Rural Character, and DM24 Special Trees, Important Hedgerows, and Ancient Woodlands.)

#### D6 LITTLETON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE - Greenfield Development.

Development on greenfield areas outside the present limits of the Conservation Area or the Littleton Village Development Boundary, which would undermine the existing character of the village, should be avoided in accordance with the policies of the Local Plan and will be resisted.

(Supplements LPP CP15 Green Infrastructure.)

## D7 LITTLETON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE - Green infrastructure and landscaping (New Development).

New developments (where approved) which will implement new informal green infrastructure should use indigenous planting particularly on plot frontages (native trees, shrubs and hedges), local materials and minimal hard detailing (wooden bar gates and post and rail fencing) to maintain the rural character of the village. New landscaping should be integrated into the existing green infrastructure without the loss or erosion of existing features which provide a valuable habitat for plants and wildlife. Development proposals which will not conform to these ideas will be resisted. Development plots should be adequate in size to retain existing important trees because of their contribution to the overall setting and character of the village. Planning applications which may affect important trees should be accompanied by a detailed tree and hedge survey together with an arboriculture report. Planning for new trees should consider the suitability of the long-term setting and the potential impact on neighbours. (Supplements LPP CP15 Green Infrastructure, DM15 Local Distinctiveness and DM24 Special Trees, Important Hedgerows, and Ancient Woodlands.)

#### D8 TREES & WOODLAND - Tree Protection.

The existing tree cover (native trees) is an important contribution to the Civil Parish and the setting of the village as a whole and should where possible be protected and maintained. Planning applications for developments that would remove locally important, mature or veteran trees (with or without a TPO) and hedgerows will be resisted. (Note: LHPC sponsors a Tree Warden.) (Supplements LPP CP15 Green Infrastructure, DM15 Local Distinctiveness and DM24 Special Trees, Important Hedgerows, and Ancient Woodlands.)

# D9 ENCOURAGING BIODIVERSITY - Development of Littleton Village Biodiversity.

Developments should take up opportunities to create or improve biodiversity and conserve the green infrastructure by maintaining, renewing, and strengthening landscape features such as open spaces, woodland, trees, hedgerows, banks, habitats and other features of nature conservation interest in the village.

(Supplements LPP CP16 Biodiversity.)

## D10 WATER ENVIRONMENT - Flood Risk Assessment.

To prevent the flooding of property, discharge of surface water onto the highway and flooding of neighbours' properties, planning applications for locations in the Littleton Valleys should provide details of drainage resilience measures assuming worst case flash flood and groundwater flood conditions. Planning applications for developments of any size located in Littleton areas subject to potential flooding (Environment Agency Flood Risk Zone 3) should be subject to a detailed Flood Risk Assessment (FRA). (Supplements LPP C17 Flooding, Flood Risk and the Water Environment.)

#### D11 WATER ENVIRONMENT - Sewerage Arrangements.

New developments in the Littleton area should have a planned and sustainable sewerage system which can be managed and maintained easily to prevent the discharge to watercourses and the Chalk Aquifer during high groundwater conditions. (Supplements LPP C17 Flooding, Flood Risk and the Water Environment.)

#### D12 WATER ENVIRONMENT - Active Sewage Treatment.

New developments, without a mains sewer system, should include active sewage treatment prior to grey water discharge to the ground (with discharge approval by the Environment Agency, as required). (Supplements LPP C17 Flooding, Flood Risk and the Water Environment.)

# D13 LITTLETON POLLUTION FACTORS – Nitrates/Phosphates.

Developments should seek to ensure that there are net Zero Nitrates/Phosphates deposited into the ground (including discharge to sewerage arrangements).

# D14 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS - Environmental Assessment of Developments.

Proper and adequate environmental surveys and reports are encouraged prior to a planning application being considered. The ecological impact on existing plants, wildlife and landscape of any development, the impact any development might have on such habitats, and mitigation schemes are to be identified in such reports. Where appropriate, habitats and wildlife should be protected, maintained, and enhanced and new areas created.

## D15 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS - Environment Assessment of Larger Developments.

Larger developments should be assessed according to the Building Research Establishment Environment Assessment Method (BREEM). Special consideration should be given to Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) or other potential nature conservation areas including the Sir John Moore Barracks SINC. The extent to which any development may generate light, noise, air, land, surface water or groundwater pollution and how these will affect local residents and be controlled, mitigated and managed requires detailed assessment.

(Supplements CP16 Biodiversity, and DM20 Development and Noise.)

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