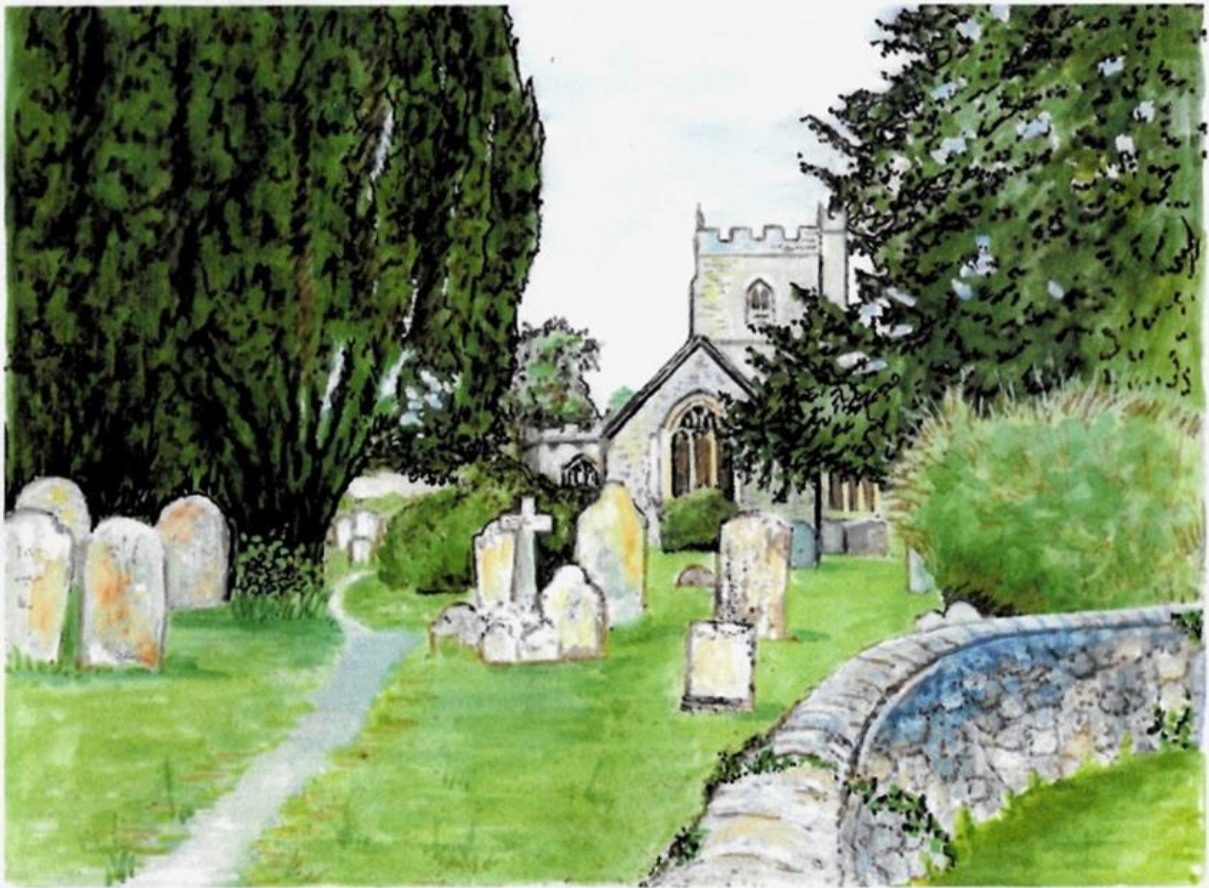


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# Hazelbury Bryan Neighbourhood Plan



St Mary and St James Church, Hazelbury Bryan

From an original painting by  
Jenny Allen

## 2018 to 2031

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## 1. Summary / Overview

In October 2016, when we first asked local residents what they liked most about living in Hazelbury Bryan, the most common response was “the friendliness and community spirit of the Village”. Also mentioned by many was the attractiveness of the area, the peace and quiet (and the lack of light pollution) and the community facilities - particularly the shop, pub, school and outdoor recreation opportunities.

What people didn't like, was mainly to do with transport - speeding and increasingly bigger vehicles on our rural roads, poor bus service, and lack of safe paths & links within the village.

Our Neighbourhood Plan recognises that, with or without a Plan, change will happen. Although the Plan cannot sort out issues such as bus services or the poor state of the roads, it can influence where much-needed housing and other developments are constructed, and what they look like. And it can help safeguard some of the things we value the most, whether that's the local shop or the enjoyment of our beautiful countryside, by making sure that the impact of any development on these assets is properly considered in the decisions made, and any needless impacts avoided.

This Plan therefore has a range of different policies, including:

- policies to safeguard the intrinsic beauty of our countryside, its character, important green spaces, key views, and local wildlife areas;
- policies to make sure new development is in keeping with local building styles and materials, and retain the distinct differences between the various hamlets
- policies to protect the key community facilities that are so important to local residents, and try to make sure that these continue to thrive
- the allocation of four housing sites to deliver the housing needed over the next decade, plus an employment site with site manager's accommodation, and reserve site for housing (and parking for the village hall) if required
- a project to improve road signs and other measures to encourage slower traffic speeds, which could be part-funded by development allowed through the Plan.

### Have we got this right?

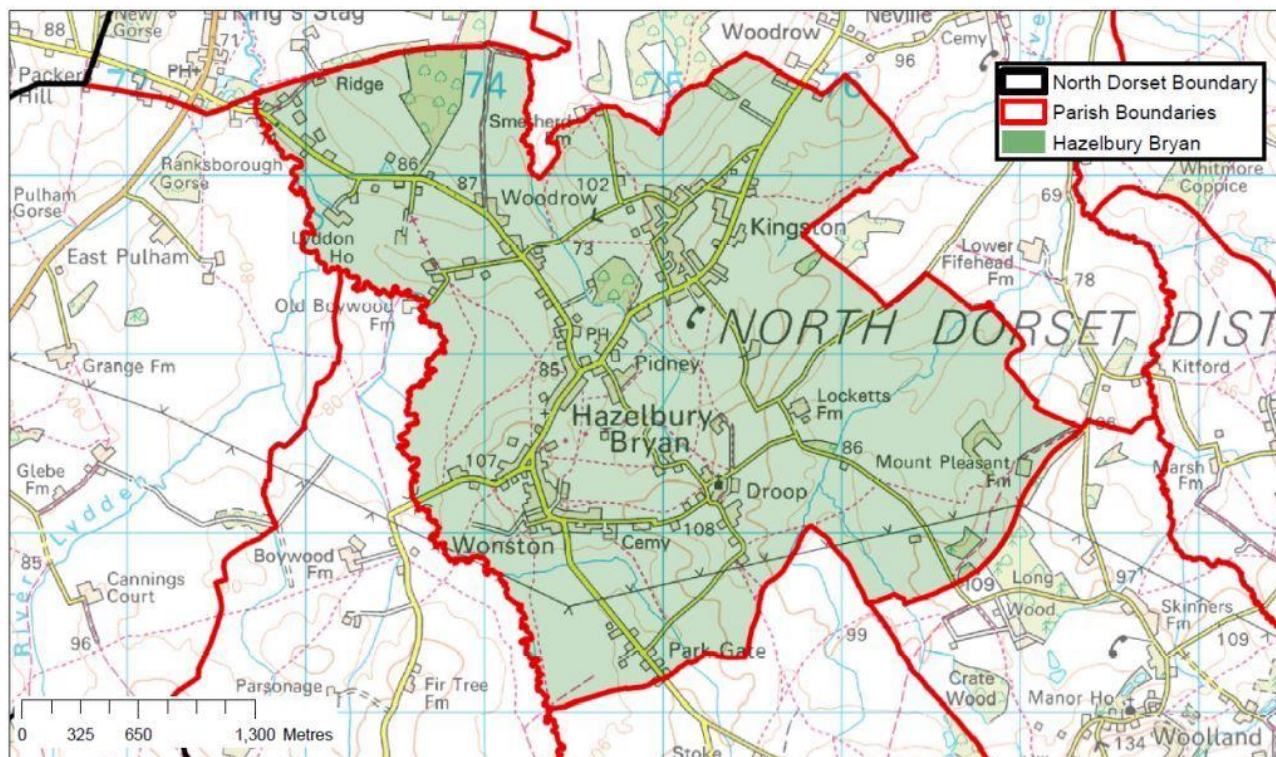
This Plan was pulled together by a group of volunteers working for the Parish Council, and we have spent considerable time consulting local people and researching all the topics it covers. So please take this opportunity to let us know whether we have got it right, and if not, what needs to be changed. Following this consultation, the Parish Council will make final changes to the Plan before submitting it to North Dorset District Council for its independent examination. If it passes its examination, the final step is the referendum, where all local residents in the Parish who are on the electoral role get the chance to vote 'yes' or 'no' to the plan being used. We need your help now to get the Plan right, so that we don't fall at the final hurdle.



## 2. Introduction

- 2.1. Hazelbury Bryan is a large parish of 997 hectares (2,415 acres) in the south-west of the Blackmore Vale. It is bounded to the north by Ridge Drive, Smetherd Farm and Deadmoor Common, by Mount Pleasant Farm on the east, Park Gate to the South and a tributary of the River Lydden in the west, joining the Lydden itself south of Lyddon House.
- 2.2. The village comprises seven separate hamlets of Kingston, Wonston (and Pleck), Pidney, Partway, Woodrow, Droop and Park Gate, with open fields between them. This arrangement is unusual, if not unique, in Dorset.

Figure 1. Area Map



Name of the neighbourhood area	Hazelbury Bryan Neighbourhood Area
Designation date	Consultation Draft
Organisation who made the application	Hazelbury Bryan Parish Council



- 2.3. Hazelbury Bryan is a community which has evolved in its own way, retaining its roots and sense of history. For most villagers, it is valued as a place of security and safety.
- 2.4. As with any other area in North Dorset, there will be pressures for change and growth, such as new homes, new businesses, alterations and extensions to existing buildings, and changes in how those buildings or land associated with them are used. The planning system, including the policies contained in this Neighbourhood Plan, will guide decisions on what changes will be permitted.
- 2.5. One almost universal concern, as shown in the feedback from the various consultations, was the ever-increasing impact of traffic on the safety and rural nature of local roads, and particularly the speed of traffic and growth in large commercial and agricultural vehicles. The extent to which a Neighbourhood Plan can tackle such issues is limited, but the issues and concerns have been taken into account as far as possible

### *The North Dorset Local Plan*

- 2.6. The statutory development plan is the North Dorset Local Plan (2016). Its strategy is based on focusing development at the four main towns. In rural areas such as Hazelbury Bryan, where access and proximity to services is more limited, development will be more strictly controlled with an emphasis on meeting local and essential rural needs. The Issues and Options Paper for the Local Plan Review (November 2017) does not currently propose to change the existing spatial strategy approach in relation to the villages.
- 2.7. The Local Plan envisages neighbourhood planning playing a key role in meeting local needs in rural areas. It recognises that these needs may not be met by the countryside policies in the Local Plan, and that neighbourhood planning can enable local communities to develop their own vision and objectives and consider different options for meeting local needs. It makes clear that Neighbourhood Plans can
- > decide where new homes, shops, offices and other development should be built (in addition to development that is permitted under countryside policies) by reviewing settlement boundaries or allocating specific sites for development;
  - > identify and protect local green spaces;
  - > include policies to protect local character; and
  - > influence what new buildings should look like.
- 2.8. The adopted Local Plan does not identify a specific housing need figure for the neighbourhood plan area of Hazelbury Bryan or identify specific employment land needs. It does set a housing need figure for rural areas of at least 825 dwellings to be built in Stalbridge and the eighteen larger and more sustainable villages, of which Hazelbury Bryan is one, and this level of housing will be re-examined through the Local Plan Review. The latest employment evidence contained in the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Workspace Strategy 2016 suggests that the amount of employment land already available is more than adequate to meet the overall need in North Dorset.

### *How this Neighbourhood Plan was prepared*

- 2.9. In December 2015 the Parish Council sought the views of the Village as to whether it needed or wanted a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). Of those that replied, most were in favour and volunteers came forward to help. A meeting was organised in the Village Hall on the 25th April 2016 with presentations by Jo Witherden (Planning Consultant) and Fred Horsington (Champion of the Cerne Abbas NP). The Parish Council voted to proceed and called upon the volunteers to form a Committee to take the matter forwards. This Committee first met on the 5th July 2016, elected its officers, set out basic objectives, agreed terms of reference and agreed to hold a public consultation in October to gauge the true level of interest of the Village and update the views expressed in the original Parish Plan of 2010.
- 2.10. In an attempt to arouse public interest, an eye-catching circular was delivered to every house in the Village asking if the residents cared about the Village, enjoyed living there and had an opinion on its future. By presenting the latest assessment of potential housing sites, as provided by North Dorset District Council, people were at last stirred into action. Various matters of interest were raised and there was broad support shown for progressing with a NP and none against. It was agreed there was sufficient support for continuing and the Parish Council decided to appoint Jo Witherden (of Dorset Planning Consultant Ltd) to provide support and advice.
- 2.11. Given the Committee now had a fair picture of the underlying wishes, it was agreed to proceed with a detailed questionnaire, to be circulated throughout the Village. This covered more specifically housing needs, employment & amenities and a few more broadly based views relating to future development. More than 30% of these forms were returned and the results informed this Plan's vision and objectives.

- 2.12. In March 2017 the Committee embarked on the next stages including:- assessments of housing need, employment, village character, together with a call for sites, surveys of amenities and facilities, consideration of local aspects such as green spaces, gaps between hamlets and related matters such as traffic and transport. In April the results of the questionnaire were published and circulated. The call for sites gave rise to 26 applicants, far in excess of the anticipated housing need.
- 2.13. Over July all the proposed sites were visited and assessed by the Committee against criteria covering: accessibility by vehicle and on foot; impact on surroundings and local character, including the crucial local gaps between the hamlets; the impact on green spaces and biodiversity; adverse environmental or amenity impact; and impact on community facilities. The sites were also subject to a separate Strategic Environmental Assessment. The interim conclusions were displayed to the public during the subsequent consultations run during September / October. Details of all potential sites were displayed, along with the Committee's assessments, and the public were requested to complete a questionnaire to provide their views on their suitability and acceptability. These events were very well attended and over a quarter of the population recorded their votes and opinions in 240 completed questionnaires. From this a short list of preferred sites was extracted, sufficient to meet the anticipated local housing need (approximately 25 new homes allowing for existing approvals) with some in reserve.
- 2.14. In November all site owners were advised of the outcome and those which were short listed were requested to provide outline plans and their acceptance of the local wishes for smaller developments considered to be between 10 and 15 residences) and smaller homes (2 to 3 bed houses and starter homes).
- 2.15. As the Plan could have significant environmental impacts, a Strategic Environmental Assessment was prepared alongside the Plan. This assessment considers the possible effects of different options to judge their sustainability, and identifies appropriate mitigation measures for inclusion in the final plan.
- 2.16. **Appendix 1** lists the main supporting documents.

### *The Hazelbury Bryan Neighbourhood Plan Period*

- 2.17. The plan period (the time period this plan is intended to cover) is from April 2018 to March 2031.

### *Monitoring and Review of the Plan*

- 2.18. The Strategic Environmental Assessment will suggest how the plan should be monitored in relation to identifying any significant environmental effects.
- 2.19. The Plan may be reviewed before 2031, to take account of changes in national or local policy, changing needs within the Parish, to reduce any adverse impacts identified through the monitoring, or simply to roll it forward to cover the period beyond 2031. The Parish Council will consider the need to trigger this review, most likely at around the time of the annual Parish meeting.

### 3. Vision and Objectives

- 3.1. In 2011, and again in 2016, the residents of Hazelbury Bryan were asked what was important about the area. Not surprisingly on both occasions the answers were very similar - **location and environment** and the **sense of community**.
- 3.2. **Location and Environment** - features particularly valued by the local community include: the separate hamlets that collectively make up Hazelbury Bryan, each quite individual, served by narrow country roads and lanes and with open fields between them; the many rights of way and opportunities to enjoy the surrounding countryside, the general peace and quiet of village life, and the ability to see the stars at night away from the lights and pollution of larger towns; the surrounding hills and views out across the rolling countryside of Thomas Hardy's Wessex. All this, whilst enjoying relatively good access to the nearby towns of Sturminster Newton, Blandford Forum and Sherborne.
- 3.3. **Sense of Community** - the hamlets are still of a size to encourage neighbourliness, friendliness, co-operation and support. The various village facilities such as the two churches, the school, the shop, the pub and the village hall, the sports fields and allotments, also bring residents together. There is little recorded crime or nuisance. There is a relatively high proportion of the elderly, for whom certain services become increasingly important (public transport and medical support in particular) but also many younger family groups which currently benefit from the excellent school and represent a vital part of the Village's future. It is the needs of this second group, the younger generation, - homes, employment, etc. - which require particularly careful consideration.
- 3.4. These themes form the basis of the vision, objectives and policies contained in this plan.

<i>Vision</i>	
That the attributes of Hazelbury Bryan -its rural nature and its strong sense of community, remain largely unchanged	
<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Policy Areas</i>
To protect, as far as possible, the current environment in all its aspects (individual hamlets, plenty of green spaces, diversity of design, etc.), all which are so important to the residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Reinforcing Local Landscape Character</li> <li>→ Protecting Local Wildlife</li> <li>→ Respecting Locally Important Green Spaces and Key Views</li> <li>→ Respecting the Locally Distinctive Hamlets, including settlement boundary reviews</li> <li>→ Retaining Important Gaps between the Hamlets</li> </ul>
To allow the village to grow at a rate that is sustainable and keeping pace with improvements to the infrastructure (roads, public transport etc) which cannot be directly influenced by the plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Supporting Existing and New Community Facilities</li> <li>→ Meeting Housing Needs, including identifying the type and quantity of housing required, and making site specific allocations and identifying reserve sites</li> <li>→ Employment Needs, including making a site-specific allocation</li> <li>→ Parking Provision requirements for new housing</li> <li>→ Traffic Management Project (to be pursued outside of the Neighbourhood Plan)</li> </ul>

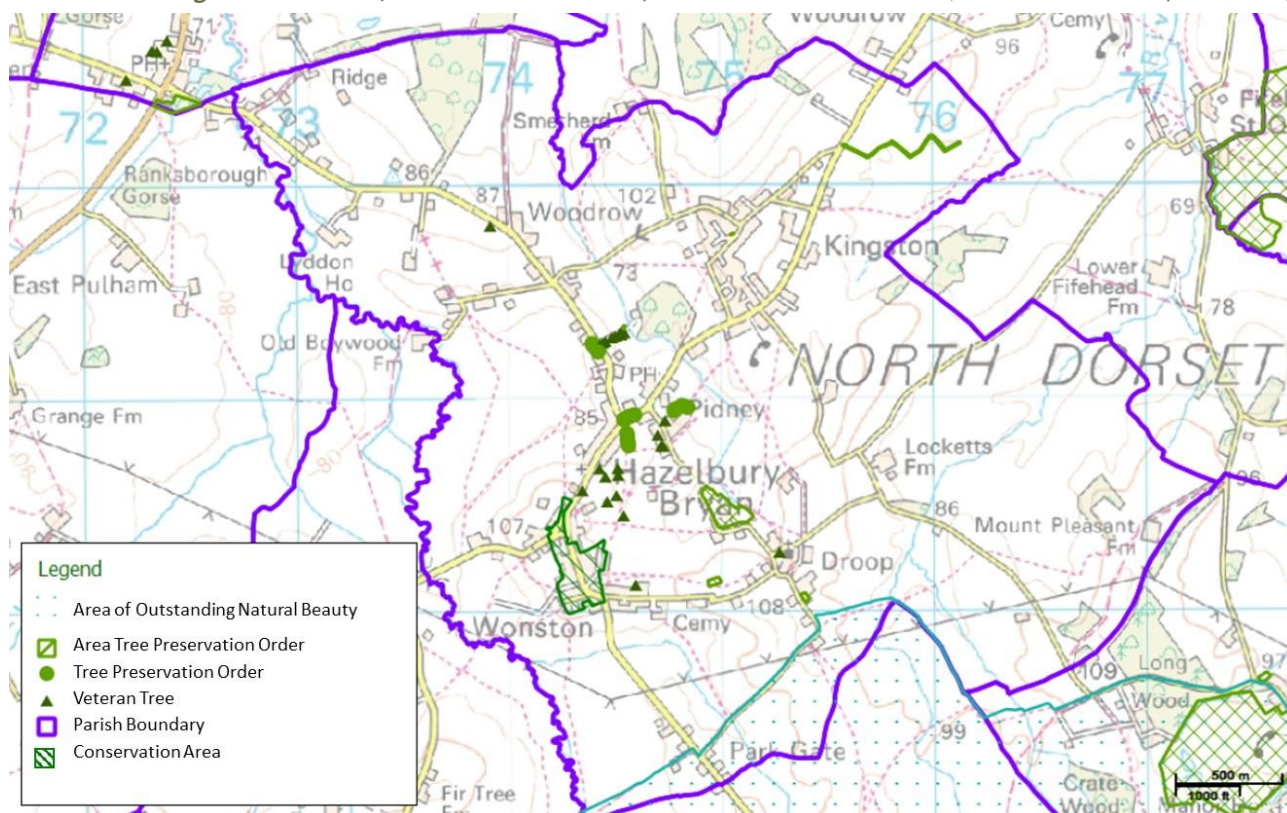




(BR28/17) extending from Woodrow and linking to King Stag Bridleway (BR35) was “the waie to Sherborne” according to the 1607 map. The link between Wonston and Droop, known as Coney Lane, and the link connecting to Drum Lane, are medieval drove roads and therefore considered to be historically important green corridors.

- 4.4. Some individual trees or groups of trees are protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and those in the Wonston Conservation Area are also protected. Protected trees include, for example, the trees between Alec’s Field and the adjoining Keep field, those bordering the road opposite the Antelope and the large Lime tree alongside the Antelope. The full list of protected trees is held by the Local Planning Authority, whose permission must be sought before any remedial works are carried out. If a dead or dangerous tree covered by a TPO needs to be felled, there is a legal duty for the landowner to replace it. Ancient or Veteran trees are defined as those with a diameter of more than one metre at breast height, including those with hollow trunks or limbs. Several are known within the parish.

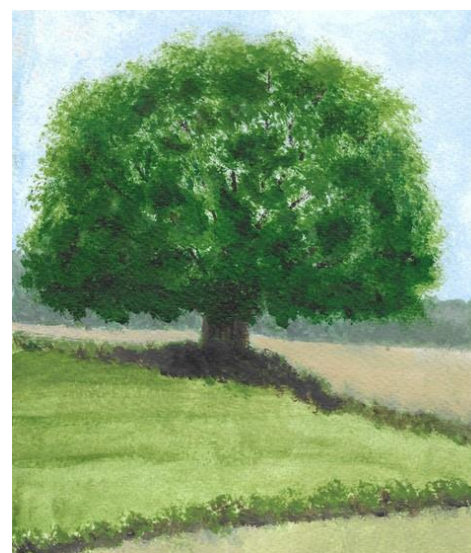
Figure 3. AONB, Conservation Area, TPO & Veteran Trees (as shown on Dorset Explorer, 2018)



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- 4.5. Due to the local geology and soils, there are many ditches, brooks and streams that flow through the plan area eventually to find their way to the River Stour. For example, the Selwaie brook flows through Hazel Wood and crosses beneath the road at the bottom of Silly Hill, eventually to join the Lydden. The streams, related vegetation and crossing points all add to the local landscape character and are important wildlife corridors.

- 4.6. In summary, the key landscape characteristics of the countryside (noted in the landscape character assessments and though the community



consultations) are listed below, and general guidelines given:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Tranquillity of the countryside and lack of light pollution</li> </ul>   | <p><i>Consider whether the development will materially increase lighting levels. Avoid inclusion of street lighting in new development. Where external lighting is required for safety or security reasons, this should be minimised through appropriate design and technology<sup>3</sup></i></p>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Irregular shaped fields (often based on historic field boundaries), bounded by thick hedgerows, the twisting hedge lined lanes with narrow verges</li> </ul> | <p><i>Retain and strengthen hedgerows where possible. Recognise and retain historic field boundaries, green lanes and drove roads. Avoid locations that would require the removal of hedgerows to create large visibility splays that would detract from the rural character of the local road network. Due to narrow lanes / verges, alternative off-road routes for pedestrians should be secured where possible</i></p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Mature and veteran trees and occasional wooded areas</li> </ul>  | <p><i>Retain existing mature tree specimens within any development, with layouts designed to avoid potential damage to the roots and future pressures to fell or lop due to shading etc.</i></p>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Many ditches, brooks and streams with associated vegetation and crossing points</li> </ul>   | <p><i>Retain and strengthen green corridors associated with ditches, brooks and streams, to enable management for wildlife, informal recreation and reducing flood risk.</i></p>   |

4.7. The policy does not seek to prevent development but to ensure that it integrates successfully within the area. Lighting scheme required for safety or security reasons should not be prevented, but should be designed to minimise light spillage and glare. Similarly flood management measures that may be required should not be prevented, but should be designed in a way that is sensitive to the local landscape character. In some cases alternative locations for development should be considered where the degree of harm to features of local landscape character would be substantial.

#### **Policy HB1. Reinforcing Local Landscape Character**

Development should respect and enhance local landscape character, including the following key characteristics:

- a) the general tranquillity of the countryside
- b) the dark night skies and general lack of light pollution
- c) the irregular shape of fields and hedgerow boundaries, hedge lined lanes, and their historic associations with ancient field systems, green lanes and drove roads
- d) the many mature and veteran trees and areas of native, deciduous woodland
- e) the many ditches, brooks and streams with associated vegetation and crossing points

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<sup>3</sup> The Institute of Lighting Professionals (ILP) (2011) Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light GN01:2011 provides practical guidance on minimising light pollution and suitable criteria against which the effects of artificial lighting can be assessed

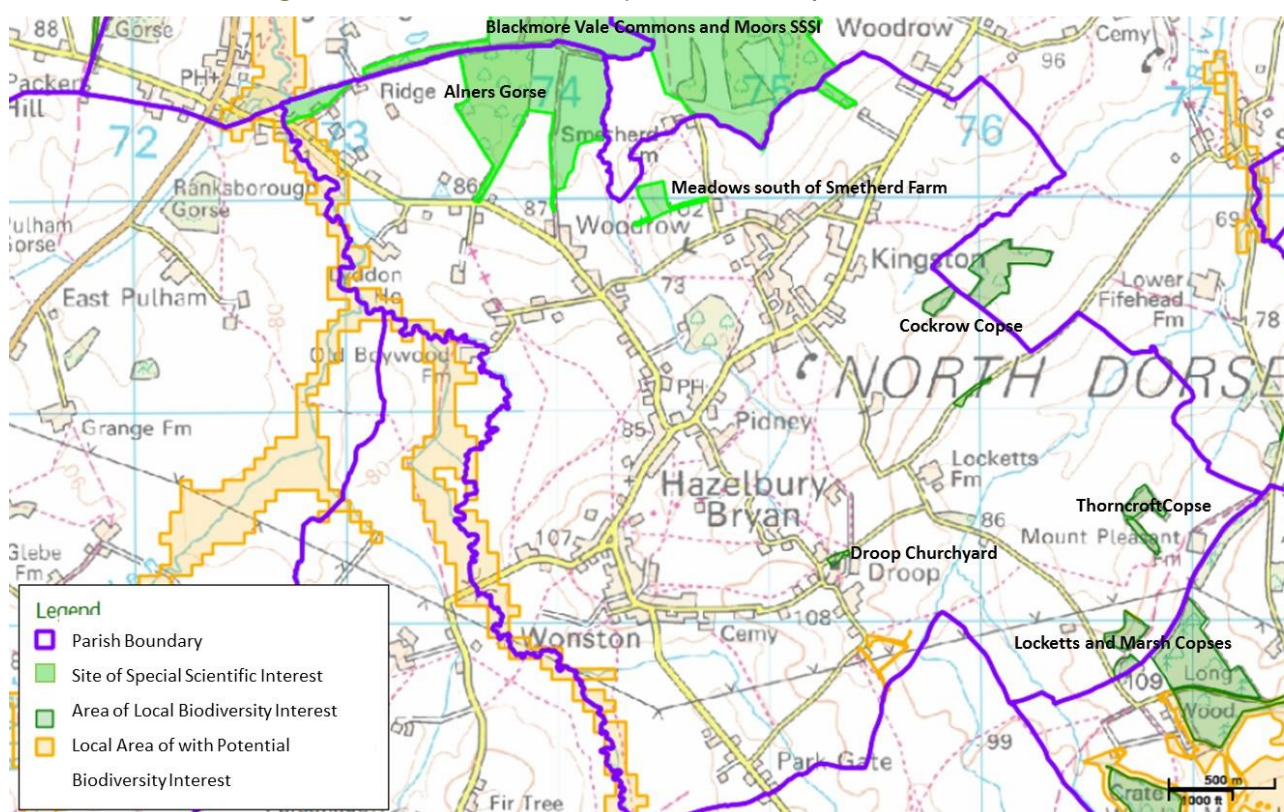
## 5. Local Wildlife

5.1. **Alners Gorse** is a 14.4 hectare nature reserve owned and managed by Butterfly Conservation and forms the southern part of the more extensive **Blackmore Vale Commons and Moors Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)**. There are also associated meadows including those just south of Smetherd Farm and the ancient Fifehead/Hazelbury Boundary hedge that are within the SSSI. The SSSI is a unique remnant of relatively intact clay vale grasslands with unimproved commons and moors found nowhere else in this part of North Dorset. These wildlife-rich areas host a number of pairs of breeding nightingales, the threatened Marsh Fritillary butterfly and many other species of butterflies and moths.

5.2. There are also sites of local importance within the parish:

Cockrow Copse	SNCI and Ancient Woodland
Locketts and Marsh Copses	SNCI
Thorncroft Copse	SNCI and Ancient Woodland
Droop Churchyard	

Figure 4. Areas with wildlife interest or potential (as shown on Dorset Explorer, 2018)



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5.3. However, wildlife is not limited to these designated sites, and it is important that measures are taken to assess the wildlife value of all development sites in order to ensure that proposals include measures that will achieve a net gain for nature, in line with national and local planning policies. There are over a 1,000 records of rare or protected species that have been sighted within or close to the neighbourhood plan area (Dorset Environmental Records Centre), and the variety of habitats and wildlife contribute to the character and enjoyment of the area.

5.4. The Dorset Biodiversity Protocol, which requires an approved biodiversity appraisal and mitigation plan to be submitted with a planning application, is a recognised way in which the impacts of a development proposal can be properly assessed and considered through the planning process. Dorset County Council's Natural Environment Team can check these

and issue a Certificate of Approval, which can then be submitted as part of a planning application to demonstrate compliance with the following policy.

- 5.5. Such appraisals will be required where protected species or habitats are known or suspected to be present, which may well be the case where development would impact on species-rich hedgerows, unimproved grassland, natural watercourses and their margins, copses / woodland and mature tree specimens, rural barns and other roof voids (where bats may be present) or near wildlife sites. Even where development is unlikely to impact on existing wildlife, measures can be taken to provide new habitats - such as the inclusion of bird, bat or bee boxes on buildings, creating a pond or other water feature in your garden, or even a compost heap.

#### Policy HB2. Protecting Local Wildlife

Development should enhance biodiversity, through an understanding of the wildlife interest that may be affected by development, and the inclusion of measures that will secure an overall biodiversity gain. To demonstrate this is achieved, a certified Biodiversity Appraisal and Mitigation Plan will be required where a development would involve:

- a) the loss of a hedgerow (in whole or part) or mature tree specimen
- b) works involving the development of a greenfield site, or a brownfield site in excess of 0.1ha
- c) works involving a rural barn (including barn conversions) or other roof space where bats may be present
- d) works within 10 metres of a watercourse
- e) works within 10 metres of national and local areas with wildlife interest or potential (as shown on Figure 4)

## 6. Locally Important Green Spaces and Key Views

- 6.1. The countryside around Hazelbury Bryan as a whole is much valued by local residents. **Alners Gorse** and other designated wildlife sites mentioned in section 5 are already protected under existing policies. However, there are a number of green spaces and views that hold a particular local value and do not currently have the same degree of protection.
- 6.2. National policy allows for such spaces to be designated Local Green Spaces, to provide stronger protection against development, similar to protection given by Green Belt designation. This protection will last well beyond the Neighbourhood Plan period, so is not appropriate to extensive tracts of countryside, or land which may need to be released for housing, employment or community buildings / infrastructure in the longer term.
- 6.3. Table 1 lists the green spaces that identified as particularly important to the local community, for the reasons identified for protection. These were subject to consultation and elicited a high degree of local support, with at least 84% of respondents agreeing that each site was important, most of which felt these sites were very important. The setting of the school and church (i.e. more than just the churchyard), was suggested in a significant number of responses, however the nature of the hamlet and different places from which the setting is appreciated makes a larger local green space difficult to define.

*Table 1. Locally Important Green Spaces*

Location	Size	Importance
Alec's Field, Pidney (LGS-AF)	1.9ha	Amenity, historic and wildlife value - grass/wild flower field that effectively forms a village green used for sport and other recreational events. Includes children's play area & well used footpath FP18. Also forms the setting of several

Location	Size	Importance
		historic buildings, and the trees along the northern and western boundaries are protected.
Churchyard, Droop (LGS-CY)	0.3ha	Amenity, historic and wildlife value - forms the setting of the church (Grade I Listed) and tranquil area for quiet contemplation. Also of local wildlife value, including areas of species-rich grassland and notable lichen flora on the tombstones.
Hazel Wood, Kingston (LGS-HW)	5.7ha	Amenity, historic and wildlife value - a mixed deciduous woodland owned and managed by the Woodland Trust as an open access area where the public are welcome. The wood is traversed by a public footpath from Kingston, but also has several informal paths. It was planted in 1999 to mark the Millennium, within the old field boundaries of mature hedges. The southern boundary is a narrow strip of ancient woodland traversed by the Selwaie brook. A pond was created at the same time as the parish's Millennium feature. Close to the stream in Hazel Wood is the "Holy Well", a registered Historic Monument excavated in 1999 by the East Dorset Antiquarian Society. It is a natural spring enclosed by a low wall and with a paved area alongside, so most likely of importance to local people for some time.
The Keep and Allotments, Pidney (LGS-KA)	1.0ha	Amenity and wildlife value - local allotments serving the parish, well used with waiting list, plus uncultivated area of wildflower rich grassland and protected trees, open to the public, and crossed by a well-used public footpath
Kingston Green (LGS-KG)	0.2ha	Amenity value - visually attractive green space and convenient space for local children to play within a housing area
Emerson Nature Reserve, Wonston (LGS-NR)	0.6ha	Amenity and wildlife value - forms part of the hillside to the south of Wonston, managed privately as a woodland and forest garden area open to the community and visitors and containing interesting shrubs and a local black poplar
The Green, Pidney (LGS-PG)	0.1ha	Amenity value - grass area, providing a convenient space for local children to play close to a housing area
The Cemetery, Droop (LGS-TC)	0.2ha	Amenity value - provides the only active burial area close to the community. Generally quiet and undisturbed. Panoramic views enjoyed to Bulbarrow, Dorsetshire Gap and surrounding countryside. Also species-rich limestone flora noted.

- 6.4. The policy should not be used to prevent ancillary development and improvements that would support the continued use and enjoyment of these spaces, such as the erection of a shelter or bench.

*Figure 5. View 4 (part) exiting copse at top of Drum Lane*

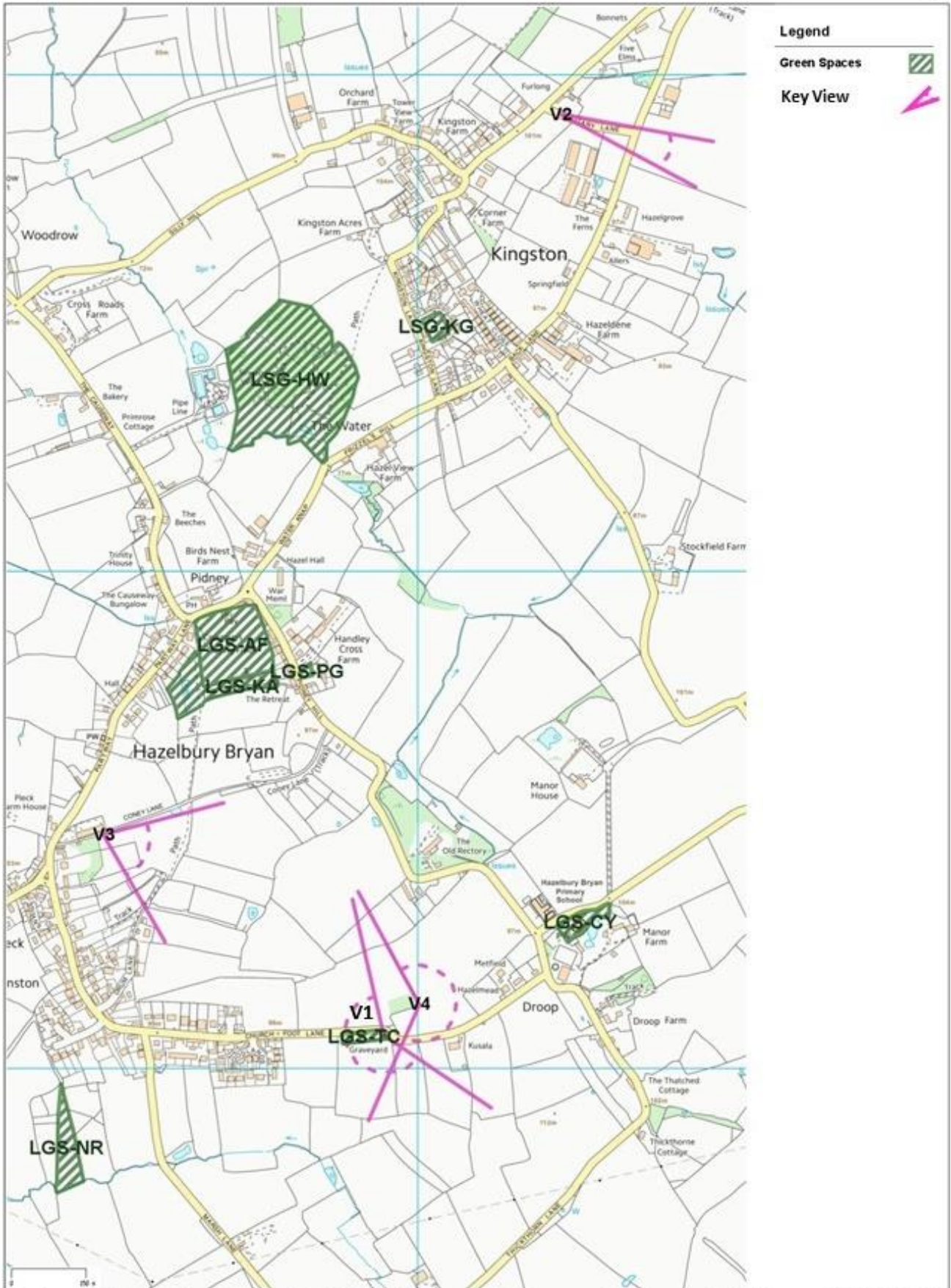


Figure 6. Local Green Spaces and Key Views



Local Green Spaces & Key Views

Hazelbury Bryan CP



Legend

Green Spaces



Key View



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### Policy HB3. Local Green Spaces

The following sites (as shown in Figure 6) are designated as Local Green Spaces, and no development will be permitted within or immediately adjoining them that would harm their green character and reason for designation.

- a) LGS-AF: Alec's Field and Play Area, Pidney
- b) LGS-CY: The Churchyard, Droop
- c) LGS-HW: Hazel Wood
- d) LGS-KA: The Keep and Allotments, Pidney
- e) LGS-KG: Kingston Green, Kingston
- f) LGS-NR: Emerson Nature Reserve
- g) LGS-PG: The Green, Pidney
- h) LGS-TC: The Cemetery, Droop

- 6.5. The following important views were also suggested by a number of local residents, as being particularly important. These are as viewed from public roads and rights of way.

*Table 2. Important Views*

Ref	Location and Direction	View Description
V1	From Cemetery, 270° view looking from North through West to South-East	Panoramic view from one of the highest points between Wonston and Droop, with views of open agricultural land and Wonston hamlet, against a backdrop of distant hills (Church Hill, Ball Hill, Nettlecombe Tout & Lyscombe Hill, Dorsetshire Gap)
V2	From top of Military Lane looking south-west along the lane	Focused view looking along Military Lane, the highpoint in Kingston, across open agricultural land towards Bulbarrow Hill
V3	From the top of Coney Lane where it opens onto field looking east / south-east	Panoramic view from Public Footpath N41/16 across open agricultural land towards Bulbarrow Hill, capturing the beauty of the landscape in the Blackmore Vale.
V4	Exiting copse at top of Drum Lane to Droop footpath, 300° view looking from North-West through East to South-West	Panoramic view from Public Footpath N41/15 looking across open countryside towards Bell Hill, Woolland Hill and Bulbarrow Hill, and including the church tower, capturing the beauty of the landscape in the Blackmore Vale.

### Policy HB4. Key Rural Views

The key rural views, as described above and identified in Table 2 and shown on Figure 6, are to be respected. Development that would significantly intrude and impact on their enjoyment, by virtue of scale, massing, design or location, will be resisted.

*Figure 7. View 3: From the top of Coney Lane where it opens onto field looking east*





## 7. Locally Distinctive Hamlets and Important Gaps

- 7.1. The character of Hazelbury Bryan is not obvious. It is not dependent upon a unity of architectural style or major historical landmarks. Hazelbury Bryan represents something which was once apparently unremarkable; a collection of spacious, remote, quiet farming settlements which have been allowed to develop slowly and organically into a network of hamlets incorporating a shift into a way of life less dependent upon agriculture. Its most significant characteristic is something of a paradox. The seven hamlets have remained distinct entities with open countryside between. However, together they form a cohesive modern community. A key natural landmark is Bulbarrow, which is visible on the skyline from many parts of the hamlets.
- 7.2. It is clear from feedback that the retention and recognition of the individual hamlets is important to most villagers. For this reason, we have assessed the character of each hamlet individually, and have also included a policy to recognise the importance of maintaining their physical separation. Key Listed Buildings and other notable older buildings are taken based on local opinion with particular reference to Listed Buildings designated by Historic England, the Local List (of Locally Important Buildings) identified by the Local Planning Authority and the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME) Inventory. A map of the location of these buildings is provided in Appendix 2
- 7.3. Independent design and character advice was also obtained from Luis Juarez PhD, an Associate Urban Designer for AECOM. His remit was to carry out an initial meeting and site visit, and develop design principles and guidelines specific to the Neighbourhood Plan Area. His final report forms part of the evidence base for this plan, and together with the site assessments undertaken by the working group, provide the basis for the following area descriptions and policies.

### Woodrow

- 7.4. Woodrow is one of the smaller hamlets in the parish, although its history stretches back hundreds of years. Development here is quite scattered, with the main concentration of development around the Woodrow Feeds site.
- 7.5. The hamlet was built adjacent to what was once Common Land (including Alners Gorse), and consists mainly of small farms with buildings and land uses reflecting a higher level of productivity and social interaction. Today the area continues to reflect a mix of land uses. As well as working farms and residential uses, the Woodrow Farm and Animal Feeds site contains a number of well-used businesses within the community, including a restaurant and take-away housed in the old building which provides a venue for social interaction. There are also holiday lets within the hamlet supporting the local tourist trade.
- 7.6. The ages of buildings range from 16th century to within the last 50 years.
- 7.7. Key Listed Buildings and other notable older buildings and features include:
  - > **Cross Roads Farmhouse** - Grade II Farmhouse - C16 (two-storey cob walls, thatched roof with half-hipped ends, single-storied extension, probably C19, linked to cider making)
  - > **Little Whitemoor Farm** (an outlying farmstead) - Grade II Listed Cottage - C16 or earlier (one-storied with attics, rubble brick and rendered walls, thatched and wooden shingle roof with gable ends)
  - > **Old Boywood Farm** (an outlying farmstead just outside the Neighbourhood Plan area) - Grade II Listed House - late C17 (brick (flemish bond) and render, double Roman tile roof with gable ends)

- > **High House Farm** (an outlying farmstead) - noted in RCHME - has rendered walls and a tiled roof and probably dates from the first half of the C18
- 7.8. Buildings are mainly detached (with separate outbuildings), their style strongly reflecting their agricultural origin as farmhouses and farm cottages. Most renovations of old dwellings have (superficially at least) kept the characteristics of their agricultural origins, including single storey elements. There is a mix of building materials largely derived from the local area (stone, cob / render, brick, slate, red tiled and thatched roofs). Buildings tend to be set back from the road in large plots of land with strong hedgerow boundaries. Quite a few properties are set sideways on to The Common, an effect emphasised by the slightly sinuous nature of the road. Where different spacing and boundary treatments have been introduced (such as the gates/corrugated walls of the industrial unit and housing situated right on the road side) this has had a detrimental impact on character.
- 7.9. The Local Plan does not contain a settlement boundary for Woodrow, and given its limited size, the scattered nature of the hamlet and the greater difficulties accessing the other parts of Hazelbury Bryan on foot, it is not proposed to define a settlement boundary for this hamlet through the Neighbourhood Plan. As such, the Local Plan's approach, which is a general policy of restraint, will be applied, with development in this location only permitted in very limited circumstances where a countryside location is appropriate or necessary. Given the short nature of the gap between Woodrow and Partway, further policy restrictions have been introduced to safeguard this important gap, under Policy HB13. This policy restriction will also apply, to a lesser extent, to the larger gap between Woodrow and Kingston.

### Partway

- 7.10. Partway (extending up the Causeway) is believed to have been part of an historic drover's route. Although little more than a scattering of old cottages and houses for many years, as an important route through the parish it has become home to many of the village's amenities (the village hall and Methodist church on Partway Lane, the shop on the Causeway), and also the sports field (with pavilion and children's play area) allotments and village pub are located in the gap between Partway and Pidney. Other uses have come and gone over the years - old maps show a reading room, petrol filling station and bakery.
- 7.11. The older buildings, some of which are described below, are mostly cottage-style of mixed materials including stone, rendered stone/ rubble, with tiled or thatch roofs; a few have porches. Many have been extended in recent decades. The layout is predominantly linear, which is the case for the entire hamlet. Most are set close to the road edge with small front gardens. Rear gardens vary in size and shape. The older buildings along the Causeway, are larger and include a former farmhouse, the Old Bakery (which has been timber clad in the last few years), and Trinity House a rendered building with bays.
- 7.12. Most frequent house typologies are detached houses, cottages, bungalows but there are some semi-detached and terraced dwellings. Different building typologies do cluster along streets where these groupings as a whole make up a good variety.
- 7.13. Listed Buildings and other notable older buildings and features include:
- > **Thatched Cottage** (Nos 2 and 3 Partway Lane) - Grade II pair of cottages (part of a row), early C19 (coursed rubble with gable- ended roofs, thatched to the left and tiled to the right)
  - > **The Antelope** (in the gap between Partway and Pidney) - Grade II Public House, mid C18



- (brick (Flemish bond with flared headers), tiled roof with gable ends, stone copings)
- > **The Village Hall** - although not of architectural value, the village hall has an interesting history. A Reading Room was built for the villagers by the Revd. Burden in about 1890. The main Village Hall was later built alongside it in the 1930s. In the 1970s the Reading Room was demolished and the kitchen/small hall erected in its place.
- > **The Methodist Church** - a mid 19th century red brick building with slate roof and stone window/door surrounds
- > **Windfield Cottage** - noted in RCHME - rendered three-bay front, tiled roof
- > **Partway Cottages** - noted in RCHME - perhaps early C19; two-storied, rubble walls, brick chimneys, tiles, slates and thatch are used on the roofs, casement windows

7.14. There has been considerable infill development in the last century. The first 'modern' development was a group of bungalows in the 1960's just east of the Causeway junction. Their large picture windows and functional architectural style have no visual link to local vernacular. Each decade since has seen the building of further small groups of houses.

7.15. In more recent developments effort has been made to ensure that the layout, architectural style and building materials are more in keeping with the historic pattern and style of older dwellings. There is a feeling of spaciousness in this hamlet, due to the wider road and the fact that quite a lot of the more modern development has been set well back from the road, creating greens and wide verges to the foreground. Where grassed areas have been replaced by hard surfacing for parking, the street scene is more uncharacteristically urban. The community buildings provide important punctuation in the street scene, as they tend to be set closer to the road and stand apart from the more modest scale of dwellings.



7.16. The Local Plan previously combined Partway and Pidney within a single settlement boundary. Given that they are different settlements, this is no longer considered appropriate and Partway is proposed to have a separate settlement boundary from Pidney.

7.17. Given the short nature of the gaps between Partway and the nearby hamlets of Pidney, Woodrow and Wonston, further policy restrictions have been introduced to safeguard these important gaps, under Policy HB13.

### **Wonston (and Pleck)**

The original hamlet, clustered between the junctions with Pleck Hill and Drum Lane, consisted of what is said to be a post Black Death settlement of tenements. This is one of the larger groupings of older buildings within the parish, and has a more close-knit form than the other hamlets. Off of the main thoroughfare (Partway Lane / Churchfoot Lane) there are discrete clusters of dwellings where orchards and similar land parcels have been developed.



7.18. Along the main thoroughfare the plot pattern is one of long, narrow plots running perpendicular to the main road, with many of the buildings positioned on (and facing onto) the road frontage, clearly defining the street and helping define the road junctions. The greater set back and strong building lines created by the terraced dwellings at the junction with The Orchard makes this junction particularly notable in the street scene.



7.19. Many of the older buildings are two-storied, or single-storied with dormer-windowed attics; have rubble walls, brick chimneys, thatched roofs and casement windows (some symmetrical, others irregular). There is a good mix of building types, which reflect the agricultural uses and rural trades in their architecture.



7.20. Key Listed Buildings and other notable older buildings and features include:

- > **Home Farm Farmhouse** - Grade II Listed - 2 storey house, mid C18. Brick (Flemish bond with flared headers), wooden shingle roof, gable ends with stone copings and end brick stacks
- > **Muston Farm Farmhouse** - Grade II Listed Farmhouse, 2 storeys and attic, late C18. Coursed rubble with brick dressings. Tiled, gable ended roof with stone copings to gables and end brick stacks.
- > **Wessex House** - Grade II Listed - Cottage, C18. Colour-washed rubble and brick walls, thatched roof with end stacks
- > **Old Forge Cottage, Middle Cottage, Tiny Cottage, Cornerways** - Grade II 2 storey L-shaped terrace with mix of brick and coursed rubble walls, part whitewashed, wooden shingle hung end wall, with tile, slate and wooden shingle roof.
- > **Candlesticks** - Grade II Listed - Cottage, early C18, squared coursed-rubble with brick dressings. Thatched with hip to right.
- > **Hillview Cottage** - Grade II Listed - Cottage, mid C19, squared rubble, slate roof with end brick stacks
- > **Briarlea, Bryan Cottage, Nuttlebury** - Grade II Listed - range of 3 cottages (probably 4 originally) dating from C17 to C19. Brick with some flared headers, render, squared rubble and colour wash. Thatched roof with end stone stacks to original cottages
- > **Wonston Cottage** and **Drum and Monkey** off Drum Lane - Locally Listed Buildings - former village stores, and a prominent feature in the conservation area, and former inn
- > **Olive House** - Grade II Listed - 2 storey house, early C19, coursed squared rubble, slated, gable-ended roof with end brick stacks
- > **Pair of cottages immediately north of Olive House** - Grade II Listed - 2 storey cottages. Rubble ground floor with brick above. Colour-washed. Gable-ended thatched roof with brick stacks to ends of cottages



- > **The Brewery Farm** - Locally Listed and noted in RCHME - forms an important group in the conservation area with Olive House and Wonston Farmhouse (both Grade II) - noted in RCHME as built of rubble to the height of the first-floor window-sills; above, it is of brick and the gabled S. end wall is patterned with blue headers. The roofs are slated and the windows are sashed
- > **Wonston Farmhouse** - Grade II Listed - 2 storey Farmhouse, C17, converted into cottages early C19 and reconverted to single house later. Coursed rubble with some brick and brick dressings. Ornamental tile roof with gable ends and end brick stacks.
- > **Clover Cottage**, Pleck - Grade II Listed - and adjoining **Cobbles** - Locally Listed and noted in RCHME. Clover Cottage is 2 storeys, rubble walls with brick facade (Flemish bond), thatched roof with brick stacks

7.21. In 1995 the core area was designated as a Conservation Area by North Dorset District Council, in recognition of its historic interest. Unfortunately the District Council have not retained the committee records providing more details of the appraisal that would have been undertaken at that time.

7.22. More recent development has seen clusters of infilling of what were former orchards (the Old Dairy Farm and The Orchard west of Home Farm), and on the industrial land off Churchfoot Lane (to the east side of the junction with Marsh Lane), as well as individual infill plots.



Despite the concentration of properties in this location, the hamlet lost two of its amenities in recent years with the sale of the house which incorporated the village shop (Wonston Cottage) and the closure of the Wonston Club in Drum Lane (with 2 homes subsequently built on the site in 2015).

7.23. While some of the buildings from the 1960/70's have few characteristics that attempt to echo their rural surroundings, fortunately these are mostly built back from the road and well screened by intervening vegetation. In the most recent developments care has been taken to integrate the development through a deliberate mixture of material and period styles in keeping with the local vernacular, and buildings have been placed in curves and corner plots set at a slant to the road, which is in sympathy with the more haphazard pattern characteristic of the hamlet.

7.24. The Local Plan's settlement boundary for Wonston has been reviewed as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process, and only minor changes to the settlement boundary proposed to more clearly follow the boundaries as now exist, and to strengthen the policies that will reinforce the important gap between Wonston and Partway, protected under Policy HB13. This policy restriction will also apply, to a lesser extent, to the larger gaps between Wonston and Droop and between Wonston and Park Gate.

### **Pidney**

7.25. Pidney is another small hamlet, with the main concentration a ribbon of development along the southern side of Pidney Hill from its junction with Water Knap (marked by the war memorial), and more recent development (such as Pidney Green) providing groupings to the north side, where plots have been developed



comprehensively. Many of the houses back onto the sports field (with pavilion and children's play area) and allotments that form part of the gap between Pidney and Partway.

7.26. Key Listed Buildings other notable older buildings and features include:

- > **War Memorial** - stone cross marking the junction at the western end of Pidney Hill. It was erected in 1920 and commemorates the dead of both World Wars.
- > **Tudor Cottage** - Grade II Cottage, probably C 17 (cob walls, thatched, gable-ended roof)
- > **Birds Nest Farm**- noted in the RCHME -rendered brick walls and tiled roofs, of late C18 or early C19
- > **Little Cansiron** dated 1790 built of cob and a seemingly good example of a vernacular building with original interior features still intact.

7.27. Age and architectural style of buildings varies, from 16th century to within the last decade. On the south side buildings are individual in character, relatively modest in scale, although some joined as terraces, and all orientated to face the road, reflecting the relatively shallow plot depths. Development is set back further on the north side of Pidney Lane, with the hedgerows and agricultural links providing a more dominant characteristic. Building materials are also varied and include brick, cob / render and stone, with tiled, thatched and slate roofs. Despite the variety of built form and local materials used, none dominate or compete. The generally modest scale of buildings and the field boundaries and green spaces play a large part in the sense of history and continuity.

7.28. The development around Pidney Green with its use of timber cladding has retained a rural, agricultural theme.

7.29. The Local Plan previously combined Partway and Pidney within a single settlement boundary. Given that they are different settlements, this is no longer considered appropriate and Pidney is proposed to have a separate settlement boundary from Partway.



Given the short nature of the gap between Pidney and Partway, a further policy restriction has been introduced to safeguard this important gap, under Policy HB13 (taking forward the protection afforded under saved policy HB1 of the 2003 Local Plan). This policy restriction will also apply, to a lesser extent, to the larger gap between Pidney and Kingston, and between Pidney and Droop.

### **Droop**

7.30. Droop is said to have been the original village settlement in the area, but it is believed due to the Black Death, villagers dispersed to what have now become the hamlets of today. In terms of residential buildings, this is the smallest of Hazelbury Bryan's hamlets and possibly the most picturesque. It is visited frequently by most villagers due to the two important amenities of the school and church, and occasional village functions at Manor Farm with its 16<sup>th</sup> century barn.

7.31. With its farms, large houses in their own grounds, scattered nature of development and narrow, twisting single-track lanes with thick hedgerows and mature trees, Droop has an overwhelmingly rural character.

7.32. In Droop the building heights vary between one and two storeys with the exception of the Church which is taller than the rest of the buildings and a significant local landmark.

Typically the roofline is pitched, and many of the older buildings have coursed, rubble walls and thatch, slate and occasional metal roofs (relevant to their humble origins).

7.33. Key Listed Buildings other notable older buildings and features include:

- > **Church of St Mary And St James** - Grade I Listed
- > **Almshouses (Church Cottage)** - Locally Listed - forms an important historical group with the 15th-century parish church
- > **Barn approximately 40 metres south of Parish Church of St Mary And St James** - Grade II Listed - C16, coursed rubble walls with corrugated sheet roof, gable
- > **Droop Farmhouse** - Grade II Listed - C16 Farmhouse with C18 alterations. Coursed rubble walls, thatched roof with gable ends and end brick stacks. Rear wing slated with gable end
- > **Droop Cottage** - noted in RCHME - late C16 or early C17, built of rubble in two storeys with an iron roof
- > **The Crooked Billet**- Grade II Listed - 1½ storey house probably C17. Coursed rubble and roughcast, whitewashed. Half-hipped thatched roofs.
- > **The Old Malt House** (outside main settlement) - Grade II Listed - C17, 2 storey house in T Plan form. Coursed rubble, slate roof with gable ends and brick end stacks



7.34. Only two buildings have been built recently, one of which is of a modern architectural style but with references to the rural, agricultural setting, the other uses stone similar to that found in older local properties.

7.35. The Local Plan does not contain a settlement boundary for Droop, and given its limited size and the scattered nature of the hamlet, and setting of the Grade I Listed Church, it is not proposed to define a settlement boundary for this hamlet through the Neighbourhood Plan. As such, the Local Plan's approach, which is a general policy of restraint, will be applied. Policy restrictions have also been introduced to safeguard the gaps to Pidney and Wonston.

### Kingston

7.36. The hamlet of Kingston is perched on a slight escarpment above Pidney, Partway and Woodrow (although confusingly there is a second Woodrow in close proximity to the north). Old maps of Kingston show that apart from a scattering of cottages and farms, it originally consisted of a close grouping of cottages at the eastern end of Silly Hill.

7.37. Dwellings in this historic core are very mixed in building material (brick, stone, rendered, cob with slate, tiled or thatched roofs), style, age and density. Building heights vary mainly between one-and-a-half to two storeys. Typically the roofline is either pitched or hipped and most buildings have chimneys. Cross hipped and dormer roof types are also present.



- 7.38. The curvature and narrowness of the lanes such as Silly Hill and Kingston Lane add to the interest with views changing frequently on passing through.
- 7.39. Key Listed Buildings other notable older buildings and features include:
- > **Grenestede Farmhouse** - Grade II Listed - 2 storey Farmhouse, probably C17 rear wing with C 18 main range. Rear wing of coursed rubble and cob, main range of brick (Flemish bond with flared headers). Thatched roofs with gable ends and end brick stacks
  - > **Rosemary Cottage**- Grade II Listed -Cottage, probably C17 origin, later addition to left. Whitewashed rubble and brick walls, thatched roof with gable ends and brick stacks
  - > **Kingston Croft** - noted in RCHME - two-storied and of coursed rubble with a tiled roof; early C18
  - > **Corner Farm** - noted in RCHME - coursed rubble in two storeys with tiled roofs over thatch, dates from early C19
  - > **Scythe Cottage** - noted in RCHME - two storey cottage, probably C16, but most of the original fabric was hidden or replaced by rubble walling, and the walls were heightened in brickwork
  - > **Cypress Cottage** - Grade II Listed - C18. Coursed rubble walls with a thatched roof, hipped to the right. Central brick stack. Wooden casements with glazing bars. Ground floor windows under segmental stone arches
  - > **Back Lane Farm Farmhouse** - Grade II Listed - 1½ storeys, probably C17. Rubble, brick and cob whitewashed. Thatched roof, gable ended to the left and half-hipped to the right. Brick stack to the left and to the right of front door.
- 7.40. In the C20 the hamlet extended south along Kingston Lane, to link with Back Lane and the larger commercial enterprises developing along what is the main vehicular route from Sturminster Newton. Developments in the mid to late C20 have been built with few references to local village character, with little variety and overly suburban forms, detracting from the rural character of the surroundings.

### **Park Gate**

- 7.41. Park Gate is so named because there was once a gate there leading onto the pre-enclosure open land of Stoke Common.
- 7.42. The hamlet is only a couple of hundred metres long and consists of eight houses, many dating from the late C19. The character of the hamlet is that of a sleepy, 19th century farm area.
- 7.43. All properties are situated within feet of the road, accentuating the narrow confines of the lane at this point, with its section of single lane carriageway. There is a mixture of stone, stone/rendered and brick construction. More recent building amounts to no more than modern extensions to existing properties and a less characteristic brick built bungalow probably dating from 1950s.



### **Design Guidance**

- 7.44. The review of the character of the various elements has highlighted a number of key principles that need to be taken into account in designing new buildings, extensions and landscaping. These are outlined in Table 3 that follows:



Table 3. General Design Principles

<p><b>Street Layout, Gateways and Access Features, Corner Buildings, Building Lines and Boundary Treatment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Streets should tend to be linear with gentle meandering - providing interest and evolving views. Routes should be laid out in a permeable pattern allowing for multiple connections and choice of routes, particularly on foot. Cul-de-sacs should be relatively short and include provision for onward pedestrian links.</li> <li>b) In the case of new sites, gateway features and built elements that reflect local character should be used to highlight the access and 'arrival' at that destination. High quality landscaping features may be appropriate to fulfil the same role.</li> <li>c) Buildings should be aligned along the street with their main façade and entrance facing it, where this is in keeping with local character. The building line should have subtle variations in the form of recesses and protrusions but will generally form a unified whole whilst at the same time adding character.</li> <li>d) Access to properties should be from the street where possible. Corner buildings should have an animated facade with excellent design the façade/s facing onto the street, and no visible blank facades.</li> <li>e) Boundary treatments should reinforce the sense of continuity of the building line and help define the street, appropriate to the rural character of the area. For example, they could be low walls made of brick or stone, metal ironmongery or hedgerows or a combination of these, whichever is appropriate to the street. The use of cheap panel fencing in these publicly visible boundaries should be avoided.</li> <li>f) Front gardens or small 'pocket parks' should be included where this is characteristic of the area</li> <li>g) The distribution of land uses should respect the general character of the area and road network, and take into account the degree of isolation, lack of light pollution and levels of tranquillity</li> </ul>
<p><b>Local Green Spaces, Rural Views and Character</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>h) Development adjoining public open spaces and important gaps should enhance the character of these spaces by either providing a positive interface (ie properties facing onto them to improve natural surveillance) or a soft landscaped edge.</li> <li>i) The spacing of development should reflect the rural character and allow for long distance views of the countryside from the public realm. Trees and landscaping should be incorporated in the design</li> <li>j) The existing quiet and peaceful atmosphere of Hazelbury Bryan should be preserved.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pattern and Layout of Buildings, Building Heights and Roofline, Materials, Surface Treatments and Architectural Details</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>k) The existing character must be appreciated when contemplating new development, whatever its size or purpose. Whilst contemporary design is encouraged local heritage and setting must be considered.</li> <li>l) Where an intrinsic part of local character, properties should be clustered in small pockets showing a variety of types. The use of a repeating type of dwelling along the entirety of the street should be avoided.</li> <li>m) Heights of buildings should not generally exceed two-and-a-half storeys and the typical height should be one to two storeys, with some variation in any mix. The heights and roof forms should allow for glimpses of the surrounding countryside and long distance views where appropriate.</li> <li>n) The existing roofline of adjoining properties should be respected to create a consistent roofline and rhythm along the street. Roof pitches should match existing/adjacent roof pitches (taking into account variation as a result of the materials used).</li> <li>o) Materials proposed for use in new development and building extensions should match or otherwise blend or complement those used in the existing building or area, allowing for subtle variations by street. Boundary walls delineating gardens shall be built from local stone or other appropriate materials to match the colour of traditional walls in the vicinity.</li> <li>p) Architectural detailing shall typically display elements that equate to those on existing traditional buildings which provide interest, scale and texture to form and elevations. In terraced or semi-detached houses this would typically include a cornice at the eaves, door surrounds or porches and occasionally parapet wall at eaves.</li> </ul>

- q) Proposed building façades should indicate the importance of each storey through combination of composition of building elements and the level of architectural detailing used.
- r) Contemporary architecture should be supported where it combines with local traditional architectural forms.

**The Sensitive Inclusion of Renewable Energy and other Eco-friendly Measures, Car Parking and Infrastructure / Services**

- s) Renewable energy and other eco-friendly measures should be considered in the design of new buildings and extensions to existing buildings
- t) Car parking design and placement should be designed to minimise visual impact and to blend with the existing streetscape and materials. Landscaping should be used to keep a sense of enclosure and to break the potential of a continuous area of car parking by means of walls, hedging, planting and use of paving materials.
- u) If placed on the property boundary, waste storage should be integrated as part of the overall design of the property. Landscaping may also be appropriate to minimise the visual impact of bins and recycling containers.

7.45. It is expected that Design and Access Statements should address these points, and a list of questions that should be answered is provided in **Appendix 3**.

**Policy HB5. Locally Distinctive Development**

Any future development will be designed to reinforce the distinctive local character of the settlement or outlying rural area to which it relates. This should include reference to and consideration of all of the following key characteristics, as described in more detail in Table 3:

- a) the street layout, gateways and access features, design of corner buildings, building line and boundary treatment;
- b) the local green spaces, rural views and character;
- c) the pattern and layout of buildings, building heights and roofline, materials, surface treatments and architectural details;
- d) the sensitive inclusion of renewable energy and other eco-friendly measures in the design of new buildings and extensions to existing buildings where practical and viable, and subject to avoiding harm to nearby heritage assets
- e) the sensitive inclusion of car parking and infrastructure / services.

7.46. The following policies are bespoke to each hamlet and need to be applied in conjunction with Policy HB5.

**Policy HB6. Woodrow Distinctive Character**

Any future development in the vicinity of Woodrow should

- a) reflect the agricultural and working nature of the area, including the mix of building types, sizes and outbuildings,
- b) respect the low density scattered character and mixed orientation of development,
- c) use native hedgerows to provide boundary definition,
- d) use local materials where practical and adopt complementary vernacular architectural styles.

**Policy HB7. Partway Distinctive Character**

Any future development in the vicinity of Partway should

- a) generally be set back from the road front with grassed verges and planting to strengthen the rural character, and not dominate the street scene (unless a community building),
- b) respect the historic field boundaries and native hedgerows to provide boundary

definition,

- c) use a variety of local materials and complementary vernacular architectural styles, that are harmonious without obvious repetition.

**Policy HB8. Wonston and Pleck Distinctive Character**

Any future development in the vicinity of Wonston and Pleck should

- a) retain the more densely built character of the historic core of the hamlet, including the narrow plot form, and the positioning of buildings on the road frontage creating varied terraces,
- b) encourage a mix of uses appropriate to reflect the hamlet's status as one of the older and larger hamlets,
- c) respect the relatively modest scale of buildings, including the predominance of cottage styles with windows abutting or bridging into the roof space,
- d) reflect the wide variation in styles and the use of local materials including stone, cob, render, wood cladding / shingles, brick with tiled, slate, thatch roofs

**Policy HB9. Pidney Distinctive Character**

Any future development in the vicinity of Pidney should

- a) respect the historic field boundaries and native hedgerows that provide strong boundary definition on the north side of Pidney Hill, and retain gaps providing visual links to farmland to the rear,
- b) retain the generally modest scale of building heights,
- c) use a variety of local materials and complementary vernacular architectural styles, that are harmonious without obvious repetition or uniformity.

**Policy HB10. Droop Distinctive Character**

Any future development in the vicinity of Droop should

- a) respect the scattered rural nature of the area, and the dominance of the church and school as the key local landmarks,
- b) retain and reinforce the narrow confines created by the rural lanes, the native hedgerow boundaries and presence of mature trees,
- c) use local materials and predominance of use of coursed, rubble walls and thatch, slate and occasional metal roofs.

**Policy HB11. Kingston Distinctive Character**

Any future development in the vicinity of Kingston should

- a) be sensitive to and reinforce the rural and historic character of the hamlet and rural nature of the roads and lanes,
- b) retain and reinforce hedgerows, and green spaces sufficient to accommodate mature trees,
- c) use wide variety of styles appropriate to the area, and use or blend with the local materials - brick, stone, rendered, cob with slate, tiled or thatched roofs
- d) typical building heights should be one-and-a-half to two storeys, with some variation in any mix.

**Policy HB12. Park Gate Distinctive Character**

Any future development in the vicinity of Park Gate should

- a) be sensitive to and reinforce the rural and historic character of the hamlet,
- b) respect the positioning of buildings on the road frontage, and retain and reinforce the hedgerows along the lanes and field boundaries,
- c) reflect the predominance of cottage and farm buildings, and use or blend with the local materials - brick, stone, rendered, cob, with slate, tiled or thatched roofs

### **Settlement Boundaries and Important Gaps**

- 7.47. Settlement boundaries are a well-used planning tool that helps define those built-up areas where further infill development will in principle be acceptable, subject to site specific considerations which would include aspects such as environmental constraints, safe access and impact on local character.
- 7.48. The 2003 Local Plan drew settlement boundaries around Kingston, Wonston (and Pleck), and Pidney and Partway (combined), and did not propose such boundaries for Woodrow, Droop or Park Gate. These settlement boundaries have been considered in preparing this Neighbourhood Plan, and as a result some changes are proposed. The main change is in the separation of Pidney and Partway, through the exclusion of the mainly open areas around Alec's Field. Other minor changes to the settlement boundary are also proposed to ensure the line more clearly follows the field boundaries as they now exist, without giving rise to additional infill opportunities which would be better dealt with as site-specific allocations. As previously, no settlement boundaries are proposed for the smaller hamlets where infill development would not be appropriate due to their character and more outlying nature.
- 7.49. The importance of the gaps that separate the hamlets has long been recognised in planning policy. The 2003 saved Local Plan policy HB1 prohibited "any development which would lead to the coalescence of the separate hamlets of Hazelbury Bryan". New buildings, some structures (such as containers and large utilities equipment) and some land uses (such as temporary parking and storage) can all reduce the sense of openness and separation provided by the countryside between the hamlets, to the detriment of the local character.
- 7.50. Figure 8 shows the settlement boundaries as revised (with no settlement boundaries defined for Woodrow, Droop or Park Gate due to their comparatively small and scattered and outlying nature). It also defines the areas in which development will not be permitted that would diminish the function of the gaps between the settlements. These have been tightly drawn where the gaps are relatively short, but do not extend the full length of the physical gaps where there is a greater degree of separation, in order to provide some flexibility and focus protection on the areas that contribute most to the sense of physical separation.
- 7.51. The settlement boundaries have not been amended to accommodate the greenfield site-specific allocations, as the exact settlement boundary is better established once the developments are built-out (and can be done at the next review of this Plan or through the Local Plan Review).

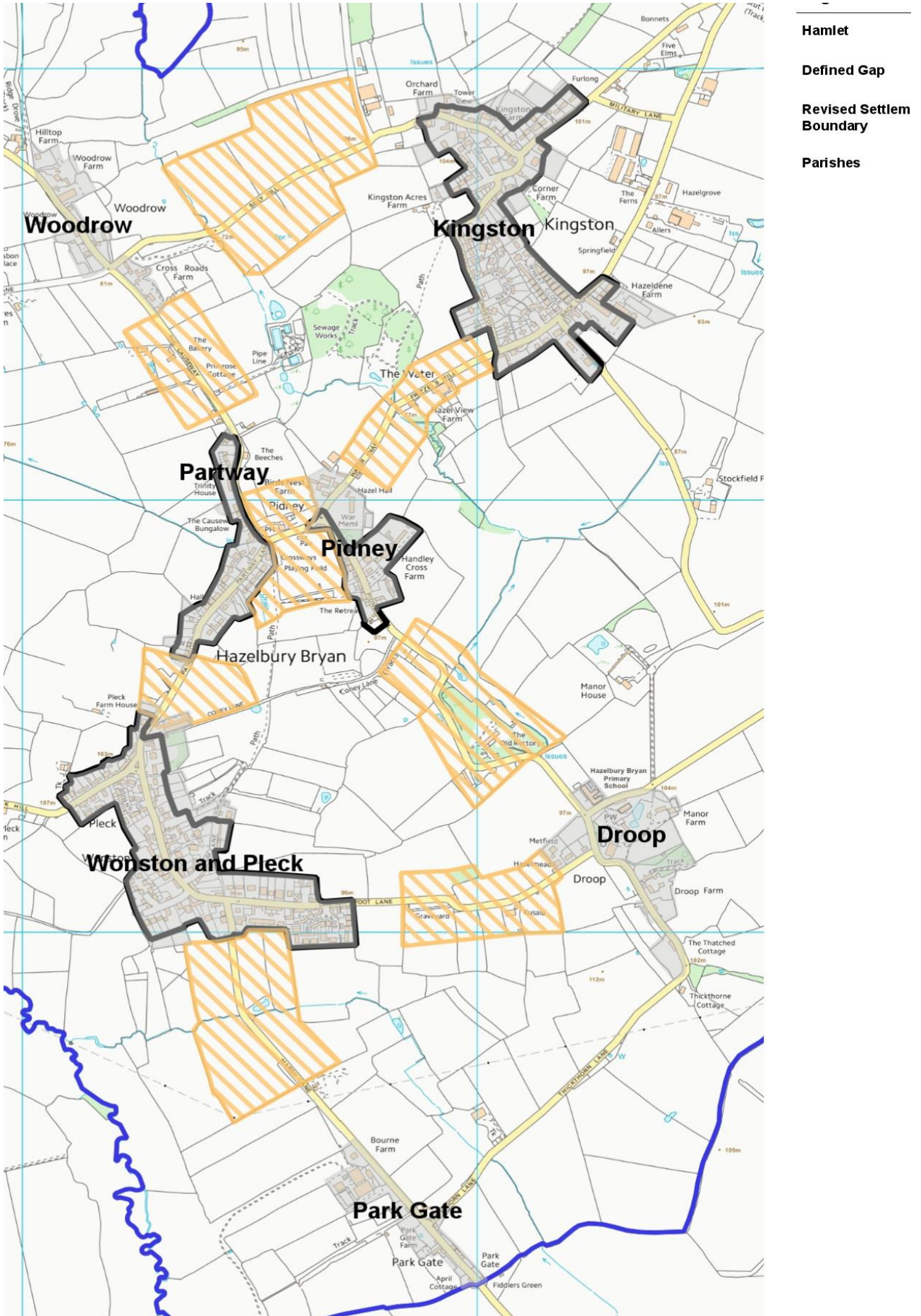
#### **Policy HB13. Settlement Boundaries and Important Gaps**

The distinct hamlets of Kingston, Wonston (and Pleck), Pidney, Partway, Woodrow, Droop and Park Gate will be respected through ensuring that development does not lead to their coalescence.

The settlement boundaries are amended as shown on Figure 8.

New buildings, and structures and land uses that would undermine the rural, undeveloped nature of the countryside, will not be permitted within the defined gaps shown on Figure 8.

Figure 8. Hamlets and Gap Separation



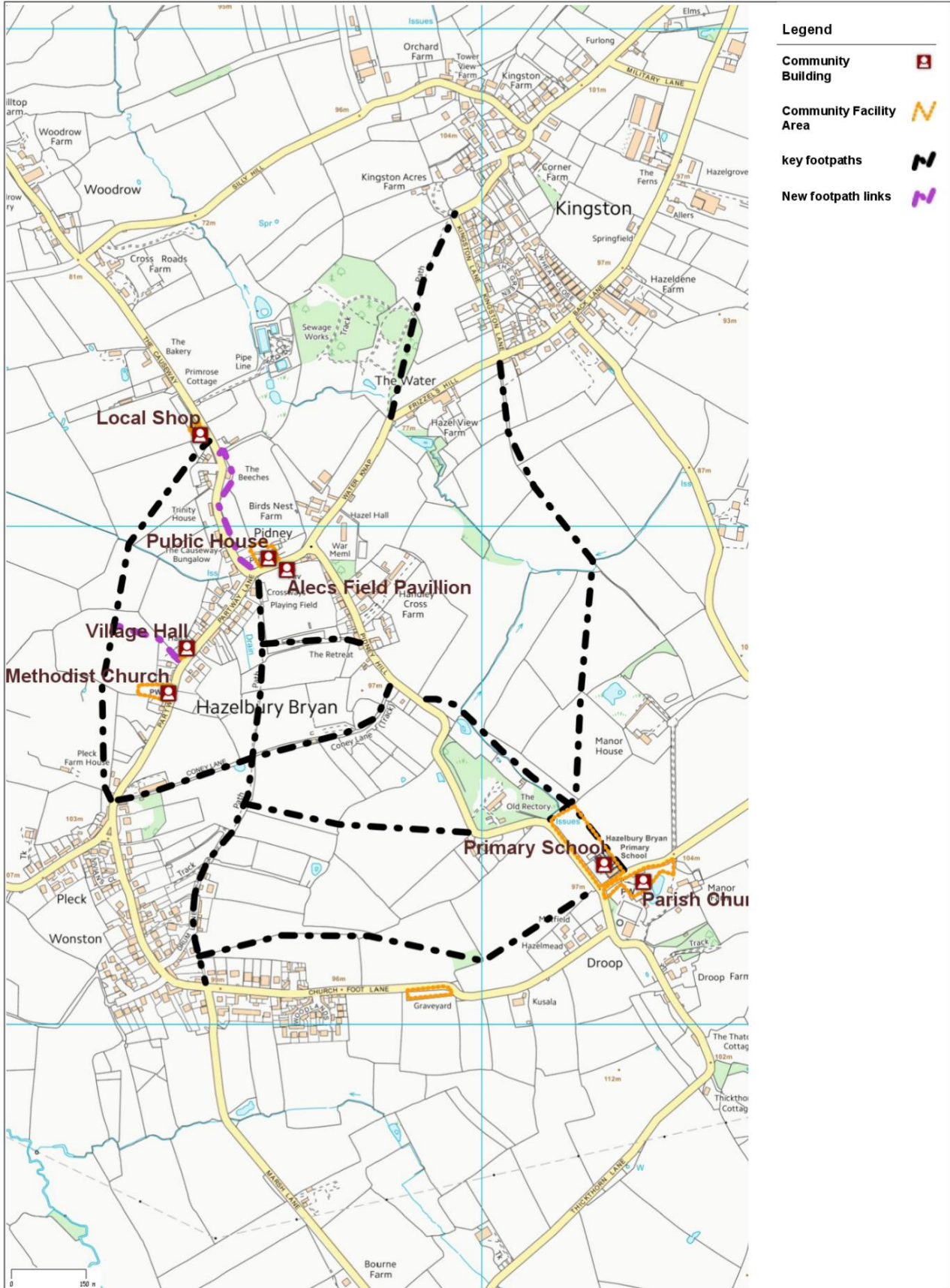
### 8. Community facilities, services and amenities

Figure 9. Community buildings and curtilage, key footpaths and proposed new links



#### Community Buildings and Links

Hazelbury Bryan CP



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- 8.1. The Local Plan and national planning policy both recognise the important role that facilities such as village halls, sports facilities, churches, local shops, pubs and post offices, play in creating successful communities. Such facilities allow people to interact, support healthy living styles that are less reliant on the car, and engender pride and a sense of belonging to the places where we live and work.
- 8.2. In rural communities, some community facilities that serve a much wider population will inevitably be located in the nearby towns. This is true of Hazelbury Bryan, where many local people look to Sturminster Newton for services and facilities such as healthcare and higher education. However, the community is fortunate in the facilities that it has, and it is hoped that these will be retained (and even added to) during the plan period.
- 8.3. Community facilities, services and amenities ultimately depend on service providers or local people to run (and some will only succeed if they are commercially viable). The planning system can help by guarding against their unnecessary loss (by resisting any change of use that would lead to their closure) and allowing such facilities to develop and modernise so that they are able to adapt to changing customer requirements and remain viable to run.

### Healthcare

- 8.4. The Blackmore Vale Partnership, based primarily at the Sturminster Newton Medical Centre, is believed to cover a majority of the Village residents. The Cerne Abbas Surgery Practice has a growing number of patients from the Village, and holds regularly weekly surgeries, each Wednesday morning, in the Village Hall, as well as providing a drop off dispensing service through The Red Barn twice a week.

### Education

- 8.5. Hazelbury Bryan **Primary School** in Droop provides education from the age of 3, within the Pre-School, to Year 6, as well as breakfast and after school clubs. In 2016/17 some 75% of the pupils were from within the Parish and the School was broadly at capacity. Any significant increase in children would require additional class rooms. The School employs 23 staff, many of whom live locally. Another issue for the primary school relates to access and parking. Many local children walk to school but the narrow nature of lanes and limited parking at the school can cause haphazard conditions for pedestrians and drivers at school run times. Pedestrian gates have been installed along the footpaths under a "walk to school" initiative to provide an alternative off-road route that is baby buggy and mobility vehicle accessible. Further parking for the school and church would also be beneficial.

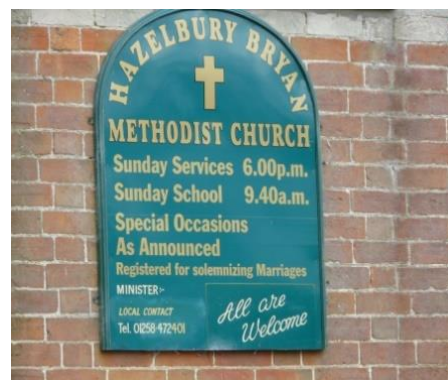


### Social and Spiritual

- 8.6. Our 15th century **St Marys and St James Parish Church** in Droop provides for a congregation of about 150 people comfortably, although with some larger weddings and funerals some 300 people have been accommodated. Weekly services see much lower average attendance, other than the well-attended main celebrations (Christmas, Easter, Remembrance and others). The Church would welcome increased numbers as might be brought about by village expansion.



- 8.7. Hazelbury Bryan **Methodist Church** in Partway can accommodate about 90 people and has provisions for funerals and weddings. The Church holds a number of regular hall-based activities such as weekly toddler groups, youth clubs for varying ages and coffee mornings. Having only a small car park the demand for parking, like the village hall, causes some problems.
- 8.8. The **Cemetery** is located between Wonston and Droop, and is managed by the Parish Council. Since opening in 1947 it has been home to just over 370 burials, averaging around 3 - 4 burial plots used per year in recent decades. There are currently about 48 plots available in addition to those already reserved, providing enough space for (hopefully) another 10 years at least. However, towards the end of the plan period an extension to the Cemetery is likely to be needed.
- 8.9. The **Village Hall** in Partway provides the primary meeting place for local people and is well utilised by village clubs, societies and representatives, particularly in the evenings. Daytime uses include a number of regular bookings, including the doctor's surgery. At weekends it is often hired by individuals for children's parties and other one-off events. From observations many of the hall-based activities appear to generate a need for around 12 - 15 cars (and on occasion a much higher number). The hall has capacity to absorb a modest increase in the local population, the main issue being related parking congestion on the local road.
- 8.10. The **Pavilion** building on Alec's Field has a kitchen and function room in addition to changing facilities and toilets, with capacity for around 30 people.
- 8.11. The Antelope **Public House** in the gap between Partway and Pidney has a largely local customer base (estimated at about 70% from the parish). There is plenty of capacity to cater for increased numbers. Safe walking routes to the pub (as there is a lack of pavements) would be welcomed to encourage more people to walk to the pub.
- 8.12. **Fellini's Restaurant** opened in 2017 and accommodates around 40 covers as well as providing a takeaway service for its Pizzas. Employing four staff, all local, the management sees almost all their current trade from within the Village and has yet to assess the likely level of ongoing business and thus future requirements. Having local places to eat was highlighted as highly desirable in the earlier consultations, and as such this addition to the Village is most welcome.





### Shops & retail.

8.13. The Red Barn represents the only **local shop** providing basic essentials, a weekly post office and other retail services including acting as a collection point. Currently its customer base is mainly from within the Village (approximately 85%). It is operating broadly at capacity but could cater for more customers by reorganising. It is run by a self employed couple from within the Village, and their greatest concern remains the safety of its customers given the lack of footpaths connecting from the shop into the Village.



8.14. There are also other local outlets that are valued by local residents, including Woodrow Feeds, which provides animal feedstuffs, pet supplies and sundry other related items for the last 16 years. Its customer base divides approximately equally between local residents and those from outside the Village.

### Communications - Broadband and Mobile Phone Services

8.15. For a small village, Hazelbury Bryan is blessed with having a fibre backbone internet, which is delivered from the telephone exchange to a number of green cabinets in the village. Links from dwellings to these cabinets can provide connection speeds of 76MB, although this is dependent on the distance from the cabinets (using the existing copper lines). Other opportunities such as wireless or satellite connectivity for more remote dwellings may provide alternative solutions where feasible and cost effective.

8.16. In December 2017 planning consent was granted for a new mobile phone mast on land adjoining Coney Lane, north of Wonston. When implemented, this new mast should improve connectivity across much of the parish, including 3G and 4G coverage.

### Outdoor Recreation.

8.17. Alec's Field is the village's main recreation ground and sports field. It is enjoyed by local residents of all ages, particularly the children's play area.

8.18. Next to Alec's Field are The Keep and Allotments. The 23 plots are fully occupied, and further allotments may well need to be provided within this local green space.

8.19. More locally, there are small grassed areas in Kingston and Pidney, which are used by local children for informal games and socialising.



8.20. Hazel Wood near Kingston and the Emerson Nature Reserve close to Wonston are both accessible wildlife areas in easy walking distance of the village, enjoyed by local people.

8.21. These green spaces are highlighted for protection in Policy HB3.

### Rights of Way

8.22. There are 41 Public Rights of Way in the parish, of which 5 are Bridleways, and one is a Restricted Byway. Coney Lane, which runs between Wonston and Pidney, is a narrow green lane (Unclassified County Road).

8.23. The footpath network is extensively used, particularly the ones between the various hamlets, which enable walkers to avoid the winding, narrow roads. The key footpaths that perform this function have been identified (see Figure 9), and these routes, and links

to them, are likely to be the focus for infrastructure improvements that may be delivered or funded from development, to make them more accessible.

Table 4. Key footpaths

Connections	PRoW used	Notes
Kingston to Pidney via Hazel Wood	N41/21	Runs from north end of Kingston Lane to Water Knap (avoiding Frizzels Hill)
Kingston to Droop	N41/1,3 and 5	Runs from south end of Kingston Lane across fields to connect to Pidney Hill near the school
Wonston to Partway (north)	N41/31 and 32	Runs from the northern end of Wonston to exit close to the Local Shop, with connecting spur to the southern end of the Causeway (alternative connecting route to be negotiated). Also passes close to the rear of the village hall (connecting route to be negotiated), avoiding narrow sections of Partway Lane and The Causeway
Pidney to Droop	N41/2 and 3	Footpath running broadly parallel to Pidney Hill as an off-road alternative to avoid narrow bends around the Old Rectory
Wonston, Droop, Partway and Pidney	D31813, D31812, N41/16, 17, 18 and 19	Series of connecting lands and footpaths within the triangle of land enclosed by the four hamlets. Coney Lane is accessible for buggies / pushchairs etc
Wonston to Droop	N41/15	Footpath running broadly parallel and as an off-road alternative to Churchfoot Lane

- 8.24. Although the Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedule has been approved for the area, as of March 2018 its use has not yet commenced. In the interim, Section 106 agreements continue to be used by the Local Planning Authority to make acceptable development which would otherwise be unacceptable in planning terms. The includes developer contributions towards the maintenance and enhancement of existing social infrastructure and the provision of new social infrastructure, where such contributions are appropriate to the nature and location of the proposed development. The following policy has therefore been included in the plan to provide guidance on appropriate measures (depending on the nature of the proposed development) that may be sought.

#### Policy HB14. Supporting Community Facilities

Development proposals to improve the provision of community facilities (including those listed below) in a manner in keeping with the character of the area will be supported. Every effort should be made to work with the local community and relevant authorities to investigate potential solutions to avoid any loss of the following valued assets:

- a) Village Shop and Post Office
- b) Hazelbury Bryan Primary School (including Pre-School provision)
- c) Hazelbury Bryan Village Hall
- d) St Marys and St James Parish Church
- e) Hazelbury Bryan Methodist Church
- f) The Antelope Public House
- g) Recreation areas (designated as Local Green Spaces)
- h) Key Public Footpaths and Rights of Way (as shown on Figure 9)

Developer contributions may be sought where reasonable and necessary for improvements to the above social infrastructure.

## 9. Housing

9.1. At the time of the 2011 Census there were 1,059 people living in Hazelbury Bryan parish, forming 454 households in a parish of 480 dwellings. As of March 2018, a further 6 dwellings have been built, and 21 additional dwellings approved:

### BUILT

- > Land at Pidney Hill: 1 mobile home (2/2010/1164/PLNG)
- > Little Crate, The Common: 1 mobile home (2/2011/1185/PLNG)
- > Handley Lodge, Pidney Hill: 1 dwelling (change of use from office) (2/2012/1331/PLNG)
- > Wonston Village Club, Drum Lane: 2 dwellings (2/2013/0381/PLNG)
- > Mustonfields, Park Gate: use building as dwellinghouse (retrospective) (2/2014/1118/FUL)

### APPROVED

- > Land at Broad Oaks Farm, The Common: 1 dwelling (2/2009/0606/PLNG)
- > The Old Cow Shed, Star Farm, Wonston: 1 dwelling (2/2014/1599/P3IAPA)
- > Dutch Barn, West Lane: 1 dwelling (2/2016/0473/AGDWPA)
- > Handley Cross Farm, Pidney: 17 dwellings (including 6 affordable and 3 live-work units) (2/2016/1052/FUL)
- > Priest Thorn Cottages, Stut Lane: 1 dwelling (2/2017/0517/AGDWPA)

9.2. The Local Plan does not identify specific housing need for Hazelbury Bryan. A housing needs review was therefore undertaken that looked at a wide range of evidence, including Census data, the latest data underpinning the objectively assessed needs for North Dorset, the general rate of building in the parish over previous decades, potential housing need recorded on the District Council's Housing Register, and the opinions of local residents, Estate Agents and Service Providers. Table 5 summarises the main findings.

Table 5. Table Average Overall Housing Need Figure

Source	Notes	2011-2031 requirement
2016 Local Plan, 2015 SHMA and 2017 DCLG projections	Pro-rata target provides a starting point for a more tailored assessment of housing need for the area	44 to 56 dwellings
Past build rates	2003 - 2017 average of 2 to 3 dwellings per annum	40 to 60 dwellings
Housing Register and local information on housing need	12 additional affordable houses - which could be delivered through larger open market housing sites (40%) or rural exception sites (up to 100%). Small plots to provide opportunities for modest-sized self-build dwellings	30 dwellings on larger sites of 10+ homes, and a proportion of smaller plots for modest-sized self-build homes
Market signals	Likely to be continuing strong level of demand for housing (no upper limit), which ideally should be phased over the plan period, and focus on lower cost / smaller (2 - 3 bedroom) houses, close to local facilities (shop / school)	No upper limit, house types and phasing should be considered
Service provision issues	A critical issue is the capacity of the school, which should be monitored if more than 30 dwellings are proposed, but the need for new classrooms is unlikely to be triggered if no more than 120 dwellings are built	Monitor impact on school if more than 30 dwellings planned.
Local Opinions	Broadly equal support for the two middle categories (11 to 25 and 26 to 50),	11 to 50 dwellings
Key Census statistics	Indicates relative small household sizes, and a disproportionately higher number of larger, detached properties, resulting in a high level of under-occupancy	House types and sizes should place an emphasis on smaller, more affordable homes

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	Approximate average of the various ranges suggests 31 to 52 dwellings, upper end of this range would be a reasonable target	45 - 52 dwellings (average 2.3 - 2.6dpa)
<b>Less already built or consented</b>	Data review to June 2017 indicated 6 dwellings built and a further 21 approved	27 dwellings
<b>Housing site requirement to 2031 (on sites yet to be identified)</b>		18 - 25 dwellings

- 9.3. Based on this research, the Neighbourhood Plan should make provision for between 18 to 25 new dwellings (in addition to the 21 dwellings already consented by March 2018). This amount of housing is an appropriate level of development for the parish, in line with the Local Plan strategy. Following a call for sites, site assessment (including the strategic environment assessment of reasonable alternatives) and much public consultation, four housing sites, an employment site with site manager's accommodation, plus one reserve site have been identified for inclusion in this plan.
- 9.4. The types of housing required are predominantly lower cost / smaller (2 - 3 bedroom) houses, ideally located close to the main facilities. The provision of starter homes specifically aimed at first time buyers will help younger families settle in the parish, and self-build plots can also provide more affordable route to home ownership, catering for specific needs and individual tastes, and reflecting the more sporadic and locally-driven nature of development that has happened historically. Live-work units are also appropriate to rural living patterns, and provide benefits of both local work and services. Finally, with the ageing population, there will be increasing calls for housing designed for residents who want to remain in the community but whose limited mobility makes their current home unsuitable.
- 9.5. The 2016 North Dorset Local Plan requires affordable housing to be provided at 40% of the total number of dwellings on development sites of 11 or more dwellings. On schemes of six to ten dwellings, developers should still contribute to affordable housing, but this may be in the form of funding that will enable affordable housing to be built elsewhere in the parish.
- 9.6. The allocation of affordable homes should prioritise eligible people in need of such housing that have a local connection (either due to having lived or who are working in the parish, or with close family living here), followed by those with a connection to adjoining parishes, before cascading to people with no connection to the area.

#### **Policy HB15. Meeting Housing Needs - Amount and Location of New Dwellings**

Provision is made for up to 52 dwellings to be built in Hazelbury Bryan between 2018 and 2031, to meet the projected local needs of the community. The following sites are allocated in the Neighbourhood Plan (which together with the 21 dwellings at Handley Cross Farm, conversions in line with the Local Plan, and appropriate infill opportunities within the settlement boundary that may arise, is expected to meet this need):

- Site 11: Martin Richard's Tractors UK site, Back Lane, for up to 13 dwellings including affordable housing
- Site 7: Former Frank Martin's Agricultural Depot, Stockfield Drove, for up to 11 dwellings including affordable housing
- Site 13: Land immediately adjoining the Retreat, Coney Lane, for 1 dwelling
- Site 12 - Land adjoining King Stag Mill, The Common, for 1 site manager's dwelling

Site 2: Higher field to rear of Village Hall has been identified as a reserve site for up to 13 dwellings. The release of this reserve site should be phased through the review of the Neighbourhood Plan, or alternatively it may be permitted after 2026 if there is clear evidence that the minimum target of 45 homes will not be achieved without its release.

The release of unallocated greenfield sites outside the settlement boundary for open market housing should therefore be resisted.



**Policy HB16. Meeting Housing Needs - Dwelling Types**

The type and size of housing built should reflect the predominant need for lower cost / smaller (2 - 3 bedroom) houses. The provision of affordable homes above the level set in the Local Plan, starter homes, self-build plots, live-work units, and housing designed specifically for people with more limited mobility, will be supported. Restrictions will be included to ensure that affordable housing is prioritised and remains affordable to local people (with a connection to the parish) in perpetuity. Larger homes (with the equivalent space for four or more bedrooms) are only likely to be accepted where the characteristics of the plot and surrounding area lend themselves to such larger dwellings, and their design lends itself to possible future subdivision (as two dwellings or dwelling with annexed or working accommodation).

9.7. The following sections provides a summary of the main issues and potential impacts associated with the preferred sites, as identified from the main findings of the site assessments and further technical checks, including the Strategic Environmental Assessment. These have been used to inform the policy allocations for each site. It should be noted that further or more detailed reports may still be required at planning application stage.

**Site 11: Martin Richard's Tractors UK site, Back Lane, Kingston**



Site description	A relatively flat brownfield site on the eastern edge of Kingston, extending to about 0.57ha.
Existing use	Employment site (tractor machinery sales and repair business).
Neighbouring uses	The site is bordered by a farmyard to the north-east, houses on the road front and west, and fields to all other sides
Visual impact and landscape interest	Relatively enclosed by existing development, visible from Back Lane and across the field from Stockfield Drove, but unlikely to be seen from wider footpath network. No notable landscape features
Wildlife interest	A brownfield site with no significant wildlife interest. The native hedgerow and shallow ditch along the north-eastern boundary has a range of species that suggest this may be an old hedgerow, and is the most important ecological feature of the site.
Historic interest	This site adjoins Back Lane Grade II Listed farmhouse and forms part of its setting. The immediate setting of this 17th century farmhouse has already been undermined by the close proximity of the office. Development here is likely to result in a positive improvement since the existing large volumes will be replaced with smaller, domestic scale buildings and the area of hard standing will be reduced.
Flood risk / ground	No risks noted (fluvial and surface water flood maps) and no local

conditions	knowledge of flooding issues.	
Access points / and suitability	Direct from Back Lane (main road linking to Sturminster Newton) with wide radii (which could be tightened for residential use) and good visibility. Reasonable access on foot to village although lack of pavements on many roads and outside easy walking distance (800m) of most of the key community facilities	
Summary - main benefits and issues to mitigate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brownfield site</li> <li>- Opportunity to relocate industry and associated noise / vehicles away from a residential area.</li> <li>- Opportunity to improve setting of Grade II Listed farmhouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of employment (if not replaced)</li> <li>- Distance from key community facilities</li> <li>- Possible contamination from previous use (if present and not mitigated)</li> <li>- Possible noise / smells from adjoining equestrian yard (former farmyard)</li> <li>- Visual impact as seen from Stockfield Drove</li> <li>- Potential loss of hedgerows</li> <li>- The setting of the Grade II Listed farmhouse will need to be respected, but should be improved by development</li> </ul>
Estimated capacity	Up to 13 dwellings possible (average density 23 dph)	

9.8. Based on this assessment the following policy will be considered in the event of a planning application being submitted for this site. There are no specific linked measures identified to off-set the loss of employment and distance to key community facilities, as this is largely outside the control of the landowner. However policies HB21, HB22 and HB24 are expected to provide some mitigation in terms of employment provision and improved pedestrian safety.

**Policy HB17. Site 11 - Martin Richard's Tractors UK site, Back Lane, Kingston**

Martin Richard's Tractors UK site, as shown on Figure 10, is allocated for up to 13 dwellings, to include on-site provision of affordable housing, and subject to all of the following requirements:

- a) The type and size of housing accords with Policy HB16
- b) The design of the development accords with Policies HB5 and HB11
- c) The layout and design will improve the setting of Grade II Listed Back Lane Farmhouse
- d) The north-eastern hedgerow and shallow ditch should be retained, and additional landscape planting using native species should be provided along the south eastern and south-western site boundaries adjoining open fields, to create a soft edge with the countryside
- e) The development accords with requirements for biodiversity mitigation in Policy HB2
- f) Measures are taken to ensure that any evidence of potential contamination before or during construction are investigated and remediation agreed by the Local Planning Authority
- g) The design and layout should ensure that the living conditions and amenities of residents will not be adversely affected by the ongoing operation of the adjoining yard
- h) Developer contributions may be sought for improvements to the road infrastructure in accordance with Policy HB24

**Site 7: Former Frank Martin's Agricultural Depot, Stockfield Drive, Kingston**



Site description	A relatively flat brownfield site on the south-eastern edge of Kingston, behind two detached dwellings and their rear gardens, extending to about 0.48ha.	
Existing use	Current use occasional agricultural vehicle parking, last main use as an agricultural contractor's yard.	
Neighbouring uses	The site is bordered by houses to the north, and fields to all other sides	
Visual impact and landscape interest	Reasonably visible due to surrounding landform, primarily from Stockfield Drive but also from wider footpath network to south. No notable landscape features other than strong hedgerow boundary and ditch with grass verge in front along road	
Wildlife interest	A brownfield site with no significant wildlife interest other than the hedgerow boundaries, which have a range of native woody species and appear to be quite old, and as such may qualify as Important Hedgerows under the Hedgerow Regulations Act (1997)	
Historic interest	The site has no impact on any heritage assets - the closest is Grade II Listed Back Lane Farmhouse which is not seen in the same viewshed	
Flood risk / ground conditions	No risks noted (fluvial and surface water flood maps) and no local knowledge of flooding issues	
Access points / and suitability	Direct from Stockfield Drive (main road linking onto Back Lane) with good visibility for vehicles. Reasonable access on foot to village although lack of pavements on many roads and outside easy walking distance (800m) of most of the key community facilities	
Summary - main benefits and issues to mitigate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brownfield site</li> <li>- Opportunity to ensure industry and associated noise / vehicles are away from residential areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of employment (if not replaced)</li> <li>- Distance from key community facilities</li> <li>- Possible contamination from previous use (if present and not mitigated)</li> <li>- Visual impact as seen from Stockfield Drive and the footpath network to the south</li> <li>- Potential loss of hedgerows</li> </ul>
Estimated capacity	Up to 11 dwellings possible (average density 23 dph)	

9.9. Based on this assessment the following policy will be considered in the event of a planning application being submitted for this site. As with site 11, there are no specific linked measures identified to off-set the loss of employment and distance to key community facilities, as this is largely outside the control of the landowner. However policies HB21, HB22 and HB24 are expected to provide some mitigation in terms of employment provision and improved pedestrian safety.



**Policy HB18. Site 7 - Former Frank Martin's Agricultural Depot, Stockfield Drove, Kingston**

Former Frank Martin's Agricultural Depot site, as shown on Figure 10, is allocated for up to 11 dwellings, to include on-site provision of affordable housing, and subject to all of the following requirements:

- a) The type and size of housing accords with Policy HB16
- b) The design of the development accords with Policies HB5 and HB11
- c) Retention of hedgerows along the north-eastern and south-eastern site boundaries, with additional landscape planting using native species provided along the south-eastern and south-western site boundaries adjoining open fields, to create a soft edge with the countryside
- d) The development accords with requirements for biodiversity mitigation in Policy HB2
- e) Measures are taken to ensure that any evidence of potential contamination before or during construction are investigated and remediation agreed by the Local Planning Authority
- f) Developer contributions may be sought for improvements to the road infrastructure in accordance with Policy HB24.

**Site 13: Land immediately adjoining the Retreat, Coney Lane, Pidney**

Site description	A relatively flat greenfield site on the southern edge of Pidney, extending to about 0.11ha.
Existing use	Stables / sheds associated with adjoining paddock.
Neighbouring uses	The site is bordered by houses to the north, and fields to all other sides
Visual impact and landscape interest	Moderately visible, primarily from Pidney Hill, with glimpses possible from wider footpath network to south. Strong landscape boundaries provided by hedgerow and mature tree
Wildlife interest	Semi-improved and species-poor neutral grassland. The hedgerow along the road boundary from its composition and inclusion of the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map may qualify as an Important Hedgerow under the Hedgerow Regulations Act (1997). There is one mature Ash tree in the road hedge
Historic interest	The site is not conspicuous from a heritage perspective, the only heritage asset is Tudor Cottage Grade II Listed which cannot be seen from the site
Flood risk / ground conditions	No risks noted (fluvial and surface water flood maps) and no local knowledge of flooding issues
Access points / and suitability	Direct from Pidney Hill - visibility splays would need to be improved, potential requiring tree / hedge to be removed. Reasonable access on

	foot to village although lack of pavements on many roads	
Summary - main benefits and issues to mitigate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunity to provide self-build unit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potential loss of hedgerow and mature tree to provide required visibility splays for access</li> <li>- Visual impact as seen from Pidney Hill and the footpath network to the south</li> <li>- Potential loss of hedgerows and mature Ash</li> </ul>
Estimated capacity	Up to 1 dwellings possible (as self-build unit)	

9.10. Based on this assessment the following policy will be considered in the event of a planning application being submitted for this site.

**Policy HB19. Site 13 - Land immediately adjoining the Retreat, Coney Lane, Pidney**

Land immediately adjoining the Retreat, as shown on Figure 10, is allocated for 1 self-build dwelling, and subject to all of the following requirements:

- a) The type and size of housing accords with Policy HB16, as a self-build dwelling
- b) The design of the development accords with Policies HB5 and HB9
- c) Landscape planting using native species should be provided along the southern and western site boundaries adjoining open fields, to create a soft edge with the countryside
- d) The development accords with requirements for biodiversity mitigation in Policy HB2, including mitigation for loss of the roadside hedge and mature ash tree if these cannot be retained due to access requirements
- e) Any necessary improvements required to achieve safe vehicular access onto Pidney Hill are secured

**Site 2: Higher field to rear of Village Hall, Partway Lane, Partway (Reserve Site)**



Site description	A gently sloping greenfield site on the northern side of Partway Lane, extending to about 0.80ha (excludes the full extent of the field on rising ground).
Existing use	Agricultural field.
Neighbouring uses	The site is bordered houses and village hall to the east, and fields to all other sides
Visual impact and landscape interest	Moderately visible, primarily from footpath network to the north. No notable landscape features
Wildlife interest	A large improved agricultural field of little ecological interest apart from the hedgerow boundaries, which have a range of native woody species and appear on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map, and as such may qualify

	as Important Hedgerows under the Hedgerow Regulations Act (1997)	
Historic interest	The site is not conspicuous from a heritage perspective, the only heritage asset is the non-designated Methodist Church some distance removed from the site. There is a precedent in the Village for the likely quantum of housing to be arranged around a village green	
Flood risk / ground conditions	Surface water flood maps indicate potential drainage from Partway Lane onto limited part of the site, crossing into field to north.	
Access points / and suitability	Direct from Partway Lane. Vehicular access will require suitable visibility splays in each direction along the carriageway - visibility to the north is currently obstructed by boundary fence. Within easy walking distance (800m) of most of the key community facilities, although section of Partway Lane connecting to Wonston is not particularly safe for pedestrians	
Summary - main benefits and issues to mitigate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunity to provide off-road parking for village hall - need for minimum of 12 spaces identified,</li> <li>- Opportunity to provide footpath connection to link to key footpaths to west of site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potential surface water flood risk (if not properly understood and mitigated)</li> <li>- Visual impact as seen from the footpath network to the north</li> <li>- Potential loss of hedgerows</li> </ul>
Estimated capacity	Up to 13 dwellings possible plus parking provision for village hall	

9.11. The site has only been included as a preferred site on the basis of the community benefits it will provide in terms of off-road parking for the village hall, and additional footpath link it will provide to the key footpath network. Without these benefits, this site would not have had the general support of local residents. Based on this assessment the following policy will be considered in the event of a planning application being submitted for this site.

**Policy HB20. Site 2 - Higher field to rear of Village Hall, Partway Lane, Partway**

Higher field site to rear of Village Hall, as shown on Figure 10, is allocated to provide off-road parking for the village hall and up to 13 dwellings, to include on-site provision of affordable housing, and subject to all of the following requirements:

- a) The type and size of housing accords with Policy HB16
- b) As a reserve site, the phasing of any housing accords with Policy HB15
- c) The design of the development accords with Policies HB5 and HB7
- d) 12 parking spaces for use in perpetuity by village hall users should be provided within the site in an accessible location close to the hall, either in advance of the housing or at an early phase of the development
- e) A public footpath connection through the site to N41/32 is secured, and designed to be attractive to all potential users
- f) Retaining existing hedgerow boundaries. Additional landscape planting using native species should be provided along the site boundaries adjoining open fields, to create a soft edge with the countryside
- g) The development accords with requirements for biodiversity mitigation in Policy HB2
- h) A detailed flood risk assessment of the surface water drainage is undertaken, and any necessary mitigation measure incorporated into the design and layout

## 10. Employment

- 10.1. In addition to the community facilities that provide local employment (such as the school, public house and local shop) there are a number of employment sites in the parish providing local work opportunities. The main sites identified within the parish in March 2018 are shown on Figure 10, and listed below:
- > Affordable Drainage adjoining The Red House, The Common, Woodrow
  - > Best Print UK Ltd, Hilltop Farm, Woodrow
  - > Brady Bespoke Furniture, The Causeway, Partway
  - > Frank Martin's agricultural depot, Stockfield Drove, Kingston (no longer in active employment use)
  - > Hazelbury Bryan Timber Supplies, Marsh Lane, Park Gate
  - > Hunts Food Services, Back Lane, Kingston
  - > King Stag Mill, The Common - includes businesses such as Walbridge Motor Co, R B Snook, Stur'N'Mix / Sturminster Building Supplies office]
  - > The former Chicken Farm at The Ferns, Kingston - includes KKG Engineering
  - > The former Chicken Shed at Pleck Farm, Coney Lane, Wonston
  - > Martin Richard's Agricultural Engineers Ltd (and also Tractors UK) site, Back Lane, Kingston
  - > Woodrow Farm and Animal Feeds site, Woodrow - includes Woodrow Feeds, RWH Agriculture Ltd, Dieci Telehandlers Ltd, Fellini Italian Restaurant
- 10.2. In addition to these, there are a variety of local businesses run from home, such as 'A Jar Of' which produces handmade preserves and sauces run from a converted cowshed in Droop Farm, and 4D Signs who provides a full range of signs, banners, vehicle livery and printed clothing services run from The Old Dairy in Wonston, as well as various tradesmen and consultants whose business is based from home. There is also holiday and self-catering accommodation providing local employment opportunities.
- 10.3. Outside the settlement boundary the Local Plan policies encourages the retention and small-scale expansion of existing employment sites, provided that:
- > the existing development and use is lawful;
  - > the expansion of the site is of a size and scale appropriate to the location and proportionate to the circumstances;
  - > the development would not include or give rise to ancillary uses within the site, such as open storage, that would be visually intrusive; and
  - > the development would not be more visually intrusive in the landscape than the existing development and would respect the immediate setting of the site and its wider surroundings.
- 10.4. On this basis, some sites may not be suitable for expansion, depending on their location and surrounding constraints. For example, the expansion of the former Chicken Shed at Pleck Farm, Coney Lane, Wonston would not be supported as this would intrude further into an important open gap. However many could be expanded where no such constraints apply. Subject to viability, development contributions may be sought towards highway infrastructure improvements under Policy HB24 where the expansion of an existing site would give rise to additional traffic movements that due to their nature or volume raise pedestrian road safety concerns.

### Policy HB21. Economic Development Opportunities

The retention and small-scale expansion of existing employment sites allowed through the Local Plan will apply to sites shown on Figure 10. The redevelopment of Site 11 - Martin Richard's Tractors UK site, Back Lane, Kingston and Site 7 - Former Frank Martin's Agricultural Depot, Stockfield Drove will be supported subject to policies HB17 and HB18 respectively.

10.5. The main issue for the plan area is the potential loss of two areas of employment land through the redevelopment for housing of Site 11: Martin Richard's Tractors site, and Site 7: Former Martin's Depot. This will result in a loss of approximately 1ha of employment land (albeit that the workforce currently supported is relatively low). In order to mitigate this loss, an alternative employment area has been identified, adjoining King Stag Mill, and is allocated for employment (with the option to include site manager's accommodation if appropriate to the end use).

**Employment Site: Land adjoining King Stag Mill, The Common**



Site description	A gently sloping greenfield site adjoining King Stag Mill (a notable landmark on the approach to Hazelbury Bryan), extending to about 0.84ha (excludes the full extent of the field).	
Existing use	Agricultural field.	
Neighbouring uses	The site is bordered by an existing employment site to the west, and fields to all other sides	
Visual impact and landscape interest	Moderately visible, primarily from The Common. The most elevated point on the site may be conspicuous in long views. No notable landscape features other than strong hedgerow boundary	
Wildlife interest	An improved agricultural field, the only ecological interest noted being the two lengths of hedge that would still require a survey under the Hedgerow Regulations	
Historic interest	This location is remote from any heritage assets - the closest being Mill End Farm to the south side of The Common.	
Flood risk / ground conditions	Surface water flood maps indicate potential drainage across the field onto and across The Common to drain into the River Lydden on the far side	
Access points / and suitability	Direct from The Common. Vehicular access will require suitable visibility splays in each direction along the carriageway - which will require removal of a substantial section of the existing roadside hedge. Not within easy walking distance of (800m) of the local settlements	
Summary - main benefits and issues to mitigate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Away from residential areas adjoining existing employment area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potential surface water flood risk (if not properly understood and mitigated)</li> <li>- Visual impact of higher ground in long distance views and as seen from the road</li> <li>- Potential loss of hedgerows</li> <li>- Potential pollution depending on type of employment use</li> </ul>

10.6. The site has been included as an option to provide alternative employment land lost through the development of sites 11 and 7. Other sites could also be considered, in

accordance with the Local Plan. Based on this assessment the following policy will be considered in the event of a planning application being submitted for this site.

- 10.7. Any proposed uses that may give rise to pollution would need to comply with the relevant national guidance on preventing adverse affects of soil, air and water pollution.

### **Policy HB22. Site 12 - Land adjoining King Stag Mill, The Common**

Land adjoining King Stag Mill, as shown on Figure 10, is allocated to provide employment land for B-class and similar uses, and a site manager's dwelling if appropriate. The development of this site is subject to all of the following requirements:

- a) The employment uses should be limited to B Class uses and other 'sui generis' uses typically found on large industrial estates, and may include small-scale retail which is ancillary to a B Class use
- b) Where practical new employment premises should be designed to enable the future expansion and reconfiguration of units, without the need for major rebuild
- c) The scale, positioning and design of buildings should have regard to reducing potential visibility in long views and not compete with the adjoining 3-storey feed mill which appears as a landmark on the approach to Hazelbury Bryan.
- d) A detailed flood risk assessment of the surface water drainage is undertaken, and any necessary mitigation measure incorporated into the design and layout
- e) Retention of the existing hedgerow as far as practical. Additional landscape planting using native species should be provided along the site boundaries, to create a soft edge with the countryside and reduce the visual impact of the site from The Common
- f) The development accords with requirements for biodiversity mitigation in Policy HB2
- g) The site manager's dwelling should be sited, and its occupancy and future disposal restricted, so as to meet the ongoing functional needs of the employment site
- h) Any necessary improvements required to achieve safe vehicular access onto The Common are secured
- i) Developer contributions may be sought for improvements to the road infrastructure in accordance with Policy HB24.

## **11. Roads, traffic and parking**

- 11.1. National planning policy requires that planning decisions consider whether safe and suitable access to the site can be achieved. Developments that generate significant movement should be located where the need to travel will be minimised and the use of sustainable transport modes can be maximised (though recognising that options may be more limited in rural areas).
- 11.2. Roads and traffic are often mentioned as a concern by local residents. It is generally accepted that vehicles travel too fast on the straight roads of The Causeway and Pidney Hill irrespective of the restriction to 30 mph. These concerns already exist, and comments have been raised that further development could make the current situation worse.
- 11.3. A short traffic survey was conducted by local volunteers, which showed
- > traffic is highest in the morning and evening, with the predominance of cars going out of the village in the morning and into the village in the evening. This backs the view that many people have found work away from the village
  - > for most of the traffic the start or end of the journey is the village itself, rather than being just through traffic

- > traffic movements now include a significant number of internet shopping / courier deliveries by van
  - > larger vehicles (trucks, buses, tractors etc) made up about 6% of all trips.
- 11.4. The roads within the village are narrow with some parts only wide enough for one vehicle. The increasing size of some of the lorries and agricultural vehicles can also damage the verge sides. There are no pavements in most of the village and the speed and size of vehicles gives rise to fear by pedestrians. The rural nature and narrow width of our roads will not, in all probability, change over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan. Protecting the key, and well used, footpaths for residents to access the main amenities of the village is included in Policy HB14.

### **Parking**

- 11.5. There are insufficient parking places serving several of the main amenities of the village, most notably the village hall, church, school and Methodist church. The result is that for popular events, and drop off/pick up times for the school, cars are parked in the roadway, thereby making it more hazardous for traffic. In addition, pedestrians then walk from their parked cars along the road to the venue. Parking for the inhabitants has also become more of an issue over the years. Many houses do not have any, or have insufficient, off road parking. All this leads to more vehicles being parked in the road, reducing the usable width and obstructing visibility.
- 11.6. The provision of more off-road parking near the village hall and Methodist church is being sought through Policy HB20. Although there is no development allocated to deliver the same benefits for the Parish church and school, if land is made available this would be supported through Policy HB14.
- 11.7. County standards for parking allow for 1 and 2-bedroom houses to have only 1 parking space. Given that these houses may have two (or even more) adult occupants, this level of provision may well result in further pressure for cars to be parked on the road. Given the issues this causes locally, a higher level of provision is being sought - that all new homes should have at least 2 car parking spaces within their grounds and adequate turning to allow forward entry onto the road. Where new driveways and parking areas are created, permeable surfacing should be used to avoid increasing flood risk elsewhere.

### **Policy HB23. Parking Provision**

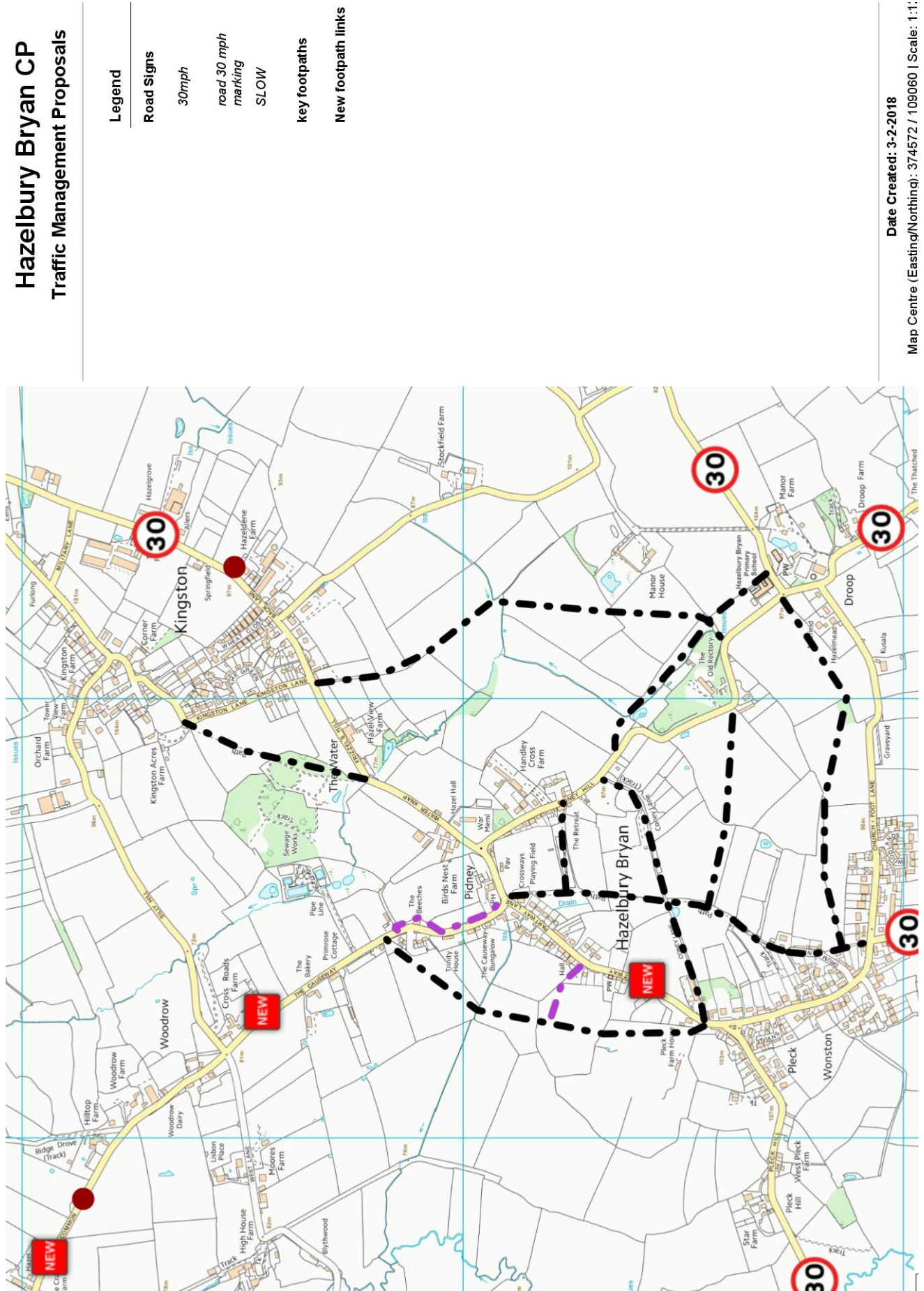
Development should include sufficient off-road parking to meet anticipated need (with new dwellings having a minimum of 2 car parking spaces within their grounds and adequate turning to allow forward entry onto the road).

The design of parking provision will need to respect the character of the area, use permeable surfacing materials, and avoid large areas of hard-standing that would be visible from the street or other public areas.

### **Traffic Management**

- 11.8. This section contains ideas that were formulated during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. Responses to the consultation indicate that they have the general support of the community (although not all agreed), and would be acceptable to the Highways Authority.

Figure 11. Locations for traffic management measures





- 11.9. Further work on the exact details, and more importantly funding, is needed if these measures are going to be delivered. This is not something that can be guaranteed through the Neighbourhood Plan process, but may be funded in part from the Parish Council's share of the Community Infrastructure Levy collected (when this commences) or in the interim a matter to be negotiated through a S106 agreement where local improvements would be appropriate and related to the proposed development. The viability of development will be taken into account in any negotiations and it is not expected that this policy will be applied to affordable housing.
- 11.10. In any event, given that traffic issues were a major concern, it was felt appropriate to have these ideas included as a record of public opinion, and a potential project to be progressed.

#### **Policy HB24. Supporting Highway Infrastructure Improvements**

Developer contributions may be sought where reasonable and necessary for improvements to the road infrastructure as identified through Project HBP1

#### **Project HBP1: Traffic Management in Hazelbury Bryan**

If supported, and funding were to be made available, the following relatively low-cost measures will be pursued to improve the traffic issues for the village.

- a) Improved signage for the various hamlets - e.g. Droop
- b) Additional 'Unsuitable for HGV' signs to be erected - e.g. from the war memorial through to the school and onward to Thickthorn Lane.
- c) Additional '30mph' and 'SLOW' markings on the road to remind vehicles of the speed restrictions, and warn of blind junctions
- d) Speed Indicator Devices to be placed along routes where speeding is a known issue - e.g. The Causeway, entry to the village from Sturminster Newton and on Marsh Lane

- 11.11. Figure 11 shows the locations of the existing 30 mph signs, places where further signs could be added.

## Appendix 1: Main Supporting Evidence Base

Produced as part of the plan-making process

The following documents were produced as part of the research into the Neighbourhood Plan:

- > Business list review
- > Community facilities services and amenities review
- > Ecological Assessment of Sites, Bryan Edwards, DERC
- > Environmental assets review
- > Heritage Assessment of Sites, Kim Sankey
- > Housing Needs Assessment Report
- > Local Green Spaces Report
- > Strategic Environmental Assessment
- > Traffic Issues report
- > Views Assessment Report
- > General Design Guidelines for Hazelbury Bryan, Luis Suarez, AECOM

### Background information - other supporting evidence

Further background information and documents referred to in the Neighbourhood Plan, most of which can be readily accessed via online links:

- > An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Dorset, Volume 3, Central (1970) (RCHME) <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/rchme/dorset/vol3/pp105-109>
- > Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Workspace Strategy (October 2016) (produced in association with the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole local authorities and the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership) [https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/media/217653/Bournemouth-Dorset-and-Poole-Workspace-Strategy-2016/pdf/20161014\\_FINAL\\_Workspace\\_Strategy\\_2016.pdf](https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/media/217653/Bournemouth-Dorset-and-Poole-Workspace-Strategy-2016/pdf/20161014_FINAL_Workspace_Strategy_2016.pdf)
- > CPRE Dark Skies Map <http://nightblight.cpre.org.uk/maps/>
- > Cranborne Chase AONB Management Plan 2014-2019 (Cranborne Chase AONB Partnership) <http://www.cwwdaonb.org.uk/publications/aonb-management-plan/>
- > Dorset AONB traffic in villages toolkit [http://www.dorsetaonb.org.uk/assets/downloads/Dorset\\_AONB\\_Partnership/trafficin-villages-web.pdf](http://www.dorsetaonb.org.uk/assets/downloads/Dorset_AONB_Partnership/trafficin-villages-web.pdf)
- > Employment Land Review: Review of Existing Sites (April 2007) (North Dorset District Council) [https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/media/147658/Employment-land-Review--Review-of-Existing-Sites/pdf/070626\\_elr\\_stage\\_1\\_with\\_front\\_cover.pdf](https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/media/147658/Employment-land-Review--Review-of-Existing-Sites/pdf/070626_elr_stage_1_with_front_cover.pdf)
- > Hazelbury Bryan Parish Plan (September 2010) (Hazelbury Bryan Parish Council) <http://www.hazelburybryan.com/pdf/misc24.pdf>
- > North Dorset Landscape Character Assessment (North Dorset District Council) [https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/media/147865/Landscape-Character-Area-Assessment-Addendum/pdf/lcaa\\_evidence\\_base\\_addendum.pdf](https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/media/147865/Landscape-Character-Area-Assessment-Addendum/pdf/lcaa_evidence_base_addendum.pdf)
- > North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 (January 2016) (North Dorset District Council) <https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/article/422365/North-Dorset-local-plan-part-1-links-to-adopted-plan>
- > The Institute of Lighting Professionals (ILP) (2011) Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light GN01:2011 <https://www.theilp.org.uk/documents/obtrusive-light/guidance-notes-light-pollution-2011.pdf>



## Appendix 3: Design and Access Statements - Questions to Address

### *Street Layout, Gateways and Access Features, Corner Buildings, Building Lines and Boundary Treatment*

- > How does the site relate to the road network, and what are the particular layout characteristics of this area and building lines which have been taken into account in the design?
- > Does the proposal positively contribute to the quality of the public realm/streetscape and existing pedestrian routes?
- > Explain the boundary treatment onto the street and how this has been considered in the context of the site
- > How is the entrance to the development marked to reinforce local character?
- > If the land use is to change, how does this fit in with the current mix of uses?

### *Local Green Spaces, Rural Views and Character*

- > Is the site on the edge of a hamlet or adjoining an important green space or important gap - and if so how does it deal positively with this transition?
- > Does the proposal (including the height and configuration of rooflines) maintain or enhance views - taking into account those identified as important, and the importance of long distance views of the countryside that can be glimpsed from within the hamlets? Can any new views be created?
- > What are the existing landscape features in and around the site (including trees and hedgebanks), and how are these considered in the design?
- > Will the development and its use impact on the tranquillity of the area and how has this been considered?

### *Pattern and Layout of Buildings, Building Heights and Roofline, Materials, Surface Treatments and Architectural Details*

- > How does the height, form, massing and scale relate to the landform, the character of the area in general and the adjoining buildings (and if an extension, how does it relate to the existing property and respect its character?)
- > How has the local architectural character (building styles and detailing) been considered in the proposals? NB this is equally appropriate for contemporary designs
- > How does the proposal reflect the rural character (including generally lower densities) of its location?
- > Explain if the site intended to create a landmark in its own right (and if so why), or how it blends with the existing character
- > Explain how the development respects the scale and importance of nearby landmarks and historic buildings
- > What are the distinctive materials used in the area, and how has their use been considered in the design? If not using traditional local materials, how would the proposed materials harmonise with the local character?
- > How has the details of the windows, doors, eaves and roof details been addressed in the context of the overall design and local character?
- > What are the important features surrounding the site and how have these been considered in the design?

### *The Sensitive Inclusion of Car Parking and Infrastructure / Services*

- > Explain what private amenity space has been provided for any likely occupants, and why this is considered adequate.
- > Does the proposed development adjoin residential properties, and if so how has any overlooking of properties or gardens been avoided?
- > How do the points of access have regard for all users of the development (including those with disabilities)?

- > What parking is provided and how has this been designed to integrate with the streetscene?
- > How have any hard-surfacing areas been designed to be permeable and not dominate the streetscene?
- > What provision been made for bin storage and waste collection and how has this been designed to integrate with the streetscene?
- > What effect will services have on the scheme as a whole and how have these been integrated into the design?
- > Is any external lighting likely to be required and how will this be designed to avoid light pollution?
- > Explain how any renewable technologies (e.g. solar, panels, green roofs, water harvesting, waste collection, etc), have been designed to complement the building. Where roof-mounted solar panels are not proposed as part of the design, explain why these are not proposed and how these might be incorporated sensitively at a future date.

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