



2021 Census Data Evidence Report

Reference: 0171-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council.

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1. General

The following criteria applies to all sections

Criteria:

population	All households in parishes
Units	Households
area type	2022 parishes
area name	Aston Abbotts

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All data in the tables are from the 2021 Census

Information obtained from www.nomisweb.co.uk

2. Demographics

2.1. PP001 - Number of Households

Number of households	187
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In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

2.2. PP007 - Household composition

Other household types	11
One-person household	48
Single family household	126
Total	185

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

2.3. PP008 - Tenure

Owned or shared ownership	137
Social rented	20
Private rented or lives rent free	28
Total	185

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

2.4. PP012 - Age

Aged 15 years and under	65
Aged 16 to 64 years	253
Aged 65 years and over	109
Total	427

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

2.5. PP002 - Sex

Female	214
Male	212
All persons	426

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

2.6. PP005 - Ethnic group

Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	12
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	0
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	4
White	413
Other ethnic group	0
Total	429

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

2.7. PP006 - General health

Very good health	231
Good health	155
Fair health	29
Bad health	7
Very bad health	5
Total	427

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

2.8. PP003 – Disability

Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a lot	15
Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a little	47
Subtotal - Disabled under the Equality Act	62
Not disabled under the Equality Act: Has long-term physical or mental health condition but day-to-day activities are not limited	27
Not disabled under the Equality Act: No long-term physical or mental health conditions	338
Subtotal - Not disabled under the Equality Act	365
Total	427

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

3. Economics and Employment

3.1. PP004 - Economic activity

Economically active	231
Economically active: In employment (including full-time students)	226
Economically active: Unemployed (including full-time students)	5
Economically inactive	129
Total	360

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

3.2. PP011 - Occupation

1. Managers, directors and senior officials	51
2. Professional occupations	57
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	18
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	21
5. Skilled trades occupations	33
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	12
7. Sales and customer service occupations	10
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	10
9. Elementary occupations	15
Total: All usual residents aged 16 years and over in employment the week before the census	227

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

3.3. PP009 - Industry

A, B, D, E Agriculture, energy and water	3
C Manufacturing	21
F Construction	15
G, I Distribution, hotels and restaurants	42
H, J Transport and communication	19
K, L, M, N Financial, real estate, professional and administrative activities	58
O, P, Q Public administration, education and health	53
R, S, T, U Other	15
Total	226

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

4. Private Transport

4.1. PP013 – Method of Travel to workplace

Work mainly at or from home	95
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	0
Train	3
Bus, minibus or coach	1
Taxi	0
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	1
Driving a car or van	114
Passenger in a car or van	9
Bicycle	0
On foot	1
Other method of travel to work	2
Not in employment or aged 15 years and under	201
Total	427

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.

4.2. PP010 - Car or van availability (Number of cars or vans)

No cars or vans in household	15
1 or more cars or vans in household	170
Total	185

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.



2022 Survey Results

Evidence Report

Reference: 0048-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 3)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Revision History

Revision	Date	Comment
Issue 1	February 2023	First release
Issue 2	May 2024	Formatting changes priory to public consultation and minor corrections
Issue 3	September 2023	Formatting changes priory to Submission Stage publication.

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Aston Abbotts 2022 Neighbourhood Questionnaire Results

Introduction

This document contains the consolidated information for the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Questionnaire which was distributed in April 2022. It includes the consolidated tick boxes and demographic information within the questionnaire and also the comments and notes made by the residents. A preliminary version of this document which excluded the comments and notes has been made available to all residents.

The questionnaires were delivered to about 180 households and 84 were completed and returned. This is close to 50% return - it is believed that a typical response to this type of questionnaire is between 30% and 40% so, by getting nearly 50% return is testament to the enthusiasm that many of our community are showing and their desire to influence the way Aston Abbotts will develop over the coming years.

Comments and Redactions

It should be noted that the following was clearly stated on the questionnaire:

“Please note that all answers to the questionnaire will be treated as confidential and will be solely for the purposes of developing the Neighbourhood Plan.”

And

“Also note that comments may be selected for anonymous inclusion in the final Neighbourhood Plan.”

This document forms the main working document for consideration by the Steering Group and, as such, will form part of the overall evidence for the Neighbourhood Plan. Therefore, any comment that could specifically identify the contributor or make specific reference to other residents have been redacted.

All comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns (barring human error in the transcription). No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.

Layout

The consolidated information presented in this document is divided into the following sections:

- Section 1 – General Info
- Section 2 – Housing
- Section 3 – Economy
- Section 4 – Communication
- Section 5 – Infrastructure
- Section 6 – Private Transport
- Section 7 – Environment
- Section 8 – History and Ecology
- Section 9 – Other
- Appendix A – Maps
- Appendix B – Questionnaire

Contents of Sections 1 to 9

For each of the main sections (1 to 9) there are three subsections titled *Tick box Summary*, *Detailed Breakdown*, and *Residents' notes and comments*.

Note that the information provided in the *Tick box Summary* and *Detailed Breakdown* sections may use abbreviated terms (this was necessary for presentation) - please refer to the questionnaire re-printed in Appendix D if clarification of the question is required.

Subsection 1 - Tick box Summaries:

The Tick box Summary subsection shows the highest scoring option of the tick boxes which includes the number of people who responded and the percentage achieved for the selected the option. For example:

Q2.5	When new homes are built, where do you think they should be located?	"Only within the village" (44 out of 82, 54%) 82 households responded (98%)
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Shows the number and percentage of questionnaires where a response was given

Shows the highest scoring option and percentage of those that provided a response

Subsection 2 - Detailed Breakdowns:

The Detailed Breakdown subsection provides the details of the responses to all questions. For the tick box summaries, the tables are “heatmap” shaded with the darkest green showing the highest percent return. For example:

Q2.5 When new homes are built, where do you think they should be located?

Only within the village	44	54%
Only greenfield sites	9	11%
Both in village and greenfield sites	20	24%
Other*	9	11%
No Response	2	[2%]

The percentage breakdown for those that provided a response

Number and percentage of questionnaires with no response

Other:

- Brownfield site
- Brownfield sites before greenfield/agriculture

If the questionnaire provided the option for the residents to add “Other” categories then these are listed below the tick box summary.

Subsection 3 - Residents' notes and comments:

The subsection “Residents' notes and comments” captures all the notes that the residents have provided. As a minor point, some of the notes and comments are enclosed in square brackets - where they are enclosed in square brackets these are comments that the resident made against tick box questions (ie, not against questions where comments were specifically requested).

Contents of Appendices

Appendix A – “Maps” includes copies of the maps where residents have made annotations.

Appendix B – “Questionnaire” provides, for information and reference, the questionnaire that was circulated to residents.

Section 1 General Info

Section 1.1 General Info - Tick Box Summary

Q1.4 What is the housing status for the property?

Q1.4 [i]	Housing Status	"Owned outright" (52 out of 84 (62%)) 84 households responded (100%)
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Q1.6 How do you feel about living in Aston Abbotts?

Q1.6 [i]	Has a nice environment	"Strongly agree" (57 out of 83, 69%) 83 households responded (99%)
Q1.6 [ii]	Is clean & tidy	"Agree" (40 out of 82, 49%) 82 households responded (98%)
Q1.6 [iii]	Is quiet/peaceful	"Strongly agree" (41 out of 82, 50%) 82 households responded (98%)
Q1.6 [iv]	Has strong sense of community	"Agree" (45 out of 81, 56%) 81 households responded (96%)
Q1.6 [v]	Has good facilities	"Disagree" (42 out of 83, 51%) 83 households responded (99%)
Q1.6 [vi]	Has good public transport	"Neither agree nor disagree" (35 out of 82, 43%) 82 households responded (98%)
Q1.6 [vii]	Is convenient for commuting	"Agree" (46 out of 81, 57%) 81 households responded (96%)
Q1.6 [viii]	Is convenient for cultural activities	"Agree" (32 out of 79, 41%) "Neither agree nor disagree" (32 out of 79, 41%) 79 households responded (94%)
Q1.6 [ix]	Is good for social activities	"Neither agree nor disagree" (32 out of 81, 40%) 81 households responded (96%)
Q1.6 [x]	Is in good school catchment area	"Neither agree nor disagree" (35 out of 79, 44%) 79 households responded (94%)

Section 1.2 General Info - Detailed Breakdown

Q1.1 Number of members within the household

	Qty 1	Qty 2	Qty 3	Qty 4	Total
Number of adults?	23	57	2	2	151
Number of school-age children?	8	3			14
Number of pre-school-age infants?	2				2
					167

Q1.2 What is the gender and ages of all members of the household?

	Age not given	Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 29	30 to 49	50 to 64	65 to 75	76+	Total
Gender not given	1	1					2		4
Male	4	7	1	1	13	17	23	12	78
Female	4	3	1	6	13	27	17	12	83
Prefer not to say			1			1			2
	9	11	3	7	26	45	42	24	167

Q1.3 What is the work/education situation for all members of the household?

Employed	48	29%
Self Employed	26	16%
Retired	67	40%
Unemployed	2	1%
In full-time education	14	8%
Other*	10	6%

Other:

- Both employed and self employed
- Disabled
- Looking after home and family
- Nursery [x2]
- Retired although employed part time as casual as well
- Semi retired [x2]
- Starting school in September
- Volunteer librarian

Q1.4 What is the housing status for the property?

Owned with a mortgage	25	30%
Owned outright	52	62%
Rented from private landlord	2	2%
Housing association	5	6%
Social housing		
Other		

Q1.5 How long have you lived in Aston Abbotts (years)?

	Nil	<=1 yr	2-5 yrs	6-10 yrs	11-15 yrs	15-20 yrs	21-30 yrs	>30 yrs
Number in each year range	8	6	11	13	6	4	13	23

Q1.6 How do you feel about living in Aston Abbotts?**Q1.6 [i] Has a nice environment**

Strongly agree	57	69%
Agree	24	29%
Neither agree nor disagree	2	2%
Disagree		
Strongly disagree		
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

Q1.6 [ii] Is clean & tidy

Strongly agree	37	45%
Agree	40	49%
Neither agree nor disagree	4	5%
Disagree	1	1%
Strongly disagree		
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Q1.6 [iii] Is quiet/peaceful

Strongly agree	41	50%
Agree	30	37%
Neither agree nor disagree	6	7%
Disagree	4	5%
Strongly disagree	1	1%
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Q1.6 [iv] Has strong sense of community

Strongly agree	22	27%
Agree	45	56%
Neither agree nor disagree	11	14%
Disagree	1	1%
Strongly disagree	2	2%
<i>No Response</i>	3	[4%]

Q1.6 [v] Has good facilities

Strongly agree		
Agree	11	13%
Neither agree nor disagree	24	29%
Disagree	42	51%
Strongly disagree	6	7%
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

Q1.6 [vi] Has good public transport

Strongly agree	6	7%
Agree	27	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	35	43%
Disagree	9	11%
Strongly disagree	5	6%
No Response	2	[2%]

Q1.6 [vii] Is convenient for commuting

Strongly agree	9	11%
Agree	46	57%
Neither agree nor disagree	18	22%
Disagree	6	7%
Strongly disagree	2	2%
No Response	3	[4%]

Q1.6 [viii] Is convenient for cultural activities

Strongly agree	4	5%
Agree	32	41%
Neither agree nor disagree	32	41%
Disagree	10	13%
Strongly disagree	1	1%
No Response	5	[6%]

Q1.6 [ix] Is good for social activities

Strongly agree	3	4%
Agree	27	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	32	40%
Disagree	17	21%
Strongly disagree	2	2%
No Response	3	[4%]

Q1.6 [x] Is in good school catchment area

Strongly agree	9	11%
Agree	34	43%
Neither agree nor disagree	35	44%
Disagree	1	1%
Strongly disagree		
No Response	5	[6%]

Q1.6 [xi] Other Factor for Overall Impression

- Active Church (Agree)
- Church bell ringing at unsociable hours (ie early morning & late evening) (Strongly disagree)
- Coffee morning (Agree)
- Does not suffer from excessive traffic and used as rat-run (Strongly disagree)
- Feel safe and secure (Strongly agree)
- Footpaths (ie, easy access to open country to walk) (Strongly agree)
- General Improvements Required (Strongly agree)
- Lovely rural location (Strongly agree)
- Mobility friendly (Neither agree nor disagree)
- Needs a "community hub" (Strongly agree)
- Needs a pub (Strongly agree)
- Needs a shop (Strongly agree)
- Needs traffic calming (Strongly agree)
- No Pub (Strongly agree)
- No Shop / Post Office (Strongly agree)
- Now no pub (Strongly agree)
- Plenty of trees (Strongly agree)
- Pub (Strongly agree)
- Safe (Disagree)
- Shop (Strongly agree)
- Small village (Strongly agree)
- Sport and Leisure Facilities (Disagree)
- Stop lorries through village (Strongly agree)
- Traffic calming measures & stop cut-through via The Green to Weedon (Strongly agree)
- Traffic transit noise/quality worsening noticeably (Strongly agree)
- Village needs traffic calming measures urgently (Strongly agree)

Section 1.3 General Info - Residents' notes and comments

Q1.1b Number of school-age children?

[One starting school in Sept]

Q1.5 How long have you lived in Aston Abbotts (years)?

[Whole life]

[Life Long]

[Whole life (65 assumed)]

Section 2 Housing

Section 2.1 Housing - Tick Box Summary

Q2.1,2 New housing

Q2.1	Do you agree that there will be a need for more housing?	"Agree" (31 out of 82, 38%) 82 households responded (98%)
Q2.2	How many homes do you think would be appropriate?	"Less than 10" (41 out of 83, 49%) 83 households responded (99%)

Q2.3 When new homes have to be built, which type do you think would be most suitable?

Q2.3 [i]	Affordable homes	"In favour" (23 out of 78, 29%) 78 households responded (93%)
Q2.3 [ii]	Housing association homes	"Strongly opposed to" (22 out of 74, 30%) 74 households responded (88%)
Q2.3 [iii]	Retirement/sheltered homes	"Don't mind" (26 out of 74, 35%) 74 households responded (88%)
Q2.3 [iv]	Bungalows	"Don't mind" (29 out of 73, 40%) 73 households responded (87%)
Q2.3 [v]	Small homes (1 bed)	"Don't mind" (30 out of 70, 43%) 70 households responded (83%)
Q2.3 [vi]	Medium size homes (2-3 beds)	"In favour" (39 out of 79, 49%) 79 households responded (94%)
Q2.3 [vii]	Larger homes (4+ beds)	"Don't mind" (20 out of 73, 27%) 73 households responded (87%)
Q2.3 [viii]	Flats	"Strongly opposed to" (31 out of 69, 45%) 69 households responded (82%)

Q2.4 New Housing Sustainability and Location

Q2.4 [i]	When new homes are built, do you agree they must be built sustainably?	"Strongly agree" (50 out of 84 (60%)) 84 households responded (100%)
Q2.5	When new homes are built, where do you think they should be located?	"Only within the village" (44 out of 82, 54%) 82 households responded (98%)

Section 2.2 Housing - Detailed Breakdown

Q2.1,2 New housing

Q2.1 Do you agree that there will be a need for more housing?

Strongly agree	10	12%
Agree	31	38%
Neither agree nor disagree	8	10%
Disagree	13	16%
Strongly disagree	18	22%
Not sure or don't know	2	2%

No Response 2 [2%]

Q2.2 How many homes do you think would be appropriate?

Less than 10	41	49%
10 to 20	31	37%
21 to 30	8	10%
31 to 50	1	1%
Over 50	2	2%

No Response 1 [1%]

Q2.3 When new homes have to be built, which type do you think would be most suitable?

Q2.3 [i] Affordable homes

Strongly in favour	20	26%
In favour	23	29%
Don't mind	14	18%
Opposed to	9	12%
Strongly opposed to	12	15%

No Response 6 [7%]

Q2.3 [ii] Housing association homes

Strongly in favour	8	11%
In favour	11	15%
Don't mind	16	22%
Opposed to	17	23%
Strongly opposed to	22	30%

No Response 10 [12%]

Q2.3 [iii] Retirement/sheltered homes

Strongly in favour	7	9%
In favour	19	26%
Don't mind	26	35%
Opposed to	15	20%
Strongly opposed to	7	9%

No Response 10 [12%]

Q2.3 [iv] Bungalows

Strongly in favour	11	15%
In favour	20	27%
Don't mind	29	40%
Opposed to	10	14%
Strongly opposed to	3	4%
<i>No Response</i>	11	[13%]

Q2.3 [v] Small homes (1 bed)

Strongly in favour	7	10%
In favour	15	21%
Don't mind	30	43%
Opposed to	15	21%
Strongly opposed to	3	4%
<i>No Response</i>	14	[17%]

Q2.3 [vi] Medium size homes (2-3 beds)

Strongly in favour	12	15%
In favour	39	49%
Don't mind	20	25%
Opposed to	4	5%
Strongly opposed to	4	5%
<i>No Response</i>	5	[6%]

Q2.3 [vii] Larger homes (4+ beds)

Strongly in favour	7	10%
In favour	14	19%
Don't mind	20	27%
Opposed to	19	26%
Strongly opposed to	13	18%
<i>No Response</i>	11	[13%]

Q2.3 [viii] Flats

Strongly in favour	2	3%
In favour	3	4%
Don't mind	15	22%
Opposed to	18	26%
Strongly opposed to	31	45%
<i>No Response</i>	15	[18%]

Q2.3 [ix] Other Type of Housing

- Agricultural homes (Opposed to)
- Build to rent (Opposed to)
- Council houses (Strongly opposed to)
- Halfway homes (Strongly opposed to)
- Homes with off-road parking proportional to no. of bedrooms (Strongly in favour)
- Park Home/Mobile Home (Strongly opposed to)
- Quality Build (Strongly in favour)

Q2.4 New Housing Sustainability and LocationQ2.4 [i] **When new homes are built, do you agree they must be built sustainably?**

Strongly agree	50	60%
Agree	22	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	9	11%
Disagree		
Strongly disagree	3	4%
Not sure or don't know		

Q2.5 **When new homes are built, where do you think they should be located?**

Only within the village	44	54%
Only greenfield sites	9	11%
Both in village and greenfield sites	20	24%
Other*	9	11%

No Response 2 [2%]

Other:

- Brownfield site
- Brownfield sites before greenfield/agriculture
- Infill sites
- No new homes
- None
- Only on edge of village
- See note
- Urban fringe
- Within the village or potential brownfield sites

Section 2.3 Housing - Residents' notes and comments

Q2.2 How many homes do you think would be appropriate?

[This is a leading question]
[Zero!]
[Zero]

Q2.3 When new homes have to be built, which type do you think would be most suitable?

[Building smaller bungalows would encourage those in larger family detached house to step down in size in retirement freeing up family homes in the village.]

Q2.3 [ix] Other Type of Housing

[Association homes should have Acceptable Behaviour Contracts to ensure respect of property etc]
--

Q2.5 [i] Please add any comments you think would help in identifying suitable locations for future housing

Avoid greenfield sites as too much is being lost around Aylesbury.
Wingrave road, Cublington road
The change of use from agriculture to "public amenity" to "residential" use needs to be monitored to prevent over development of homes by people with no desire to live "in the country"
"Within the village" should not necessarily mean only land close to the centre of the village. There are houses on the outskirts of the village where development could reasonably take place (i.e. infilling). Also agree with building which enables farmers to live on their land and help them to diversify.
Waste land behind New Zealand Cottages.
I think it sensible to identify area for where new cul-de-sacs could be developed and to encourage conversions and diversity. The land opposite The Abbey or Wingrave Road or Norduck would seem appropriate
Smaller development and of. property type Sustainable build. Bungalow in keeping with village properties to preserve the uniqueness of this village and not cause it to become a part of any of the towns bordering Aston Abbotts or indeed part of Wing. Avoid any risk of creating a "housing corridor".
They need to be built on locations where there is room to build off road parking. To many vehicles are parked on the road.
Towards the A418, to avoid increase in traffic through the village. (Roads are narrow and parked cars already cause congestion).
N/A to me. Opposed to new buildings.
Built on using infill sites so the boundary of the village is not enlarged
Any locations will need good road access and parking. My main concern is the impact on existing resident re parking and increased traffic flow.
New Zealand/allotment corner - see fig 2
Please do not use this survey to justify new building
Providing road traffic is not increased as road through the village is too busy already. Do not ruin the countryside!
Area around Red Barn Farm / Vicarage Farm
No new builds in Aston Abbotts
I do not believe there is much need for more homes, there are no shops. The village is a nice environment but does not have the infrastructure to support this. Far, far better options.
Against in-fill. Spoils the village concept
Royal Oak
Green field sites should not divert or enclose existing footpaths
Would prefer the village to grow slightly rather than the housing become more dense.

Section 3 Economy

Section 3.1 Economy - Tick Box Summary

Q3.2 Businesses run from home

Q3.2 [i]	Do any members of the household run a business from home?	"No" (65 out of 80, 81%) <i>80 households responded (95%)</i>
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Q3.3 Business Premises

Q3.3 [i]	Does anyone in household own/rent business premises in the parish?	"No" (77 out of 79, 97%) <i>79 households responded (94%)</i>
Q3.3a	Do they see the business(es) staying in the parish for the next 10 years?	"Yes" (2 out of 3, 67%) <i>3 households responded (4%)</i>

Q3.4 Business Units

Q3.4 [i]	Do you favour development of more Business Units within the Parish?	"Neither agree nor disagree" (23 out of 79, 29%) <i>79 households responded (94%)</i>
----------	---	--

Section 3.2 Economy - Detailed Breakdown

Q3.1 For members of the household that are employed, where do they work?

Aston Abbotts	16	22%
Aylesbury	10	14%
Leighton Buzzard	2	3%
Milton Keynes	2	3%
Luton or Dunstable	3	4%
London	9	12%
Other*	31	42%

Other:

- Aston Abbotts and Milton Keynes
- Aylesbury & Thame
- Aylesbury, Leighton Buzzard and Milton Keynes
- Berkhamstead [x3]
- Bicester
- Both London & Home
- Buckingham
- Bucks Area
- Haddenham/Thame
- Hemel Hempstead [x4]
- Hertfordshire areas
- Local area
- Not defined
- Part London, Part Home [x2]
- Part time in both Aston Abbotts and London
- Princess Risborough
- Rickmansworth
- Tring
- Tring/Berkhamstead
- Various
- Watford
- Wing
- Wingrave
- Working from home [x2]

Q3.2 Businesses run from home

Q3.2 [i] Do any members of the household run a business from home?

Yes	15	19%
No	65	81%
No Response	4	[5%]

Q3.2a If yes, please state nature of the business(es)

Accommodation services	2	11%
Agriculture	1	5%
Catering		
Construction/ Landscaping		
Education	2	11%
Health and well-being		
Financial and/or Insurance	2	11%
Information/ Communication		
Retail	1	5%
Other*	11	58%

Other:

- Agriculture and Tourism
- Events
- Gardening
- Marketing [x2]
- Photography [x2]
- Secretarial audio typing
- Service Industry
- Transport
- Travel

Q3.3 Business Premises**Q3.3 [i] Does anyone in household own/rent business premises in the parish?**

Yes	2	3%
No	77	97%

No Response 5 [6%]

Q3.3a Do they see the business(es) staying in the parish for the next 10 years?

Yes	2	67%
No	1	33%

No Response 81 [96%]

Q3.3b If yes, please state nature of the business(es)

Accommodation services		
Agriculture	2	50%
Catering		
Construction/ Landscaping		
Education		
Health and well-being		
Financial and/or Insurance		
Information/ Communication		
Retail		
Other*	2	50%

Other:

- Snow Sports
- Tourism

Q3.4 Business Units

Q3.4 [i] Do you favour development of more Business Units within the Parish?

Strongly agree	2	3%
Agree	12	15%
<i>Neither agree nor disagree</i>	23	29%
Disagree	18	23%
Strongly disagree	21	27%
Not sure or don't know	3	4%
<i>No Response</i>	5	[6%]

Section 3.3 Economy - Residents' notes and comments

Q3.5 [i] Please add other suggestions for improving our economy.

Decent fibre broadband to the property
Pub Shop Small restaurant.
Outlets for local produce (farm shop/local stock shelves at Wingrave Stores) Self-service milk machine at Red Barn Farm or other local dairy farms.
A licensed village club with charitable status using the Community Hall.
Encouraging more young people by having more affordable housing would create affordable employees for local business and reduce communising.
Enhancement and utilisation of agricultural business - Yes. Enhancement and utilisation of other businesses in area for attracting visitors to the area i.e. horses, stabling; short stay vacationing/holiday stay. Alpaca Farm Enhancement of hiking /bridleways.
We have no objection to businesses being run from home but are concerned that agreeing to more "business units" in the parish will "industrialise" the area in increase traffic.
Providing these were of a retail nature (pub, shop café...)
Do not want any large businesses. Only light businesses, nothing that will generate more heavy traffic e.g. lorries through the village.
Much better internet speed (fibre)
Faster Internet
It is dependent how many houses are to be built here
Whilst we disagree to this in the centre of the village – we would accept any further business units around Longmoor.
The economy would improve from having more facilities in the village. In particular the reinstatement of the local pub. I am aware that the village used to have 2 pubs, village shop, bakery and Post Office - all these have gone which is a significant economic loss.
Better internet connection that is more reliable

Section 4 Communication

Section 4.1 Communication - Tick Box Summary

Q4.1,2 Communication General

Q4.1	Community news and information - how important is it to you?	"Very important" (43 out of 83, 52%) 83 households responded (99%)
Q4.2	Is it easy to find community news and information for Aston Abbotts?	"Easy" (46 out of 79, 58%) 79 households responded (94%)

Q4.3 As sources of community news and information, how would you rate the following?

Q4.3 [i]	Parish noticeboards	"Don't use it" (28 out of 80, 35%) 80 households responded (95%)
Q4.3 [ii]	Parish Council website	"Don't use it" (32 out of 76, 42%) 76 households responded (90%)
Q4.3 [iii]	Aston Abbotts website	"Don't use it" (24 out of 76, 32%) 76 households responded (90%)
Q4.3 [iv]	Aston Abbotts Chronicle	"Very Good" (42 out of 82, 51%) 82 households responded (98%)
Q4.3 [v]	Aston Abbotts Email Post Box	"Very Good" (36 out of 80, 45%) 80 households responded (95%)
Q4.3 [vi]	Local county newspapers	"Don't use it" (52 out of 76, 68%) 76 households responded (90%)
Q4.3 [vii]	BBC Three Counties Radio	"Don't use it" (60 out of 74, 81%) 74 households responded (88%)
Q4.3 [viii]	Facebook	"Don't use it" (36 out of 76, 47%) 76 households responded (90%)
Q4.3 [ix]	Twitter	"Don't use it" (56 out of 74, 76%) 74 households responded (88%)

Section 4.2 Communication - Detailed Breakdown

Q4.1,2 Communication General

Q4.1 Community news and information - how important is it to you?

Very important	43	52%
Important	31	37%
Fairly Important	9	11%
Not important		
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

Q4.2 Is it easy to find community news and information for Aston Abbotts?

Very Easy	26	33%
Easy	46	58%
Difficult	6	8%
Very difficult	1	1%
<i>No Response</i>	5	[6%]

Q4.3 As sources of community news and information, how would you rate the following?

Q4.3 [i] Parish noticeboards

Very Good	7	9%
Good	15	19%
OK	23	29%
Poor	7	9%
Very Poor		
Don't use it	28	35%
Was not aware it existed		
<i>No Response</i>	4	[5%]

Q4.3 [ii] Parish Council website

Very Good	7	9%
Good	8	11%
OK	17	22%
Poor	2	3%
Very Poor		
Don't use it	32	42%
Was not aware it existed	10	13%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[10%]

Q4.3 [iii] Aston Abbotts website

Very Good	13	17%
Good	15	20%
OK	18	24%
Poor	3	4%
Very Poor	1	1%
Don't use it	24	32%
Was not aware it existed	2	3%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[10%]

Q4.3 [iv] Aston Abbotts Chronicle

Very Good	42	51%
Good	27	33%
OK	11	13%
Poor	2	2%
Very Poor		
Don't use it		
Was not aware it existed		
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Q4.3 [v] Aston Abbotts Email Post Box

Very Good	36	45%
Good	17	21%
OK	9	11%
Poor	2	3%
Very Poor	1	1%
Don't use it	11	14%
Was not aware it existed	4	5%
<i>No Response</i>	4	[5%]

Q4.3 [vi] Local county newspapers

Very Good	1	1%
Good	1	1%
OK	12	16%
Poor		
Very Poor	6	8%
Don't use it	52	68%
Was not aware it existed	4	5%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[10%]

Q4.3 [vii] BBC Three Counties Radio

Very Good		
Good	2	3%
OK	7	9%
Poor	2	3%
Very Poor	2	3%
Don't use it	60	81%
Was not aware it existed	1	1%
<i>No Response</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>[12%]</i>

Q4.3 [viii] Facebook

Very Good	11	14%
Good	13	17%
OK	8	11%
Poor	4	5%
Very Poor	1	1%
Don't use it	36	47%
Was not aware it existed	3	4%
<i>No Response</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>[10%]</i>

Q4.3 [ix] Twitter

Very Good		
Good	1	1%
OK	2	3%
Poor		
Very Poor		
Don't use it	56	76%
Was not aware it existed	15	20%
<i>No Response</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>[12%]</i>

Q4.3 [x] Other Types of Information

- Bucks Radio (Very Good)
- Church noticeboard (Poor)
- Social groups within the village (Very Good)

Section 4.3 Communication - Residents' notes and comments

Q4.4 If you don't think you're getting sufficient local news or information, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help

We're just outside the village but within the parish. Next-door receive the Chronicle but we don't, so we are unaware of upcoming events.
Facebook & Chronical are great!
Join the dots merge - aa.co.uk /Facebook and the Chronicle to create a digital first option, with optional print edition. Even PDF Newsletter is a no brainer.
More regular updates on websites (village and Parish Council). Church does not always publicise service times e.g. Easter service time / invitation only appeared on the "postie" on Good Friday in Village.
Pub has closed but that was a community hub
Website could be updated more regularly, especially in regards village events.
I struggle with it so I do not use AA Postbox etc.
The Chronicle is helpful and keeps me up to date.
A focal meeting place i.e. pub would be very useful for social interaction
Bring back the village shop!
The Aston Abbotts website is out of date and needs updating. The website is only helpful if it is kept updated.
One has to buy Bucks publications.

Section 5 Infrastructure

Section 5.1 Infrastructure - Tick Box Summary

Q5.1 Infrastructure

Q5.1	Do you have a broadband internet connection within the household?	"Yes" (74 out of 81, 91%) 81 households responded (96%)
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Q5.2 Which of the following facilities do you use and how often do you use them?

Q5.2 [i]	Village Hall	"Rarely" (37 out of 82, 45%) 82 households responded (98%)
Q5.2 [ii]	Recreation Ground	"Rarely" (33 out of 80, 41%) 80 households responded (95%)
Q5.2 [iii]	Children's Play Area	"Never" (42 out of 81, 52%) 81 households responded (96%)
Q5.2 [iv]	Church	"Rarely" (36 out of 81, 44%) 81 households responded (96%)
Q5.2 [v]	The Orchard	"Rarely" (32 out of 80, 40%) 80 households responded (95%)

Q5.3 Which of the following do you think will need to be developed in the Parish?

Q5.3 [i]	Local shops	"Need more regardless.." (39 out of 76, 51%) 76 households responded (90%)
Q5.3 [ii]	Leisure facilities	"Don't need any more.." (22 out of 73, 30%) 73 households responded (87%)
Q5.3 [iii]	Parks/play area	"Don't need any more.." (32 out of 75, 43%) 75 households responded (89%)
Q5.3 [iv]	Parking spaces	"Need more regardless.." (32 out of 77, 42%) 77 households responded (92%)
Q5.3 [v]	Road capacity	"Need more with new homes.." (28 out of 74, 38%) 74 households responded (88%)
Q5.3 [vi]	Bus services	"Need more regardless.." (24 out of 77, 31%) 77 households responded (92%)

Q5.5 Schools

Q5.5b	Were the school(s) the preferred choice for the child(ren)	"Yes" (10 out of 11, 91%) 11 households responded (13%)
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Q5.6 Recreational facilities

Q5.6 [i]	How do you rate the play and recreational facilities for the village?	"Adequate" (34 out of 83, 41%) 83 households responded (99%)
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Q5.9 Allotments

Q5.9a	Do any of the members of the household rent or share an allotment?	"No" (74 out of 82, 90%) 82 households responded (98%)
Q5.9b	If they don't rent or share an allotment, would they like to?	"No" (63 out of 69, 91%) 69 households responded (82%)

Section 5.2 Infrastructure - Detailed Breakdown

Q5.1 Infrastructure

Q5.1 Do you have a broadband internet connection within the household?

Yes	74	91%
No	7	9%

No Response 3 [4%]

Q5.2 Which of the following facilities do you use and how often do you use them?

Q5.2 [i] Village Hall

Daily		
Weekly	24	29%
Monthly	7	9%
Rarely	37	45%
Never	14	17%

No Response 2 [2%]

Q5.2 [ii] Recreation Ground

Daily	5	6%
Weekly	13	16%
Monthly	13	16%
Rarely	33	41%
Never	16	20%

No Response 4 [5%]

Q5.2 [iii] Children's Play Area

Daily	1	1%
Weekly	10	12%
Monthly	9	11%
Rarely	19	23%
Never	42	52%

No Response 3 [4%]

Q5.2 [iv] Church

Daily		
Weekly	16	20%
Monthly	5	6%
Rarely	36	44%
Never	24	30%

No Response 3 [4%]

Q5.2 [v] The Orchard

Daily	2	3%
Weekly	6	8%
Monthly	19	24%
Rarely	32	40%
Never	21	26%

No Response 4 [5%]

Q5.2 [vi] Other Facility

- Allotments (Daily)
- Footpaths & bridleways around the village (Daily)
- Footpaths (Daily) [x2]
- Footpaths (Weekly)
- Pub (as there isn't one) (Never)
- Pub (Monthly)
- Pub (Never)
- Public footpaths/bridleways (Daily)
- Village Hall cafe (Weekly)
- Village walk (Weekly)
- Village walk over fields and footpaths (Monthly)

Q5.3 Which of the following do you think will need to be developed in the Parish?

Q5.3 [i] Local shops

Don't need any more..	17	22%
Need more with new homes..	9	12%
Need more regardless..	39	51%
Don't know	11	14%

No Response 8 [10%]

Q5.3 [ii] Leisure facilities

Don't need any more..	22	30%
Need more with new homes..	16	22%
Need more regardless..	16	22%
Don't know	19	26%

No Response 11 [13%]

Q5.3 [iii] Parks/play area

Don't need any more..	32	43%
Need more with new homes..	28	37%
Need more regardless..	8	11%
Don't know	7	9%

No Response 9 [11%]

Q5.3 [iv] **Parking spaces**

Don't need any more..	7	9%
Need more with new homes..	31	40%
Need more regardless..	32	42%
Don't know	7	9%

No Response 7 [8%]

Q5.3 [v] **Road capacity**

Don't need any more..	17	23%
Need more with new homes..	28	38%
Need more regardless..	14	19%
Don't know	15	20%

No Response 10 [12%]

Q5.3 [vi] **Bus services**

Don't need any more..	10	13%
Need more with new homes..	21	27%
Need more regardless..	24	31%
Don't know	22	29%

No Response 7 [8%]

Q5.3 [vii] **Other Things for Development**

- Activity for 10-16 year olds (Need more with new homes..)
- Bridleways (Need more regardless..)
- Cycle paths (Need more regardless..)
- Dog poo bins (Need more regardless..)
- Footpaths (Need more regardless..)
- GP Surgery (Need more regardless..)
- Improved/controlled traffic flow by non-local traffic/inappropriate size/speed (Need more regardless..)
- Improvements to pavements and footpaths (Need more regardless..)
- Library bus (Need more regardless..)
- Licenced social club (Need more regardless..)
- Outdoor exercise (Need more regardless..)
- Pavement (Need more regardless..)
- Pavements within village (Need more regardless..)
- Pub (Need more regardless..) [x13]
- Pub/Restaurant (Need more regardless..) [x2]
- Renewable energy (Need more regardless..)
- Street Lights (Need more regardless..)
- Tennis courts (Need more regardless..)
- Traffic calming (Need more regardless..)

Q5.5 **Schools**Q5.5b **Were the school(s) the preferred choice for the child(ren)**

Yes	10	91%
No	1	9%

No Response 73 [87%]

Q5.6 Recreational facilitiesQ5.6 [i] **How do you rate the play and recreational facilities for the village?**

Very Good	12	14%
Good	33	40%
Adequate	34	41%
Poor	3	4%
Very Poor	1	1%
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

Q5.7 FootpathsQ5.7 [i] **How often do you use the footpaths?**

Often in summer	63	43%
Often in winter	51	35%
Sometimes in summer	9	6%
Sometimes in winter	13	9%
Rarely	5	3%
Never	4	3%
<i>No Response</i>	2	[1%]

Q5.8 BridlewaysQ5.8 [i] **How often do you use the bridleways?**

Often in summer	27	25%
Often in winter	21	20%
Sometimes in summer	14	13%
Sometimes in winter	8	7%
Rarely	9	8%
Never	28	26%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[7%]

Q5.9 AllotmentsQ5.9a **Do any of the members of the household rent or share an allotment?**

Yes	8	10%
No	74	90%
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Q5.9b **If they don't rent or share an allotment, would they like to?**

Yes	6	9%
No	63	91%
<i>No Response</i>	15	[18%]

Section 5.3 Infrastructure - Residents' notes and comments

Q5.2 Which of the following facilities do you use and how often do you use them?

[Unable to get there as housebound]

Q5.2 [v] The Orchard

[Did not know we could visit The Orchard]

Q5.3 [vii] Other Things for Development

[A good pub or restaurant]

[Village pub/restaurant]

[We need a local pub!]

[Village pub]

[Local pub]

Q5.3a If you would like to see more action to develop facilities within the parish, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help

Many pubs (ours being closed) are community run and often include a shop for basic provisions. It's a shame we are not able to do this with the royal oak

Sports facilities? Community tennis court where residents could pay membership

Let's build solar to pay the parish electricity bills for decades.

We need to address large lorries & trucks driving at speed through the village

Recreation Ground - better facilities to encourage use by families.. E.g:

- Better football nets
- Cricket pitch demarked
- Boules (Pétanque) area
- More benches,
- Update children's play area.

Licensed Social Club using Community Hall

Open the Pub

Cycle paths off the road to enable access to the towns and villages safely. We need farmers to open land to more bridlepaths, & footpaths for the same reason. At present car transport is the safest way but damages the environment.

A doctor's surgery. Dispensing Chemist. Post Office

Better outdoor exercise equipment/areas, especially for adults

People with mobility issues cannot use the recreation ground as it is too uneven and footpaths are a disgrace. The village needs to be mobility friendly.

Electric vehicle charging points

Pub needed, serving good food, kid friendly

A pub brings the community together and is an important "hub" of the village. Sad loss that the Royal Oak is not currently open.

There needs to be some way of engaging the whole community on a more regular basis. Currently there is the café which is not suitable for people who work as it is in the morning.

Parish Council to do more to request residents to take care of areas outside their properties - too many hedges are overgrown and reduce pavement and road width.

STOP rat run to Aylesbury via the village!! Make it 20 MPH through – enforced!

While Cublington Road has been closed to traffic has made for a quieter time.

Q5.4 [i] Please list below the nursery/preschool that the child(ren) attend

<p>██████████ attends Swanbourne Nursery ██████████ previously attended Watermead</p>
Ashbourne Day, Wing
Cublington Wingrave
Cublington nursery

Q5.5a Please list below the school(s) that the child(ren) attend

Wingrave CofE
Haddenham St Mary's Haddenham Junior School
The Cottesloe School
██
The Cottesloe
Berkhamstead sixth form
Wingrave Cottesloe
Wing
Wingrave
██████████ Wingrave School ██████████
Wingrave School
Drayton Parslow

Q5.5b [i] If not, and it was an issue related to catchment area, what was the preferred school(s)

The Cottesloe

Q5.6a If you would like to see more action to improve the play and recreational facilities, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help

The play area is very underused and the recent expenditure for an aerial runway that is rarely used is excessive. These funds would have been better spent elsewhere in the village. £8,000 on a play area piece of equipment?
More sports facilities More varied equipment - park has been the same for a while Upgrading?
Footpaths are good but not equitable maintained by Bucks Council. Bridleways have been allowed to deteriorate in quality despite more local equestrian users. Is it feasible for the north and south bridleways to be linked to make a circular route by using a permit scheme with farms,
Need more circular routes Paths are great but not great circular routes.
Maybe survey teenagers in the village to see what they would benefit from on the rec
Update/re-vamp children's play area: - More equipment for younger children. - Better maintenance of hedge/grass cutting/trees to make the area look more cared for Consider building a new village Hall on Rec.
A BMX Track
To ensure the footpaths are accessible with ease
Enhancement of local links, other villages for recreational activities, sporting facilities etc. Cublington/Wingrave/Weedon for PH's. Don't always require some in all villages when some in close proximity.
A marked-out football pitch and nets

Many rec grounds have exercise equipment for adults to help battling obesity. Some provision should be made in the village. At the moment you have to drive to use exercise equipment.
More mobility friendly areas. The recreation ground is not accessible for those with mobility aids.
More needs to be done to encourage health and fitness. People overlooking the rec complain about players on rec. Ability to walk on paths or agricultural land [REDACTED]
Replace the bench in the corner of the rec, it is in much need of some care.
Perhaps the children's play area could have some more things to play on.
Play area needs updating, and more adult based equipment on the rec ground i.e. exercise machines, benches etc for picnics.
See Wingrave for example

Q5.7a If so, which one(s) do you use the most and why?

Village circular walk and the fields at the end of Chapmans Lea. (note a footpath here has gone although shown on the OS map)
All
Use several from village
Footpaths B & C for short walks
Chapman's Lea - Dog walking (footpath F) Abbey (footpath A) Lines Hill (footpath C) Footpath E - Wing
Yet to explore as new to the village
A, B, C, D, F, G
Good selection of directions for walking exercise and enjoyment of the surroundings
It is good to be able to walk out of the village in all directions. Very important for physical and mental wellbeing
Walking to Wingrave
Footpaths A, B, & C,
Footpaths A, C & village walk - exercising
The Abbey Field
All footpaths within the village (checking signage, styes etc)
Chapman Lea -> Wing Old Masters -> Cublington Less often: Recreation Ground -> Rowsham Village Walk Across Grove -> Norduck Farm bridleway
Also often in spring & autumn? All the village footpaths equally
Pavements are very poor. Wheelchair users CANNOT use them
The walk to the farm (from AA along the back of The Abbey)
Paths within the village
Grove Norduck N. Bridleway Footpath Cublington Footpaths C E, F
Behind the church as it can be a circular route to Cublington. It is important to note we'd use more if they were circular walks that avoid the roads.

Chapmans Lea (F) and Red Barn Farm (E) as less muddier. D quite often to go to Unicorn. All the others, a few times a year, as there are often cows to avoid.
All as they offer uncluttered views of the countryside, peace and tranquillity away from all the hustle and bustle of towns which is why people move to villages and don't expect them to join with towns due to continuous building.
All known to use. We can walk them from home without the need to drive and park
When we are looking after someone's dog
Before I had mobility issues I used footpaths A,B,C,F. I have a dog and these footpaths provided lovely walks and views.
All of them. Esp. F, G, D. (to go to Pub in Cublington and farm shop in Rowsham) Footpath G is not well maintained past Barns farm and the dogs approach walkers. Chapmans Lea great circular walk. Lots of people use this one!
G, because it's quiet
A, C, and F - walking
We use all of them. Great shame there are no circular ones that are not to long. Often they are poorly kept and sometimes impassable. Styles are not in good order.
A, B, C, D, F. Easy access and circular
Use most of them because I like walking
Footpaths: A, B, C, D, E, I, H
All of them - we need more Dog walking and personal enjoyment
A, C, F, E, D Use A, C, F the most. Views and convenience
Lines Hill and The Grove are a good distance and safe if by myself. Cublington less often
Through the Abbey to get to the recreational ground, so we don't have to go on the road.
The village walk mostly, but all for recreational/exercise activities
Footpaths F, A, & C
A, B, C, F, D.
G - when the rec is busy we just cut straight through. Woodland area: could definitely do with some maintenance. Path is always overgrown there and in summer the stinging nettles take over the gateways.
Footpath across field toward Weedon and also footpath to Cublington
Around Moat Lane and behind the manor (Abbey) – A Behind the Church to Cublington - D Through the Rec to Wingrave and Chapman's Lea – C, F, B, G
Village walk
Lines Hill - Abbey - circuit. Old Masters - Cublington. Aston Abbotts - Hardwick. (A, B, C, D, F often and E rarely).
Abbey Fields
A, B, C, G, F, D Walking ? ? ?
Village walk over the Grove and Lines Hill
[REDACTED]
Daily exercise

Village walk
All - walking to Wingrave or around the village
D and F – if no cattle to contend with
Footpaths B & I as they are convenient when I am short of time.
1) The circular village walk 2) Path to Cublington 3) We could not use the path to Rowsham from the Recreation Ground as it was deep in mud (Footpath G)
A) The Grove - dog walking F) Chapmans Lea - dog walking C) Lines Hill - Scenic - dog walking D) Cublington - dog walking B) Norduct - scenic - dog walking G) Rowsham - dog walking I) Whitchurch - dog walking E) Wing - dog walking
Mainly footpath F - Chapmans Lea for exercise. Most of the others not usable because of overgrown, muddy or fields full of cows.
A, B, C
Footpaths are OK, as long as walkers keep to them and do not wander off especially dog walkers!!
Village circular walk - for exercise and only circular walk

Q5.8a If so, which one(s) do you use the most and why?

Near Mason's Wood
All
North Bridleway (Never option also ticked but considered to mean never in winter)
North bridleway - recreational walking
It is the only one in the village to use
Bridleways North and South - horse riding.
Lines Hill
On foot - Norduck Farm/House
For walking, not on horse
Around Norduck Farm
As Above
It is important to note we would love to use them but they are dangerous to get to due to no circular routes and roads.
Both occasionally while out walking.
To Willowbrook Farm and Whitchurch
I frequently use the north bridleway as it starts in the village South bridleway I use sometimes if passing in the car to walk the dog.
North
They do not "join up" - Too much road work. Not enough. Drivers too fast
To Whitchurch Road – good long walk
North bridleway, dog walking
North for running and cycling
Walking toward Egg Farm crossing from Grove Fields
North bridleway to link walk A with Lines Hill
Walking ? ? ?
Daily exercise

Aston Abbotts to Bushmead Road - Circular
North bridleway – a good circular walk coming back via Cublington
N. Bridleway as most convenient to where I live. I do not use it for riding, only walking.
North Bridleway
North Bridleway - dog walking
Usually only North Bridleway
No horse!

Q5.9 Allotments

--

Q5.9a Do any of the members of the household rent or share an allotment?

--

Section 6 Private Transport

Section 6.1 Private Transport - Tick Box Summary

Q6.1b Parking

Q6.1b [i]	Do you rely on on-street parking for your vehicles?	"No" (62 out of 79, 78%) 79 households responded (94%)
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Q6.2 Electric Vehicles

Q6.2a	Are you considering getting an electric vehicle in the next 5 years?	"No" (43 out of 76, 57%) 76 households responded (90%)
Q6.2b	Would lack of an on-street charging stop you getting an electric vehicle?	"No" (52 out of 74, 70%) 74 households responded (88%)

Section 6.2 Private Transport - Detailed Breakdown

Q6.1 How many vehicles are there for the household?

	Qty 1	Qty 2	Qty 3	Qty 4	Total
Petrol	33	17	1	2	78
Diesel	22	17	1	1	63
Hybrid	3				3
Electric	4				4
					148

Q6.1a [iv] Other Type of Vehicle

- Bicycles/ebikes (4)

Q6.1b [i] Do you rely on on-street parking for your vehicles?

Yes	17	22%
No	62	78%
<i>No Response</i>	5	[6%]

Q6.1c If yes, how many of your vehicles are typically parked on the street?

	Qty 1	Qty 2	Qty 3	Total
Number against qty of cars on street	12	3	1	21

Q6.2 Electric Vehicles

Q6.2a Are you considering getting an electric vehicle in the next 5 years?

Yes	33	43%
No	43	57%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[10%]

Q6.2b Would lack of an on-street charging stop you getting an electric vehicle?

Yes	22	30%
No	52	70%
<i>No Response</i>	10	[12%]

Section 6.3 Private Transport - Residents' notes and comments

Q6.2b Would lack of an on-street charging stop you getting an electric vehicle?

[Cost prohibits getting electric vehicle]

Section 7 Environment

Section 7.1 Environment - Tick Box Summary

Q7.1 Countryside and landscape

Q7.1 [i]	How important is to you is the countryside/landscape around the Parish?	"Very important" (76 out of 82, 93%) <i>82 households responded (98%)</i>
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Section 7.2 Environment - Detailed Breakdown

Q7.1 Countryside and landscape


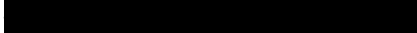
Q7.1 [i] How important is to you is the countryside/landscape around the Parish?

Very important	76	93%
Important	6	7%
Fairly Important		
Not important		
No Response	2	[2%]

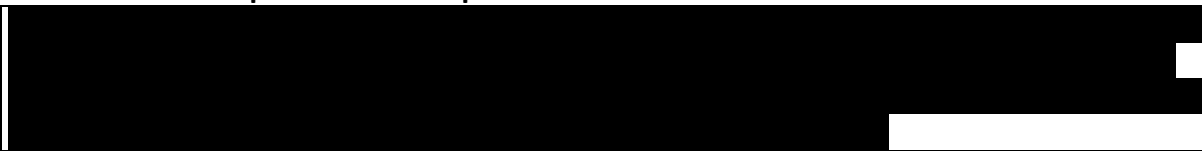
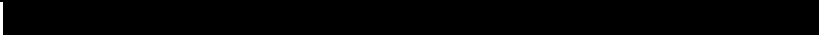
Section 7.3 Environment - Residents' notes and comments

Q7.1a Favourite Views - please elaborate below if you wish



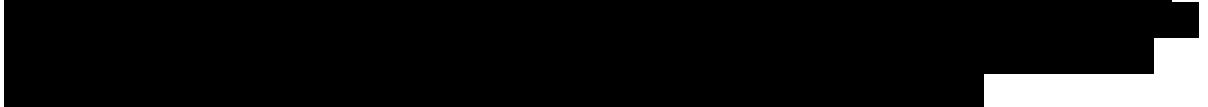
The view from Windmill Hill of the Vale of Aylesbury is amazing, even with the awful concrete tower Bucks CC call home. (Shame the litter bin was removed as litter is often left here)
Stunning view from Lines Hill - many enjoy this
Figure 1
We moved here for the countryside, views and walking. Access to fields, wildlife is vital for us and our wellbeing.
It's all beautiful, that's why we moved here!
The views are priceless from the recreation ground, Lines Hill and from the public footpaths. The surrounding countryside in all directions is uplifting and highly appreciated.
Footpath C, Footpath E, Footpath F, Footpath I, Footpath H, Footpath G, Footpath A, Footpath D, North Bridleway.
Views from Lines Hill and the corner of the Recreation Ground.
Why would you live somewhere like this without the countryside
Marked on Figure 2 and highlighted
- The view from Lines Hill is arguably amongst best in the county: You can see from Dunstable Down -> Whipsnade -> Ashridge -> Wendover Gap & Combe Hill -> Ridgeway on top of Chilterns -> Stokenchurch Beacon -> Didcot (on a clear day). - In the other direction: Waddesdon -> Quainton Hills -> Hardwick -> Whitchurch. - Views from gate to field behind Hunters Way -> Chilterns
Views over the Vale form Lines Hill is a treasure I never take for granted.
Lines Hill
See arrow
Green spaces are very important but so is housing. I worry this question is loaded against housing and progress.
There are loads of lovely views from the footpaths. Even walking to Wing you can see over to Dunstable Downs.
I live in the countryside to enjoy the landscapes and view to the village and surrounding areas
We value all the views around the parish
The view from Lines Hill where you can see for miles around is something so special we need to make sure this is never spoilt.
See Map. Fave view is Lines Hill (path C). Shame there is not a circular walk to include this and avoid using the road. Great views from Chapmans Lea (footpath F) to historically significant Church in Wing
Favourite is looking towards Wing
Please see Fig 1
Map 1: 1-4
I like to take in the view sitting on the bench on Lines Hill looking over the countryside towards Hardwick and Whitchurch.
I enjoy the view when driving along the Lines and walking on footpaths C, D and F especially.
From Lines Hill, but parking can be a problem if driving.
From Lines Hill
See Figure 1
Arrows on fig 2
(1) View from the Lines (see figure 1) (2) View from the Freemasons Wood (see figure 1) (3) View from footpath to Cublington

The view from Lines Hill and Windmill Hill is very important. As is the view from footpath D. We are very lucky.
Stunning views looking out over the Aylesbury Vale.
8 arrows as per map. The views are very Important to the enjoyment and appreciation of the shared public spaces. Vital for mental health and well-being especially in pandemic!
Views Lines Hills across the Vale
 We are concerned at the speed of traffic leaving Cublington towards Aston Abbots. 
Views over Aylesbury Vale and towards Dunstable Downs
Fantastic views form Windmill Hill and Norduck Farm. Also the Cublington and Wing footpaths. Other good views – have arrows on figure 1
Lines Hill The Grove
Lines Hill across the Vale

Q7.2 [i] Please Describe Important Green Spaces


The fields along Moat Lane and Lines Hill. The recreation ground
Chapmans Lea Windmill Hill The Abbey
All
The fields behind Wingrave Road houses The Green Recreation Ground
The Abbey field  The first field on the Cublington footpath as I often see deer there and the hawthorn hedge in flower is stunning. The field behind Hunters way on the footpath to Lines Hill The field behind Chapmans Lea Both fields become butterfly heaven when left ungrazed
The recreation ground is important for the community at large
Village Green, Footpaths, Bridleways. Open views to Lines Hill to Wingrave, Waddesdon and beyond. Recreation Ground.
Recreation Ground/park and play area. The field at the end of Chapmans Lea.
Behind the Abbey Across the Vale (Lines Hill)
Playground/Recreation Ground: open space for children to play safely. Orchard/Allotments: quiet spaces. Note: We moved to AA for the rural, green views and spaces. It is a parish asset and we should try to keep that.

- The Green - The Recreation Ground - The Grove - views of the church and Abbey. Mature trees and ancient pastureland. Typical "English" scene. - Lines Hill - for the wonderful open views
Views over the Vale from Lines Hill is a treasure I never take for granted.
Lines Hill
The fields and walks around the village, as indicated, we walk regularly.
Village green Orchard Surrounding fields
The Green Recreation Ground Field walkways
Recreation Ground Orchard Allotments Footpaths
All
Love the views on Lines Hill but wish it was more accessible with a path linking the Lines Hill path across to Norduck Farm and also wish it continued on to the footpath at the park without having to go on to the road.
The part of The Green where the fete is held. The green area before you get to the park. The park itself The orchard All I consider important
All green spaces are important
Village Green. Recreation Ground. Churchyard. Reflective places
Again, all the green spaces are important to us and valued
All green spaces are important
Rec ground Footpaths & fields around the village
All green spaces are important.
The Park. Church. Footpath F Chapmans Lea is a great view to Wing and the best (and only) circular walk from the village under 5km.
Clear views towards Wing
The Grove
Please see Fig 2
Recreation Ground. Chapmans Lea and beyond. The Grove.
The view XXXXXXXXXX looking towards Wingrave is very important and I would not want this spoilt by new housing.
It is a beautiful view generally, the fields and green spaces are all important to me.
The Village Green The Recreation Ground The Orchard The fields along Lines Hill allow lovely views.

Grove Lines Hill Chapmans Lea Behind Old Masters / New Masters Norduck
Orchard The Green Recreation Ground Fox Covert Churchyard (esp. wild area)
The Green Path along Windmill Hill Farm
The Green - centre of the village. Lines Hill - magnificent views of the Chilterns and Vale Churchyard - peaceful and well kept playing field and playground Orchard - peaceful / good views
Footpath A – the Grove Footpath B – Norduck
Orchard Recreation Ground Footpaths The Green
Village Orchard The footpath through The Grove & Cricket Field. Norduck Drive
The Village Orchard is very important to me. But so is every acre of cared-for farm land. I cannot bare what I call creeping urbanisation.
The Green, the fields, and paddock land behind Nashs Farm / the rec. Fields between Aston Abbotts and Weedon.
We love all the green spaces as they are vital to village living and are important to both physical and mental wellbeing and strongly feel green spaces and historical buildings/monuments should stay.
Village Green Abbey Fields Lines Hill fields around Wingrave Road Chapmans Lea Footpath to Cublington
- The Green. - Verges along the roads and around the Green, -  -  - 
All green spaces - fields around AA
We walk regularly, weather permitting. And, as disclosed before, where we can get to, we go!
See 9.2
The Green

All
All
The Orchard The Green The Churchyard The Recreation Ground
All green spaces are important.
Village Green
1) The fields at the back of Humphries Close / Wingrave Rd. 2) The Recreation Ground and fields beyond.
The Green The Abbey field Recreation Ground Woodland between Norduck Lane and The Abbey
The Green The Grove The Cricket Field Field beyond Chapmans Lea All farmland
Lakes near footpath F Copse near Norduck Farm The Orchard
Orchard Village Green Chapmans Lea Fields Norduck
The Green The recreation ground The orchard The Grove

Section 8 History and Ecology

Section 8.1 History and Ecology - Tick Box Summary

Q8.1 History

Q8.1 [i]	How do you feel about our historical past being preserved?	"Very important" (63 out of 82, 77%) 82 households responded (98%)
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Q8.2 Wildlife

Q8.2 [i]	How do you feel about our wildlife being preserved?	"Very important" (77 out of 83, 93%) 83 households responded (99%)
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Q8.3 History and Ecology Ideas

Q8.3 [i]	Website (Historical and ecological information)	"Yes" (63 out of 77, 82%) 77 households responded (92%)
Q8.3 [ii]	Information signs at points of interest	"Yes" (56 out of 78, 72%) 78 households responded (93%)
Q8.3 [iii]	History display boards	"Yes" (47 out of 77, 61%) 77 households responded (92%)
Q8.3 [iv]	Open History days and Ecology days	"Yes" (40 out of 75, 53%) 75 households responded (89%)
Q8.3 [v]	Walking guides – what to see where	"Yes" (67 out of 79, 85%) 79 households responded (94%)
Q8.3 [vi]	Guided tours for history/ecology	"Yes" (38 out of 74, 51%) 74 households responded (88%)
Q8.3 [vii]	Living memories website (for people inside and outside the parish)	"Yes" (43 out of 76, 57%) 76 households responded (90%)

Section 8.2 History and Ecology - Detailed Breakdown

Q8.1 History

Q8.1 [i] How do you feel about our historical past being preserved?

Very important	63	77%
Important	11	13%
Fairly Important	8	10%
Not important		
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Q8.2 Wildlife

Q8.2 [i] How do you feel about our wildlife being preserved?

Very important	77	93%
Important	4	5%
Fairly Important	2	2%
Not important		
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

Q8.3 History and Ecology Ideas

Q8.3 [i] Website (Historical and ecological information)

Yes	63	82%
No	1	1%
No Opinion	13	17%
<i>No Response</i>	7	[8%]

Q8.3 [ii] Information signs at points of interest

Yes	56	72%
No	12	15%
No Opinion	10	13%
<i>No Response</i>	6	[7%]

Q8.3 [iii] History display boards

Yes	47	61%
No	13	17%
No Opinion	17	22%
<i>No Response</i>	7	[8%]

Q8.3 [iv] Open History days and Ecology days

Yes	40	53%
No	7	9%
No Opinion	28	37%
<i>No Response</i>	9	[11%]

Q8.3 [v] Walking guides – what to see where

Yes	67	85%
No	3	4%
No Opinion	9	11%

No Response 5 [6%]

Q8.3 [vi] Guided tours for history/ecology

Yes	38	51%
No	10	14%
No Opinion	26	35%

No Response 10 [12%]

Q8.3 [vii] Living memories website (for people inside and outside the parish)

Yes	43	57%
No	6	8%
No Opinion	27	36%

No Response 8 [10%]

Section 8.3 History and Ecology - Residents' notes and comments

Q8.1a Please Describe Important Historic Features or Buildings

Note: History doesn't need preserving, nothing can "take" it. Those interested can Google and find it so easily now.
Church and Village Hall Royal Oak pub Abbey House and grounds
1) Lower Burston - site of medieval settlement 2) Royal Oak Pub 3) The Abbey 4) All buildings in the current conservation area 5) The Church 6) The Green. (all the above marked on Fig 1)
I think too much emphasis is put on the "Czech connection" and not enough on the rest of the village heritage and history such as the history of the Abbey, and medieval history and farming history.
- The Abbey - View over the Vale - Burston - Church - Pub Royal Oak
The Church Royal Oak View across Line Hill
Church Various old houses in village e.g Church Farm House/Barn/Cottage; The Royal Oak 1 The Green Oak Farm & the Victorian Houses in the Conservation Area. The Green itself. Common Land but being encroached on. Also old houses around it.
The Church The Pub (although it's too late and not viable without expansion)
It's such a shame that the Rothschilds cottages have been allowed to be updated, They should have been protected. Too late now?
The Church, Village Hall and The Abbey
The whole area in the Churchyard. Village Hall. Village Green
Church
All existing should be retained and not spoilt/lost by any development.
Village Hall Church Ridge and furrow fields War memorial The Green Fields to the rear of Ross Road
The Church The Royal Oak Pub The Abbey, Moat and Islands

Church and Village Hall Abbey and Grounds Well in Church Row
The Royal Oak The old Shop The Village Hall Oak Farmhouse Home Farm Church Farmhouse Pump in Church Row St James Church The Green (with trees)
Village pump – Church Row Village Hall Church Thatched cottages
Royal Oak Pub
St James Church Royal Oak The Abbey Thatched buildings Conservation Area Overstone Cottages
The Church The Abbey Village Hall
The old ridge and furrow strip farming, obvious on Lines Hill, must be preserved.
The thatched buildings (Osbornes, the pub)
The Royal Oak Pub The Community Hall
The Church The Water Pump The Green The Abbey
Village Church Royal Oak Pub Village Hall Osbornes Shop
James Ross burial site in the church. Abbey as an occupied, private house. Royal Oak. Chapel.
Being an almost unspoiled and attractive village, I feel strongly that all buildings pre-1900's should be protected.
Medieval strip farming and house platforms on Lines Hill and remains of Burston village

<p>The Royal Oak The Abbey and the Lodge The Village Hall The Church The Vicarage The Stable buildings at the Firs All Overstone Cottages Oak Farm House The Old Cottage</p>
<p>Church including Boundary Wall Royal Oak</p>
<p>The Village Hall All pre 1950's properties The site of Burston old village (the ridges) The Abbey The Church</p>

Q8.2 [i] How do you feel about our wildlife being preserved?

[Silly question]

Q8.3 [iii] History display boards

[No more required]

Q8.3a If you want more action to support our historical heritage, ecology, and local wildlife, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help

Maintain green space along footpaths so that we can be close to nature
More eco initiatives/conservation areas, owl boxes, wild meadow space flower areas, bird and wild life housing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It would be good to see a wildlife conservation area established in the parish, and a wildlife/conservation group formed. - Continued maintenance of the Village Orchard including a plan for its future and its preservation (maybe with funding). - Education: Eg walks and talks about balance of our wildlife and the effect of having "to many" of one species in a small area (eg, magpies, rooks, raptors, badgers and foxes). How management of the landscape can improve the outcome for some of our more declining wildlife (song birds, lapwings, hares etc)
Danger of littering the village with information boards but need to think how these are maintained and what they will look like in x years from installation (? tatty and ugly)
Too many signs and history board would make the village look too cluttered
A green area that is accessible would be really nice. Especially with a pond and information signs about wildlife. Especially if this could be developed to link the footpaths and provide housing too.
Stop cutting down trees and bushes, we are losing so many wild birds because of this.
The board on the green is an eyesore and in the wrong place. Should be more discreet.
A small wood - possibly in the Grove or along the footpath D between Longmoor and Old School. Build new structures where Swallows can nest - have lost most of barns now.
Important Issue - there should be a register of protected trees within the parish. We need to prevent trees being cut down simple to facilitate development [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Trees form an essential view point of this village
To many signs may spoil a peaceful visual aspect
A village history group might be an idea to collate and keep archive items.

More history/info-signs/boards create a more suburban appearance in a small village and encourage more visitors/cars which are not appreciated!
More info can be put out on the various village networks. The Czech board and info sheets in the church are all that is necessary.
If people are interested enough there are already adequate sources of information.
Leave verges to grow and only cut down at the end of the season.
Things to encourage more wildlife such as wildflower meadows

Section 9 Other

Section 9.1 Other - Tick Box Summary

Q9.1 If we were to encourage alternative energy, which would you support?

Q9.1a	Wind power	"Agree" (53 out of 80, 66%) <i>80 households responded (95%)</i>
Q9.1b	Solar power	"Agree" (70 out of 80, 88%) <i>80 households responded (95%)</i>

Q9.3 Willing to Help?

Q9.3 [i]	Would you like to help in developing the Neighbourhood Plan?	"No" (64 out of 81, 79%) <i>81 households responded (96%)</i>
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Q9.4 Optional Contact Details

Q9.4 [i]	Contact Details Provided?	"No" (47 out of 83, 57%) <i>83 households responded (99%)</i>
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Section 9.2 Other - Detailed Breakdown

Q9.1 If we were to encourage alternative energy, which would you support?

Q9.1a Wind power

Agree	53	66%
Disagree	17	21%
No opinion	10	13%
<i>No Response</i>	4	[5%]

Q9.1b Solar power

Agree	70	88%
Disagree	5	6%
No opinion	5	6%
<i>No Response</i>	4	[5%]

Q9.2 Anything Else?

Q9.3 Willing to Help?

Q9.3 [i] Would you like to help in developing the Neighbourhood Plan?

Yes	17	21%
No	64	79%
<i>No Response</i>	3	[4%]

Q9.4 Optional Contact Details

Q9.4 [i] Contact Details Provided?

Yes	36	43%
No	47	57%
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

Section 9.3 Other - Residents' notes and comments

Q9.1c If you would like to see more action to encourage alternative energy, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help:

Yes! No brainer to save the village a fortune for decades and save the world.
We need to move to green energy. May be the villagers would contribute if the benefits saved them money. E.G What would it take to power the village from solar). All 185 dwellings' electricity?
Solar panels should be encouraged on all new buildings. Solar "arrays" should not be too large, and situated away from local views. Also not interfere with arable farming, as food production is becoming increasingly important on a local basis
Our local transformers are maxed out. We are an elevated position so I'd love to see a wind turbine connected to reduce our energy bills and carbon footprint. We should also consider battery storage to reduce load on our maxed out grid. This is absolutely essential for any new housing as our grid is maxed out so we need to produce local green power.
Heat source pumps in bigger properties
I agree in principle with alternative energy. I do not support wind farms or solar farms. The turbines or panels should be restricted individual homes.
Government grants for domestic installations
We could live with several windmills around the village providing all our electricity. Combine that with solar panels and battery storage for total sustainability.
I would not want to look at a giant wind turbine
It is absolutely crazy covering agricultural land with solar panels when all the great warehouses have none on their roof. E.g. Bicester
Help with solar panels on roofs
Villages should have own wind turbine. All new builds should be roofed with solar panels
- All new housing to be built to passive house standards as a minimum. - Functional support for solar panels, solar heating and air/ground source heat pumps etc. - Reduction in traffic by restricting use of cars and HGVs; by financial measures if necessary.
Grants for solar panels
Village Action Group to explore possibility of sustainable energy for the benefit of the village e.g. windmill on Lines Hill.

Q9.2 [i] Please add anything else you think has not been covered and that you think should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan:

Cublington Road has very fast traffic which is unsafe due to the number of horse riders, cyclists and walkers. Drop the speed limit to 40mph and the village to 20mph. No safety signs in Cublington road for pedestrians in the road (no footpath) and horse riders. This should be a priority. Living in this part of Aston Abbotts, or as we call it the "Hamlet of Longmoor" has left us feeling like the poor cousins as little if any money is spent here from the parish coffers.
I would like to see an improvement to footpaths in the village and traffic calming measures
1) Upgrade in sports facilities 2) Support with dealing with fly tipping 3) Improved fibre broadband. We currently have had to figure out an alternative to be able to run business from home during COVID
Traffic calming if it falls within this remit Making our roads safer for pedestrians - young and old alike

<p>The infrastructure and nature of the parish is being damaged by the disproportionate amount and size of traffic which are not delivering/visiting locally. The village is being used as a high speed cut through from the A418 to the A413 without entering/leaving Aylesbury. The noise generated by high "revving" cars and motorbikes is distressing, constant and invasive. The continuous drone of oversized HGV engines trying to save time and the damage caused to infrastructure when two oversized vehicles try to pass is unacceptable in my view but is condoned by Bucks CC complacency to place enforcement/traffic regulations as part of their freight strategy.</p>
<p>1. Forget about speed limit stuff, those who speed ignore it anyway, and its not like kids are dropping like flies.</p> <p>2. HGV traffic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More signs, light the signs - Narrow entrance to "cut through" road to Lines Hill (opposite Humphries Close)
<p>Parish security:</p> <p>It would be good to plan how we could get 4-6 cameras installed around the village so we can catch fly tippers, littering vans, and general crime. They don't cost much but could save money long term (maybe companies may sponsor for example)</p>
<p>1) Traffic management. AA has become a "rat-run" and a diversion route during the rush hour, and a route for the A418 and A413. I think this issue should be addressed by the NP</p> <p>2) This also leads to road safety issues for all vulnerable users such as cyclists, wheelchair users, children, prams and horse riders etc.</p> <p>3) Planning. Design statements to apply to new builds and extensions to existing properties. To ensure we are not building eyesores which do not fit in to the character of the village and its rural aspects.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction in HGV lorries coming through the village and using it as a rat-run to avoid A418 and to the A roads, - Traffic calming measures - Discourage Council from diverting traffic though Aston Abbotts when roadworks are being carried out
<p>Re-open the pub to bring community back together</p>
<p>Engage with the Aylesbury Council Plan to improve footpaths and cycle paths.</p> <p>Encourage bikes as a mode of transport by having safe off-road cycle paths through the country side</p> <p>Encourage farmers to allow areas across land (around the edges) for horse riding and footpaths with circular routes and minimal road usage</p> <p>If the red boundary line in Figure 1 could become an orbital footpath or, even better, a cycle path too, that would be excellent.</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>The footpaths in the village are cracked and broken and unsuitable for those with mobility problems, especially those using walkers. The recreation ground is also unsuitable for mobility aids.</p> <p>When planning permission is granted all new homes should be built with parking facilities off road.</p> <p>The village is more like a car park with so many vehicles parking on footpaths.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A list of local businesses that we can support (eg, pubs, café, shops). A plan to grow these and have more. - The footpath to Wingrave and A418 Wingrave Road is too narrow for buggies and adjacent to fast flowing traffic. It is poorly lit. It is the only walk to a shop/school and needs to be more accessible.
<p>1) Can we have some finality on the future of the pub? It's an eyesore and should be a community asset.</p> <p>2) Consider twinning AA with another village.</p> <p>3) There's some beautiful countryside here – let's not ruin it. But more walking routes would be welcomed.</p>

<p>1) Like most villages with small roads, there needs to be some way of tackling the size and amount of the lorries that come through the village, at time at an alarming speed.</p> <p>2) Some type of speed calming through the village.</p> <p>3) Better pavements - I have to go on the road with a double buggy as pavement to narrow in some places. It is not a friendly environment for taking children in buggies for a walk.</p> <p>4) No facilities for disabled children.</p>
<p>I believe a pub would be beneficial to our community. Whether this is a traditional pub or a regular 'pop up pub' at the village hall for example.</p>
<p>Linking the footpaths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Footpath E with Footpath D (a short section to avoid having to use the road) – easy? - Footpath F to the allotment corner. Often used informally by dog walkers; landowners are opposed to this, but if properly negotiated, would be a nice amenity - more a long term aim.
<p>See comment on register of all trees in the village to ensure that are protected</p>
<p>Traffic too fast through the village</p>
<p>Community run pub?</p> <p>More activities / social events for the children in the village</p>
<p>I would very much like a pop-up pub in the community hall. Something which is held on a regular basis for people to meet up / socialise. The closure of the Royal Oak is a huge loss. We have many families who have moved to the village because it had a pub.</p> <p>We need something to replace this that appeals to all ages not just to older retired people. As a single parent with a young child, it can feel quite isolating in Aston Abbotts. I feel it needs something to bring the community together more.</p>
<p>Pie in the sky, but I guess this is what the survey is about:</p> <p>A multipurpose pub - not just snacks and drinks, but coffee and afternoon tea, basic shopping needs for milk and bread, collection point for deliveries for those out at work.</p> <p>There are a number of quite lonely and isolated people in the village. The Coffee Morning in the village hall taps into this, but a drop in multi-function site, run by village volunteers with one manager would be socially very useful.</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>It is a happy "coincidence" that the villages of Aston Abbotts, Weedon, Hardwick and Cublington have managed to remain largely unspoiled by aggressive development.</p> <p>They are linked by quiet roads, footpaths and bridleways passing through beautiful unspoiled countryside. As such they constitute a great leisure facility to the area: particularly to rapidly growing Aylesbury.</p> <p>They should, I believe, therefore be considered as a whole in any local planning considerations.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Action needs to be taken to stop roads through the village being used as the 'Aylesbury By-Pass', by both cars, vans and lorries of all sizes. - High speed broadband needs to be provided to ALL properties not just those that 'open reach' decide should have it.
<p>*Traffic* - the increase in traffic through the village</p>
<p>House design should follow housing nearby. Ie, brickwork, colour & pattern, dormer windows</p>
<p>Measures to restrict heavy goods vehicles passing through the village.</p>
<p>Love the questionnaire! But will it be listened to!</p>

Appendix A – Marked-up Maps

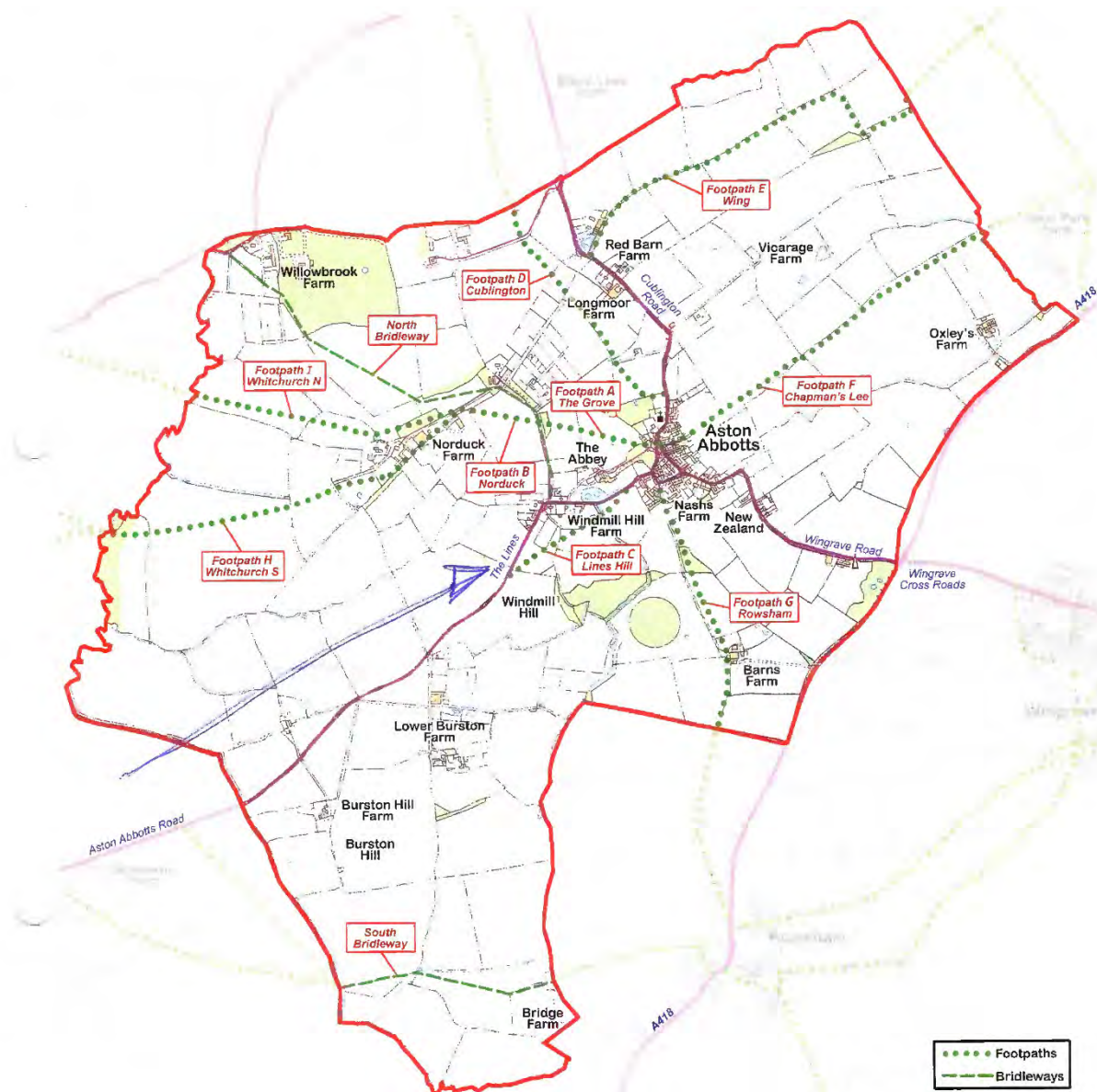


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

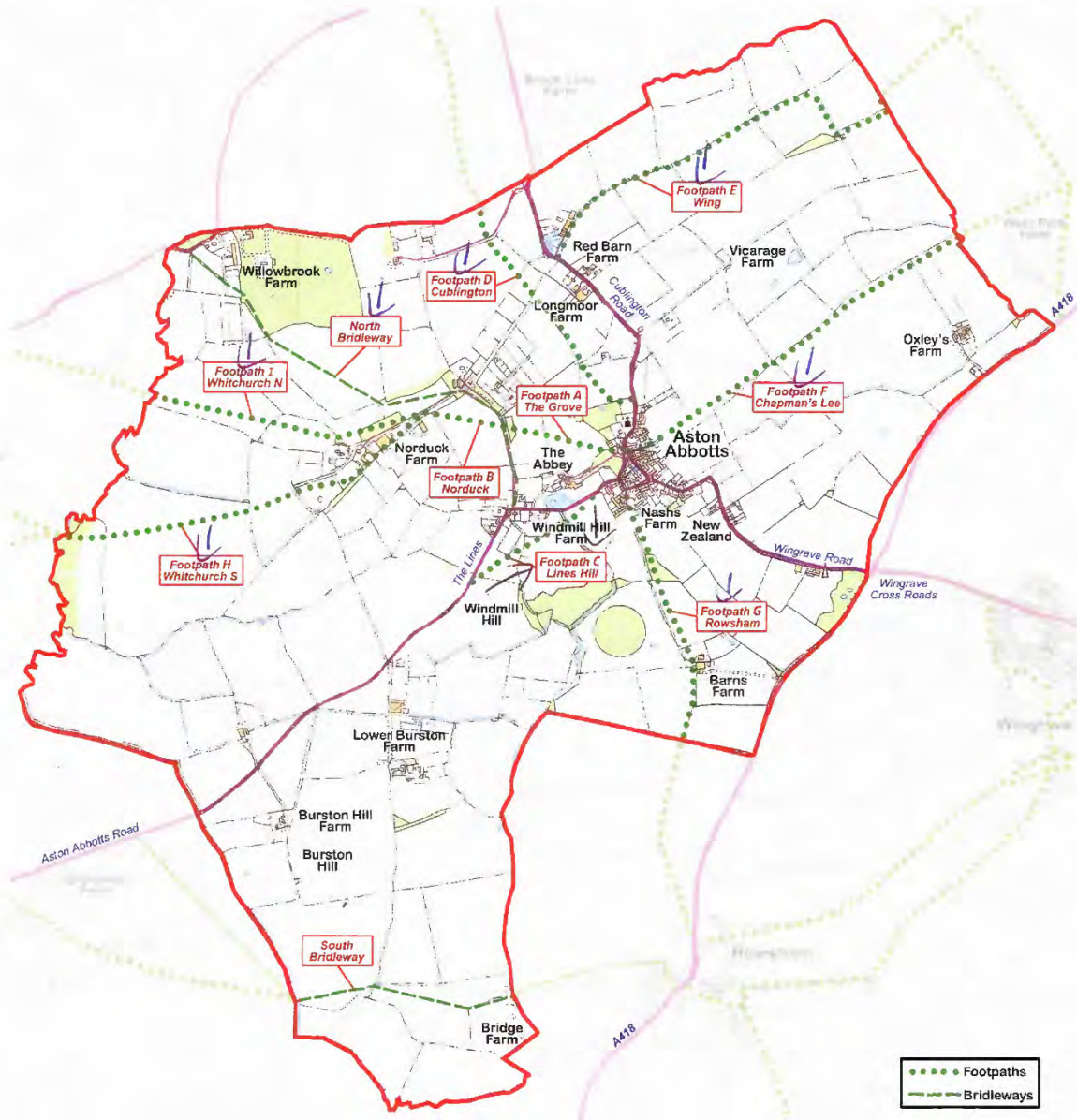


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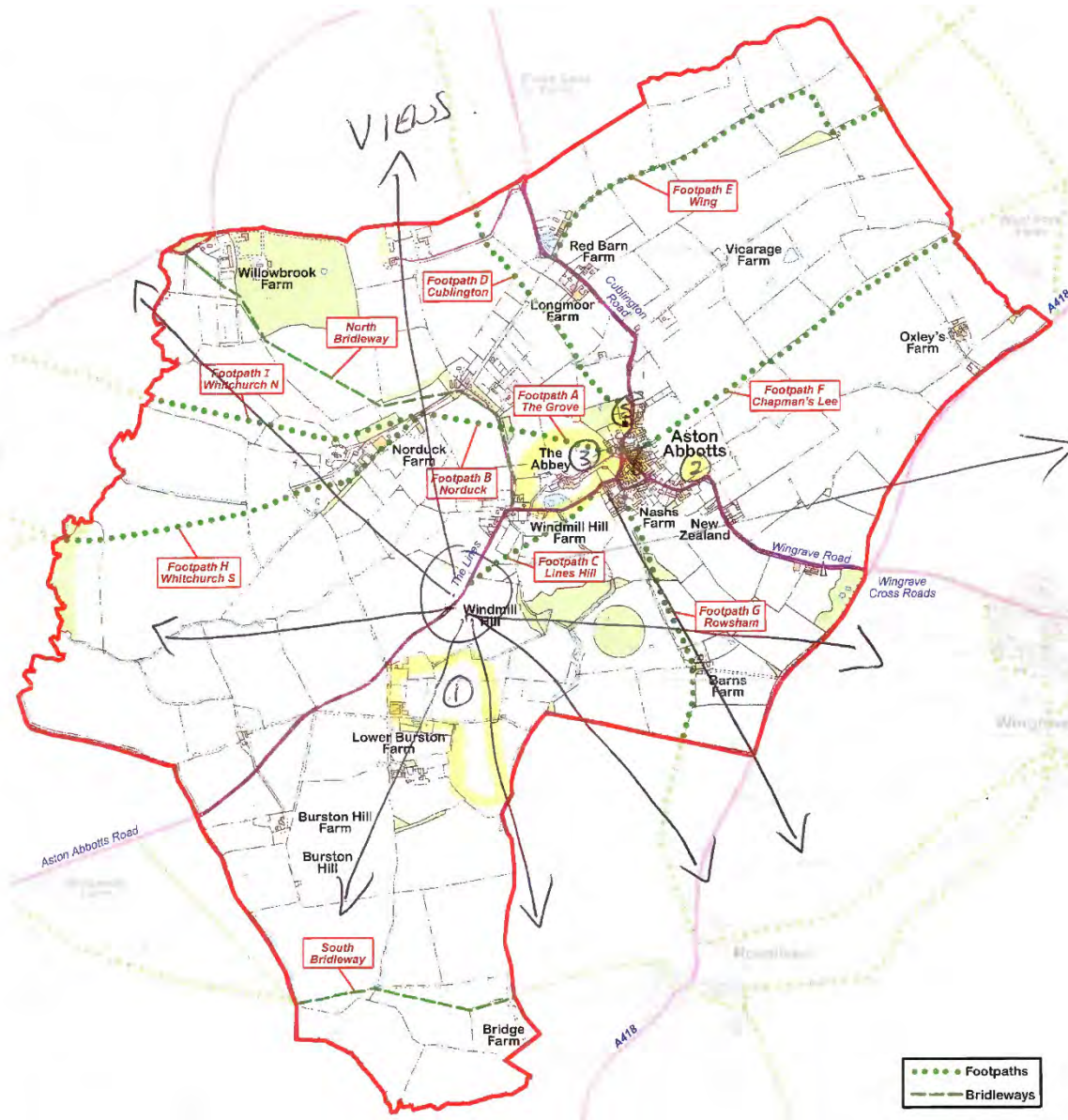


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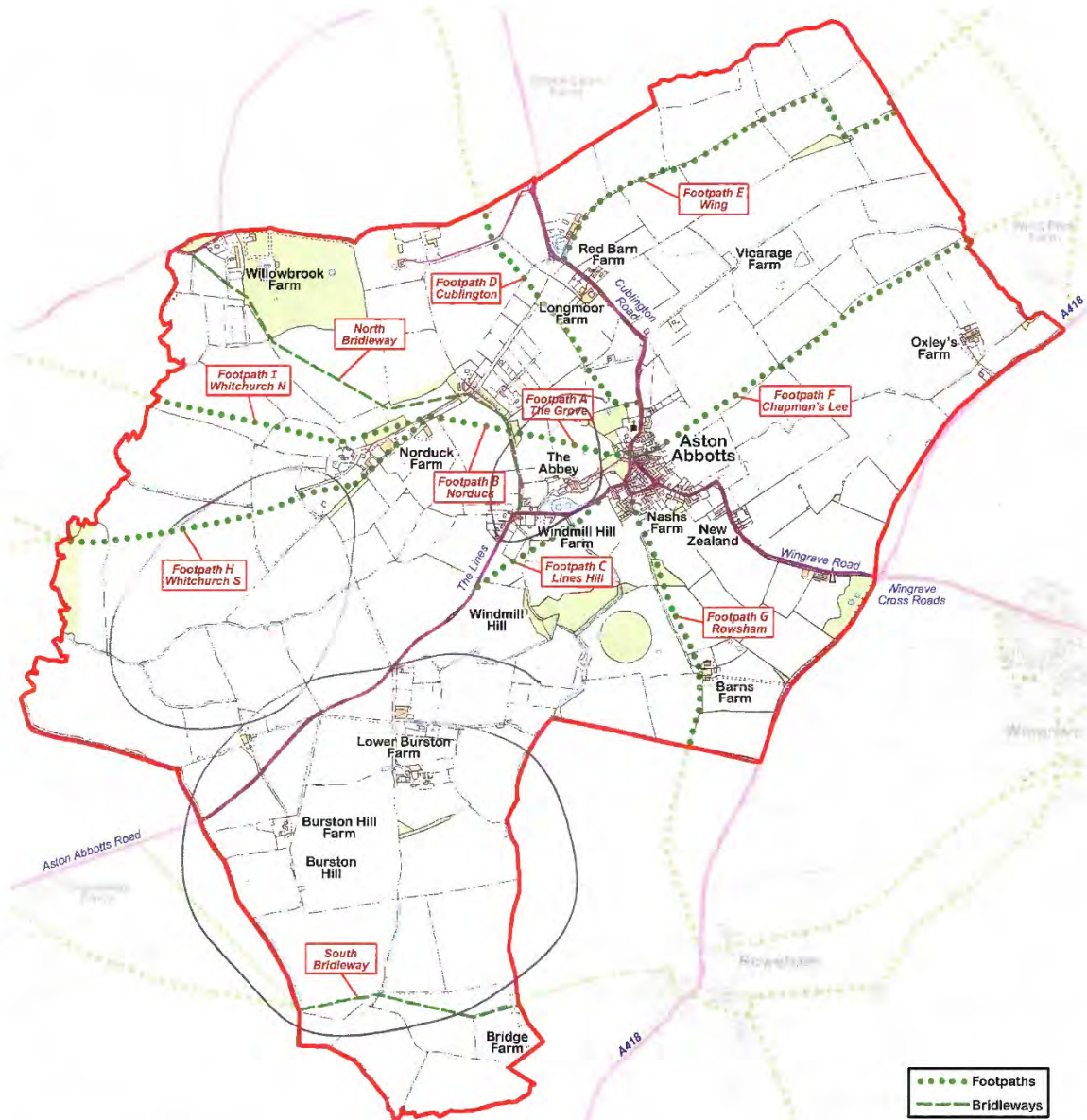


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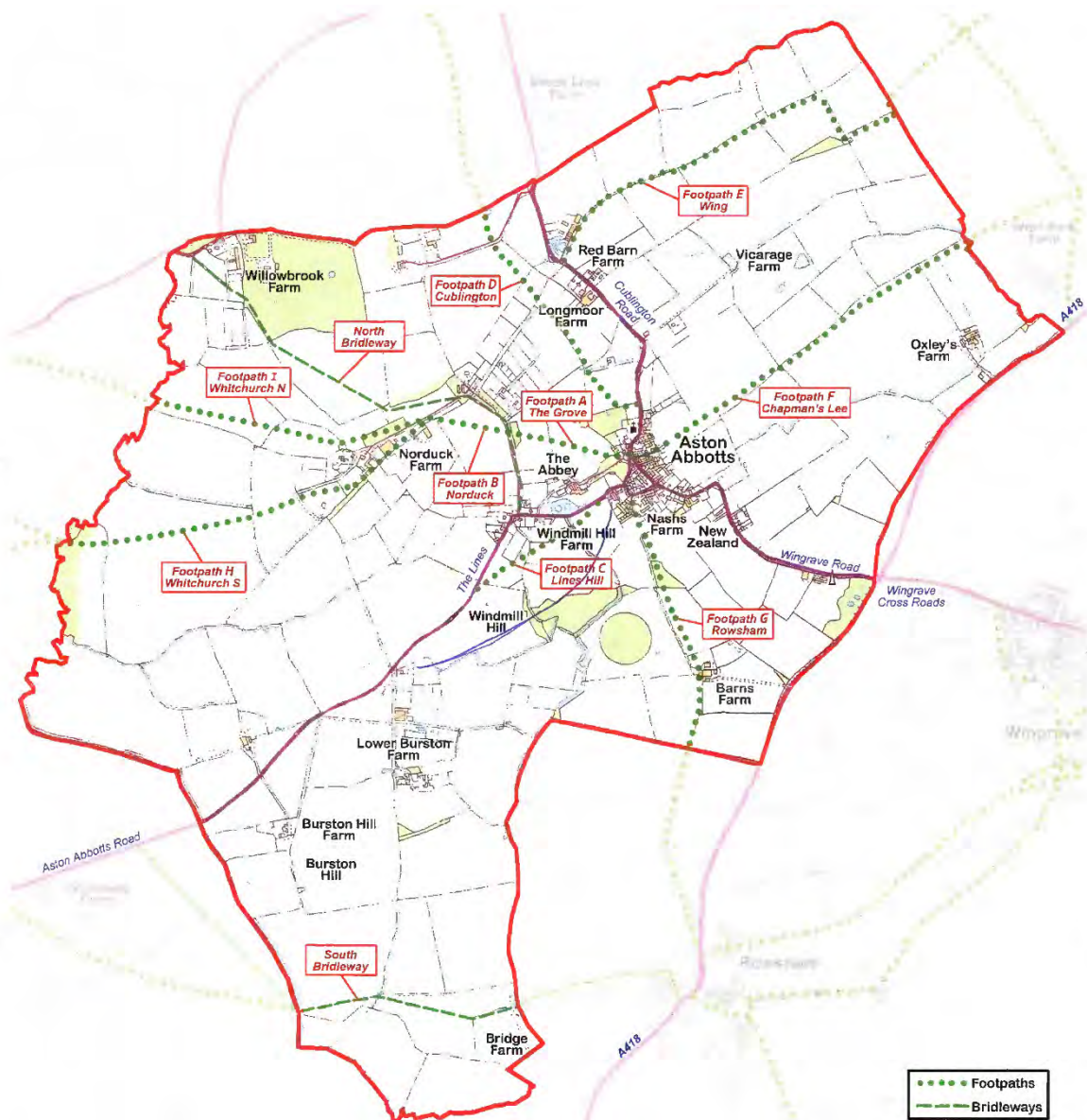


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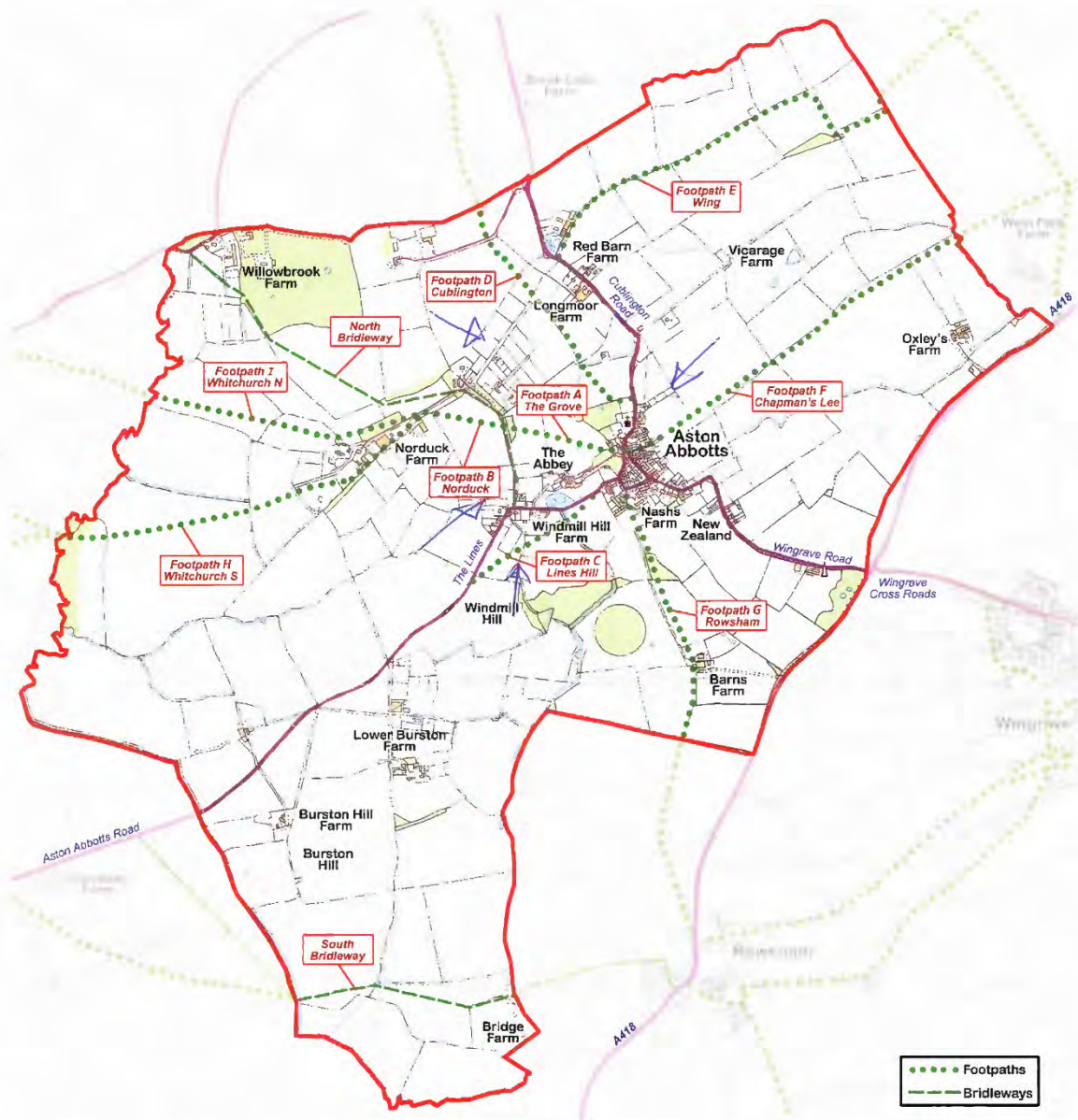


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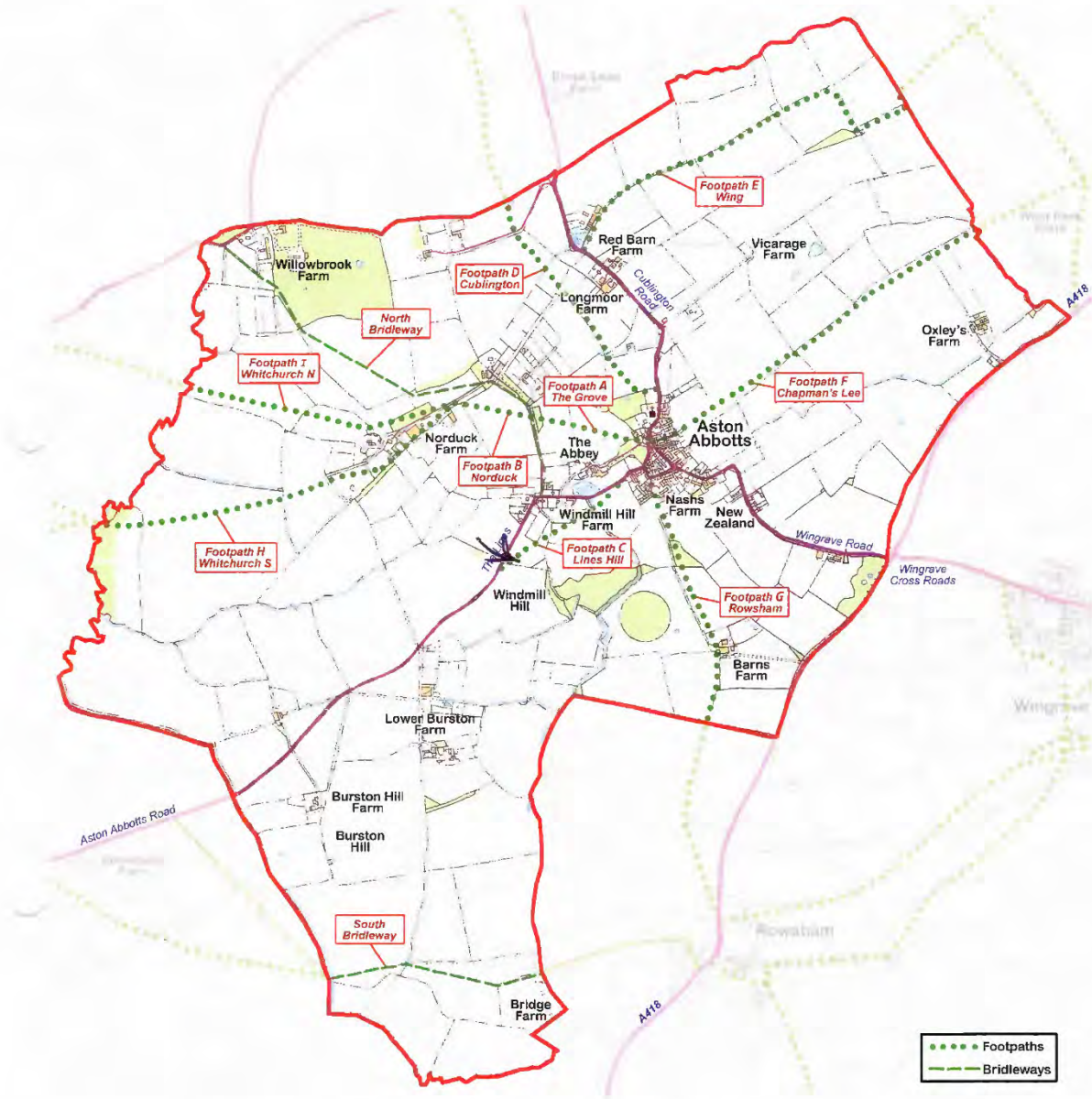


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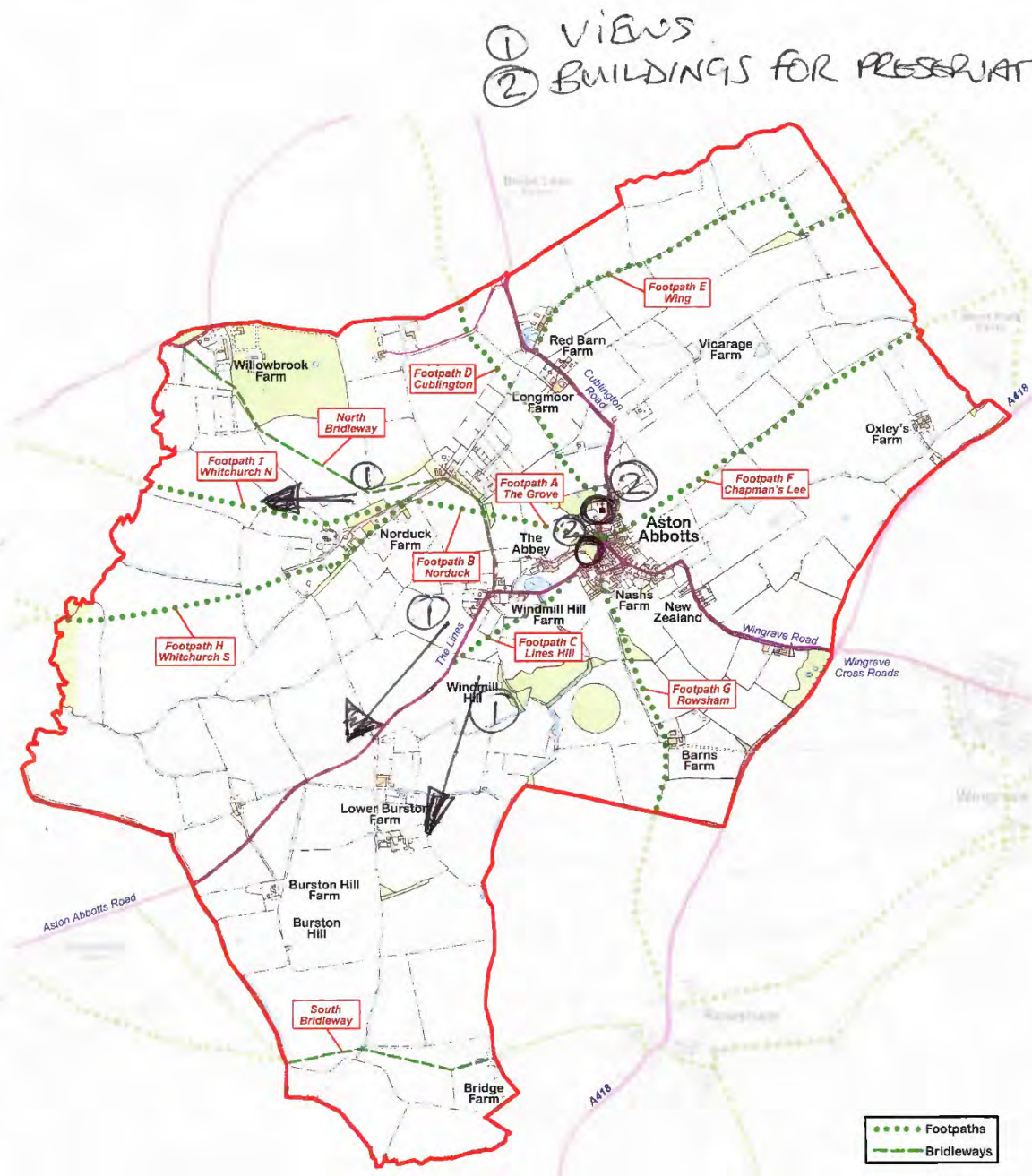


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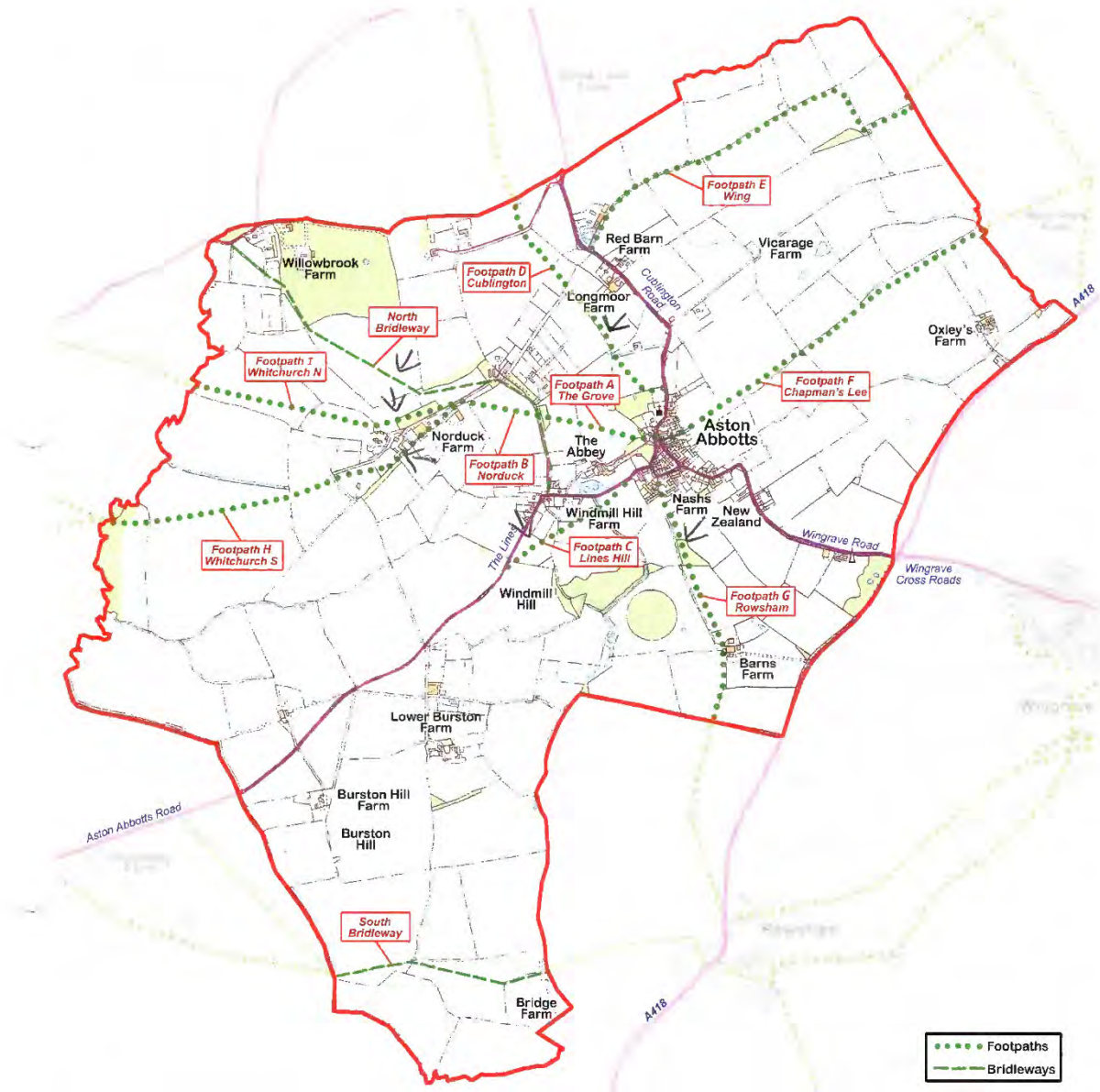


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

likely new points are arrowed.

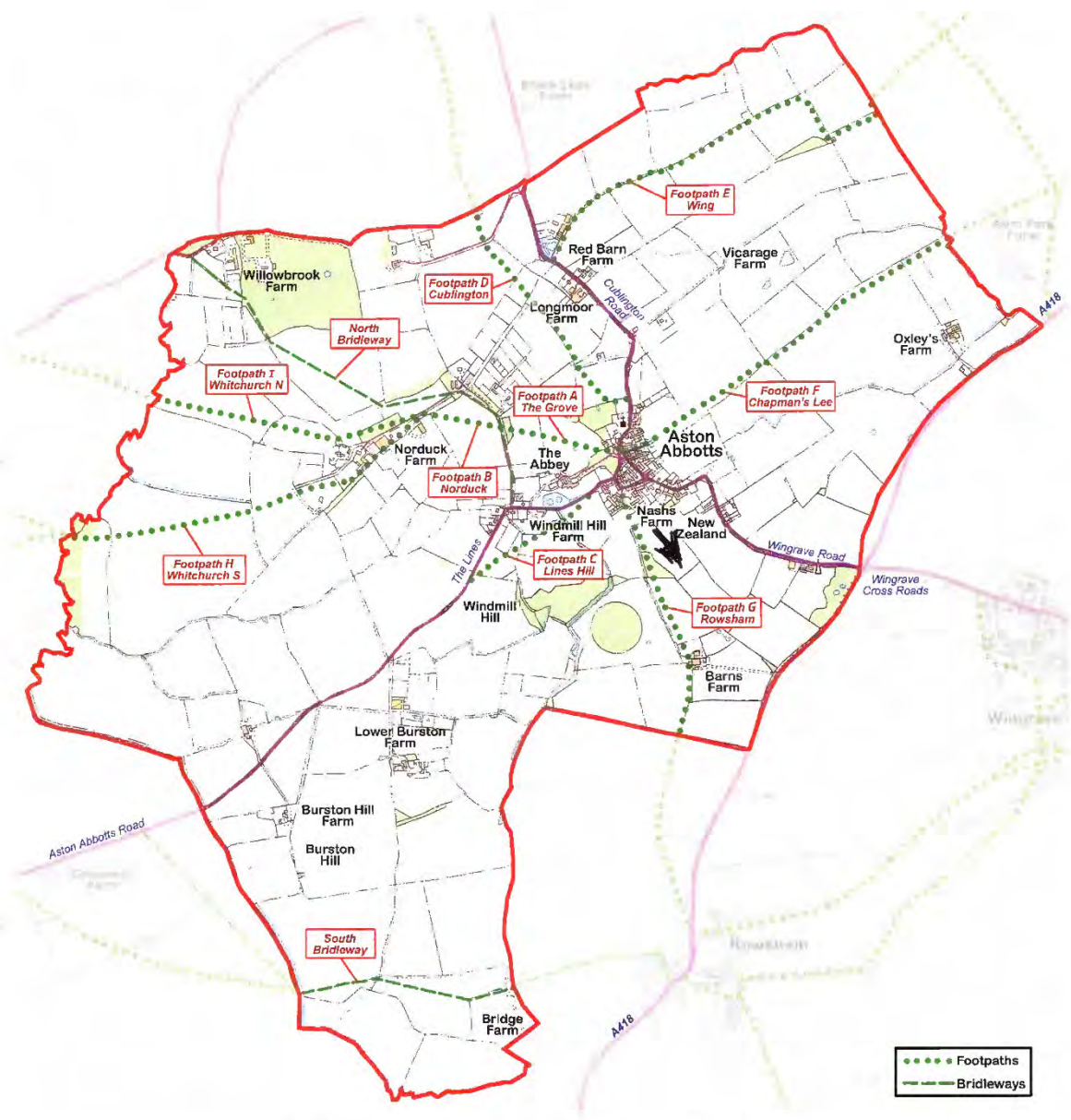


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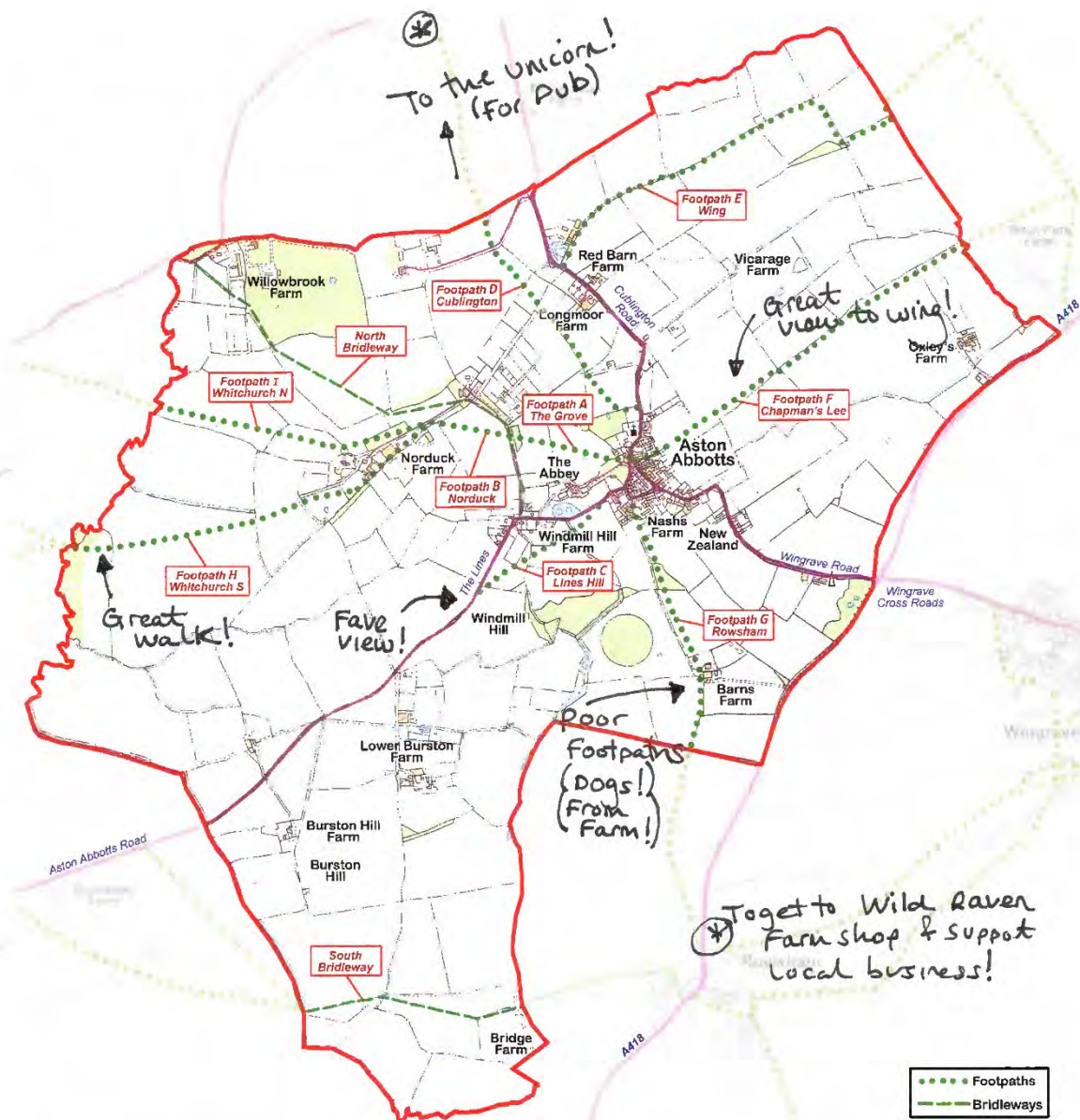


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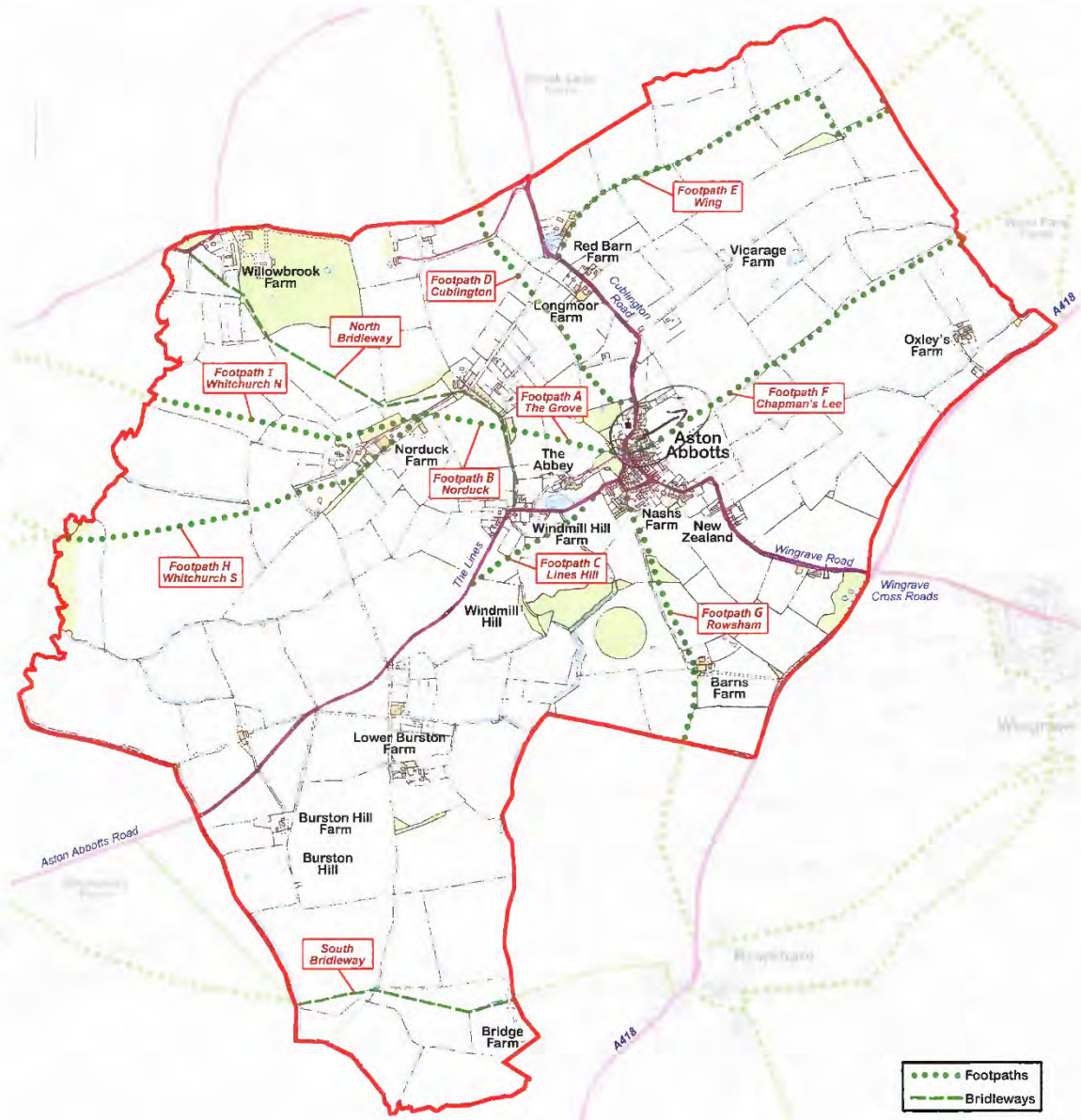


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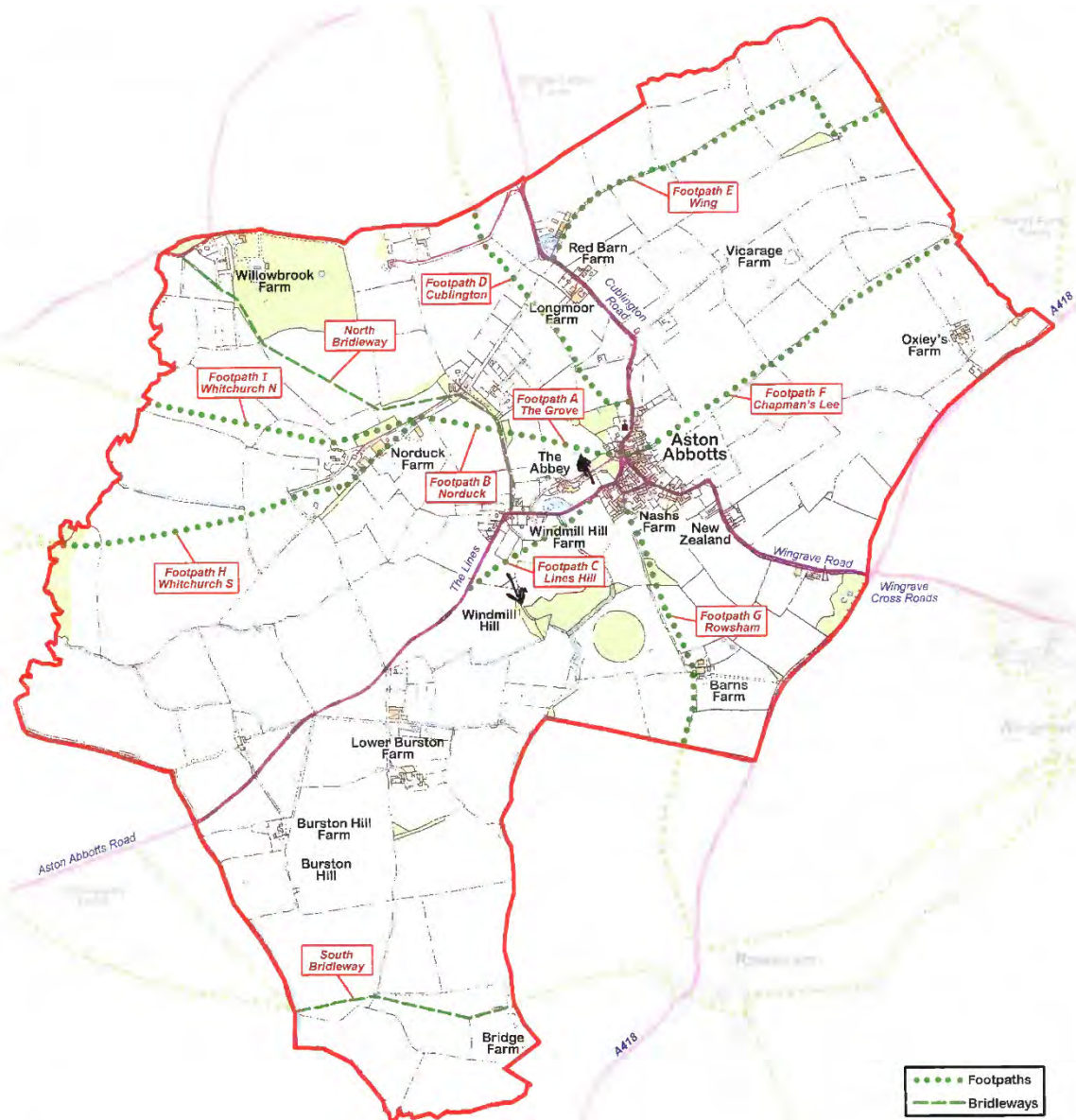


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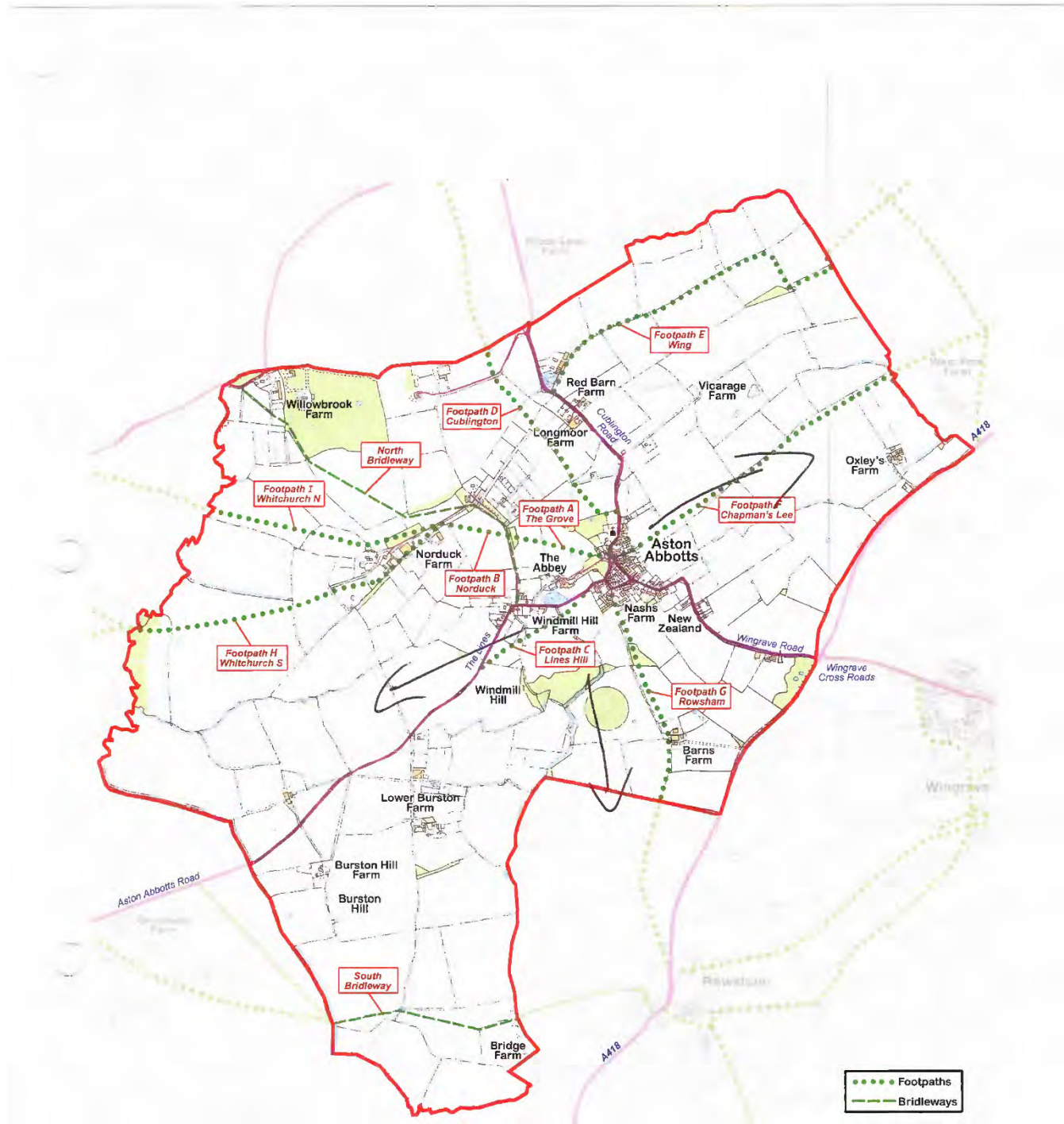


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

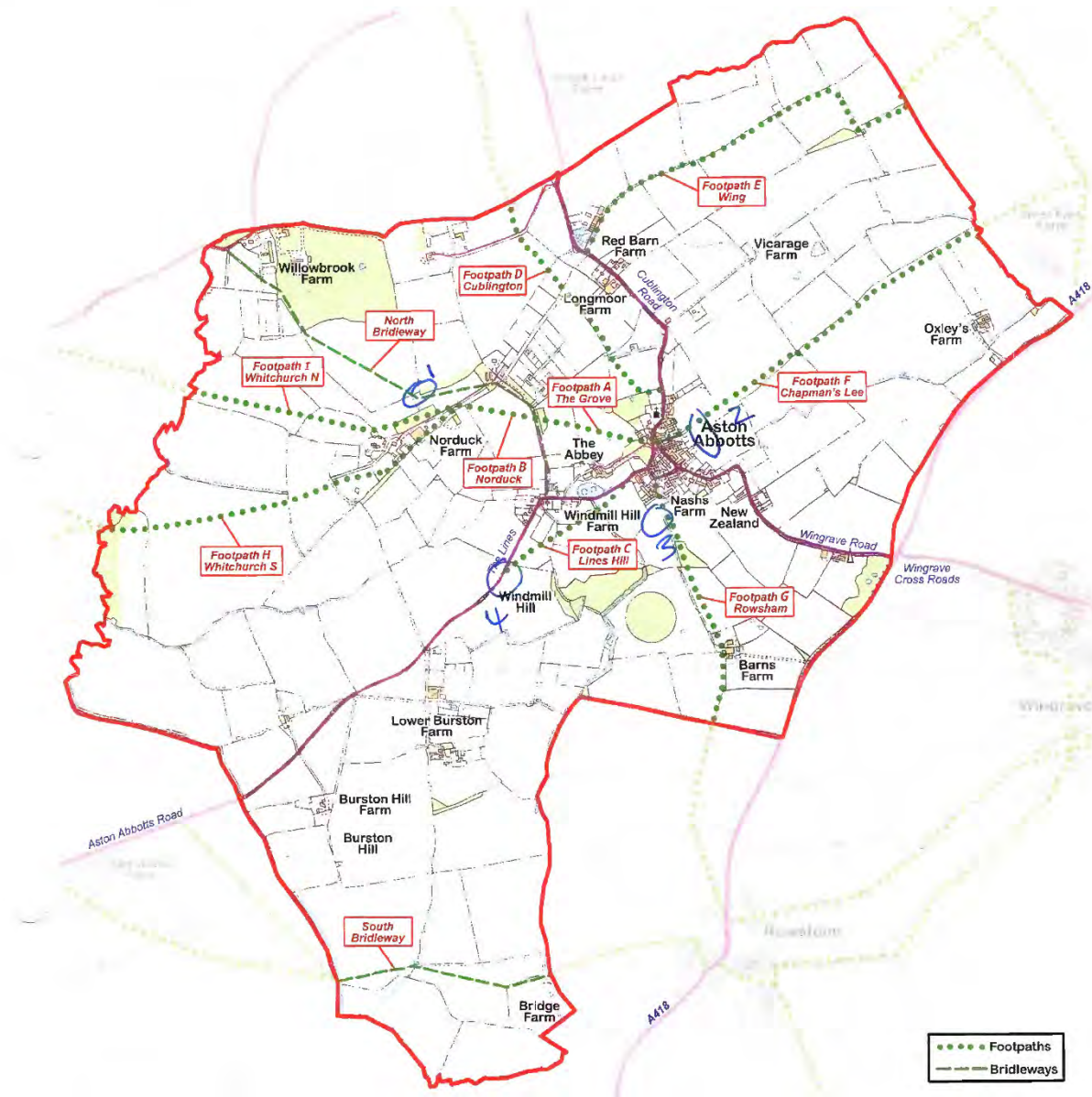


Figure 1 – Aston Abbotts Parish Boundary

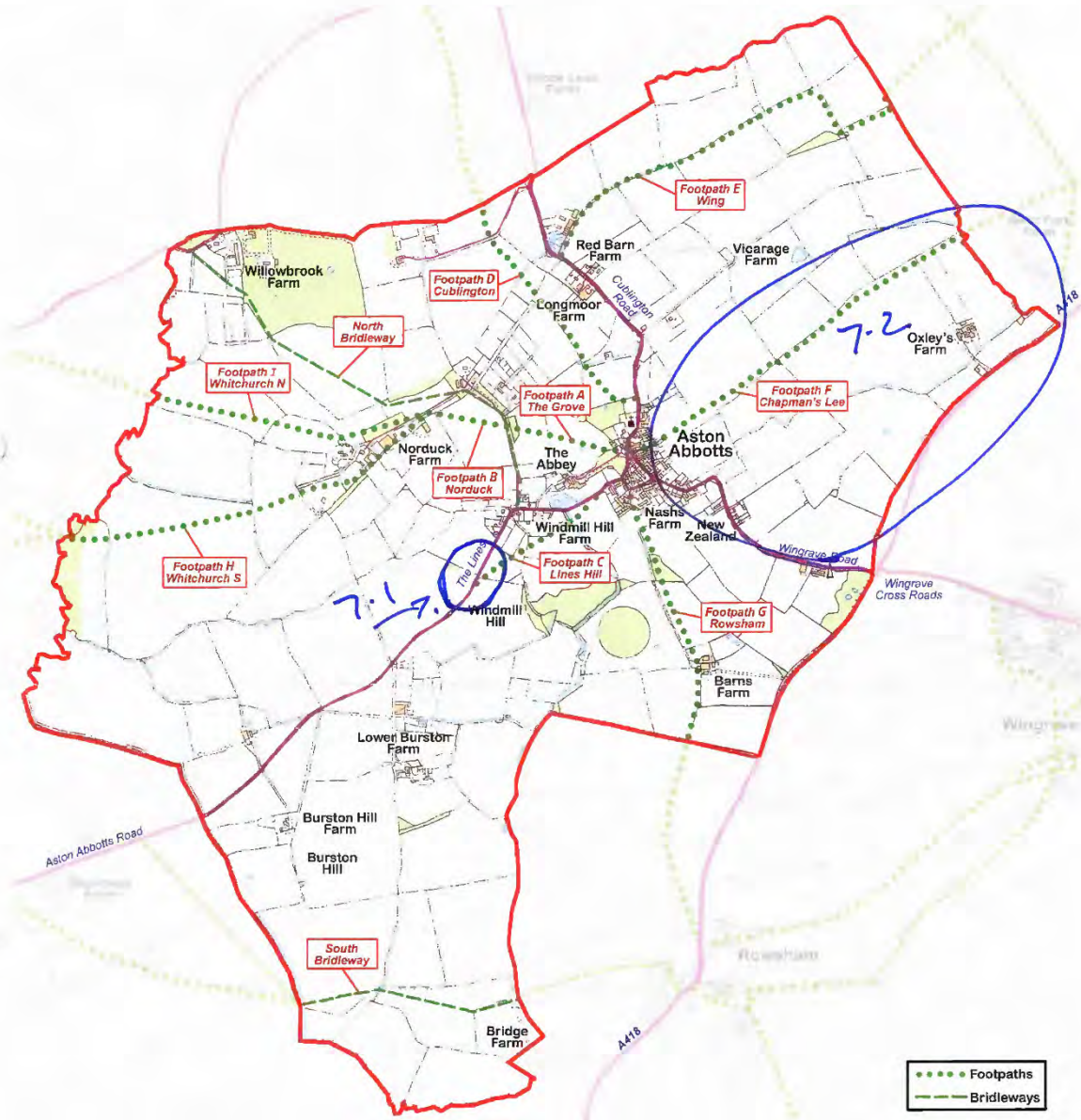


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

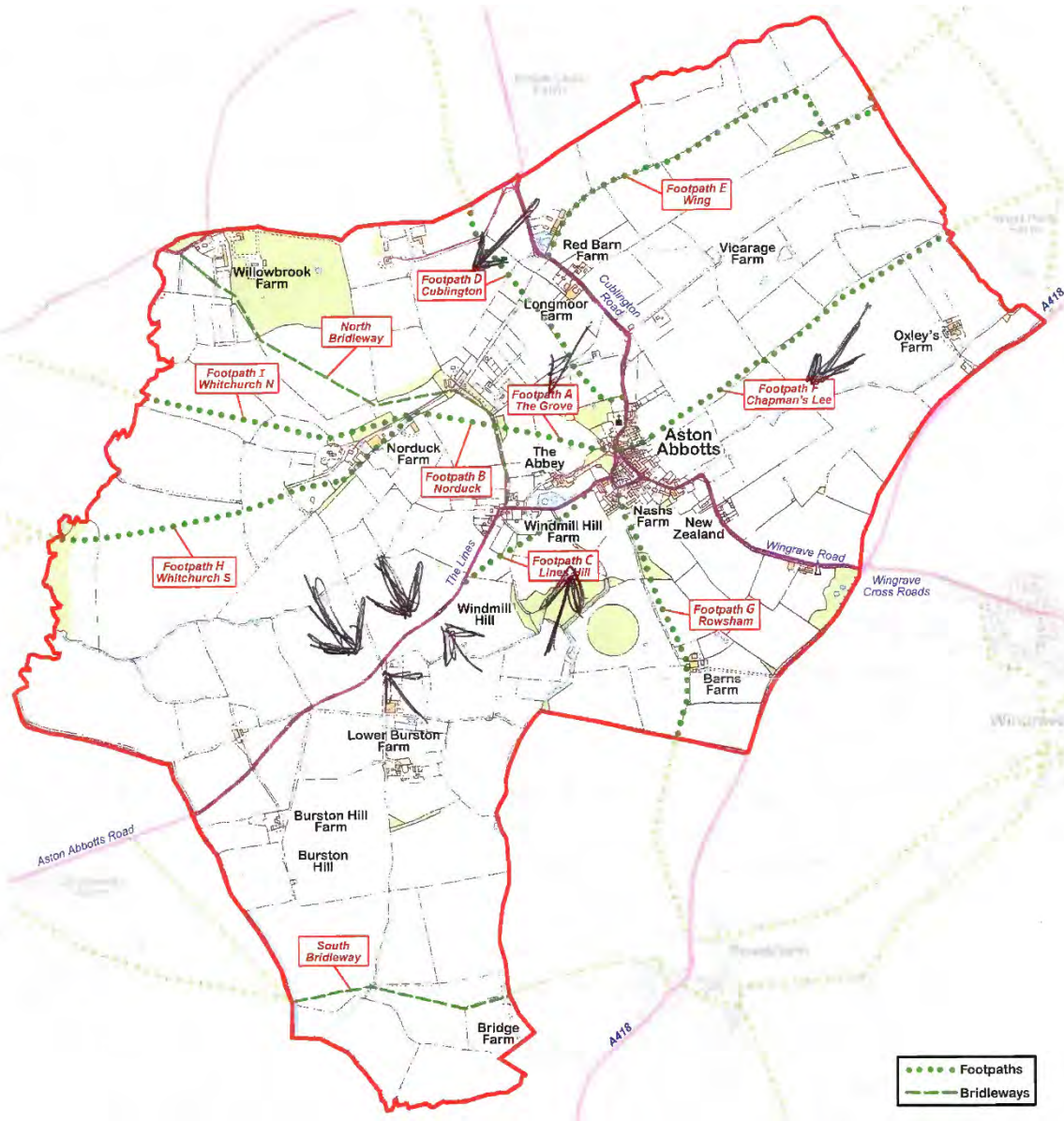


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

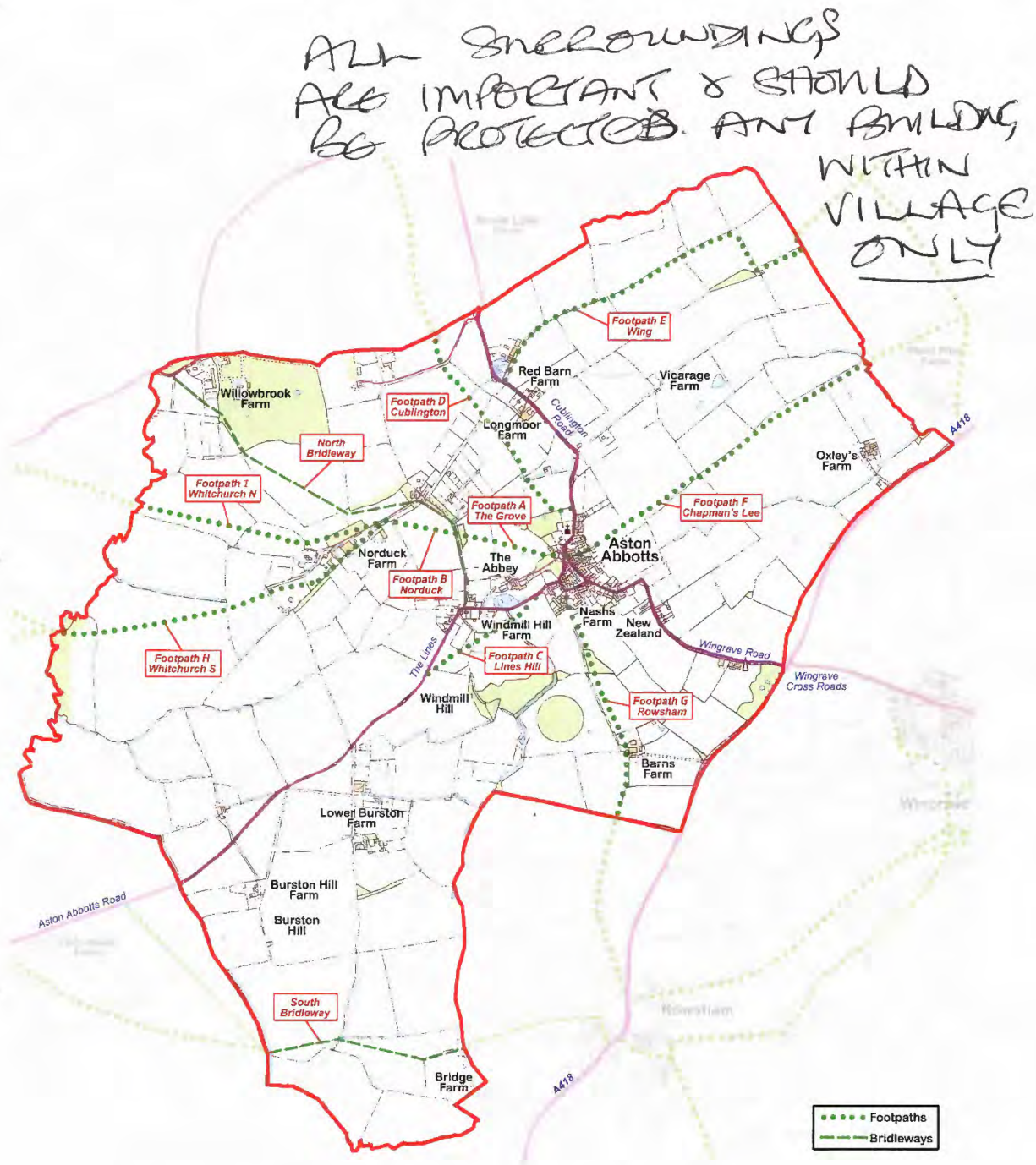


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

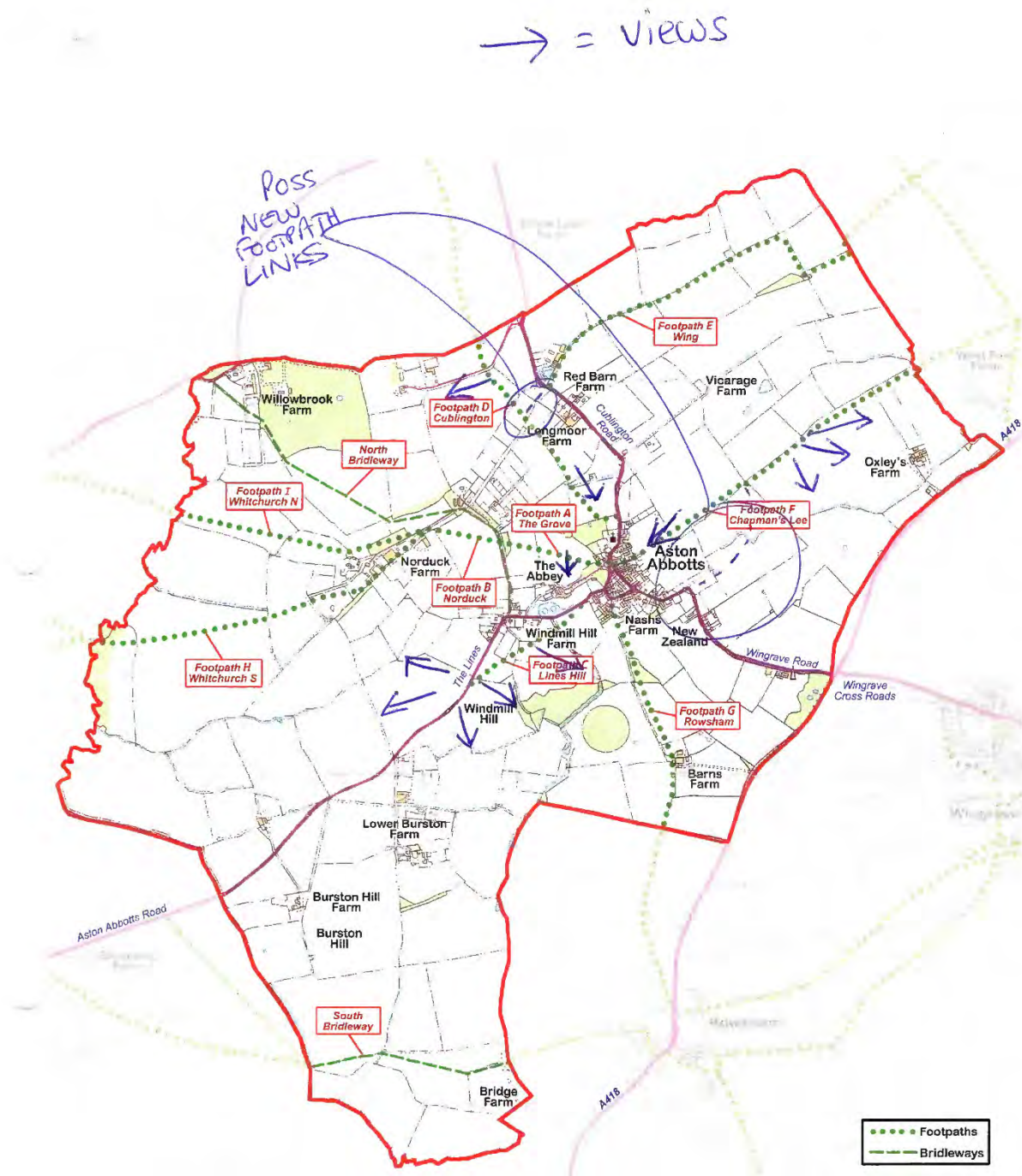


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

↗ GREAT VIEWS

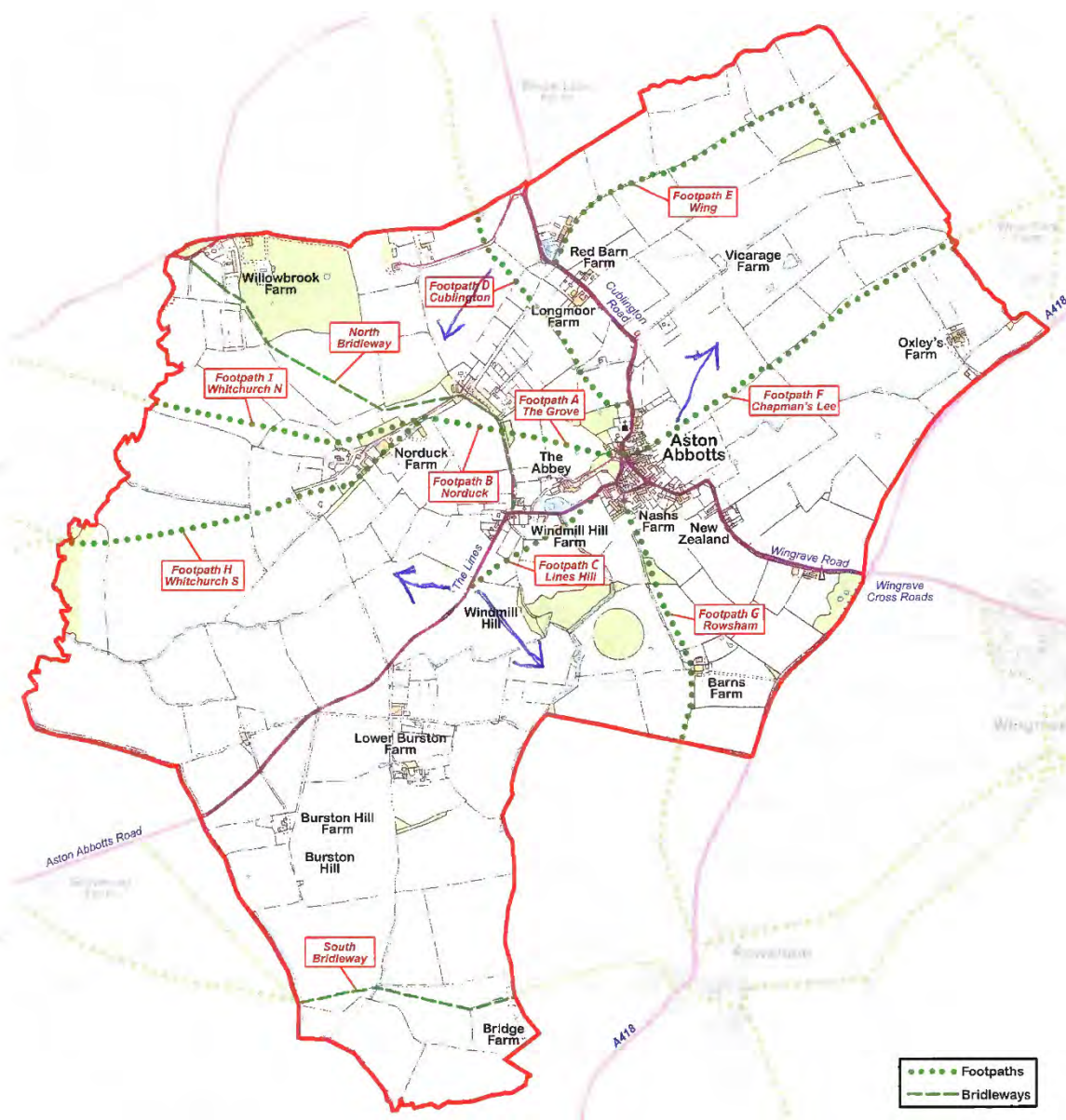


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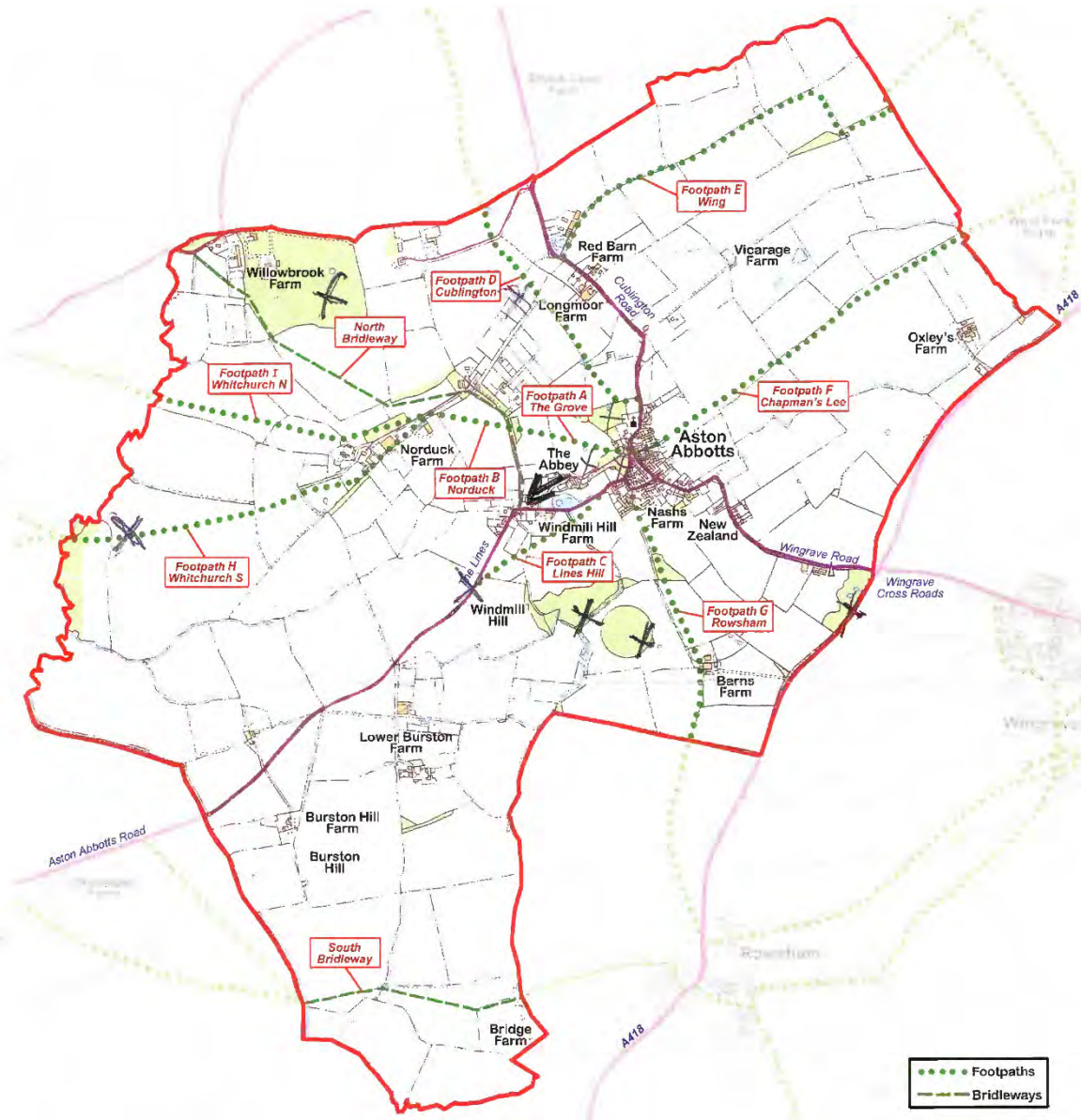


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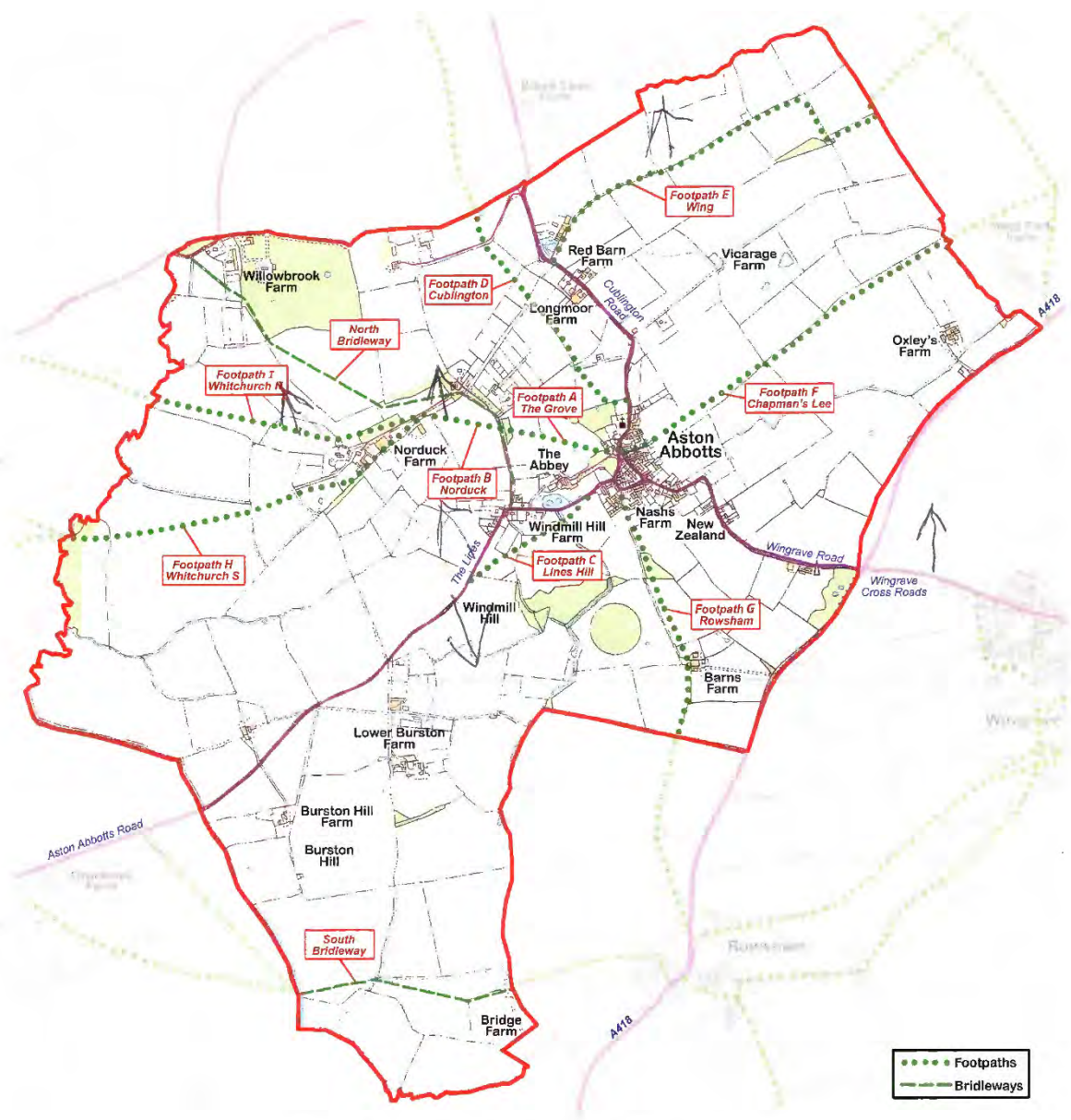


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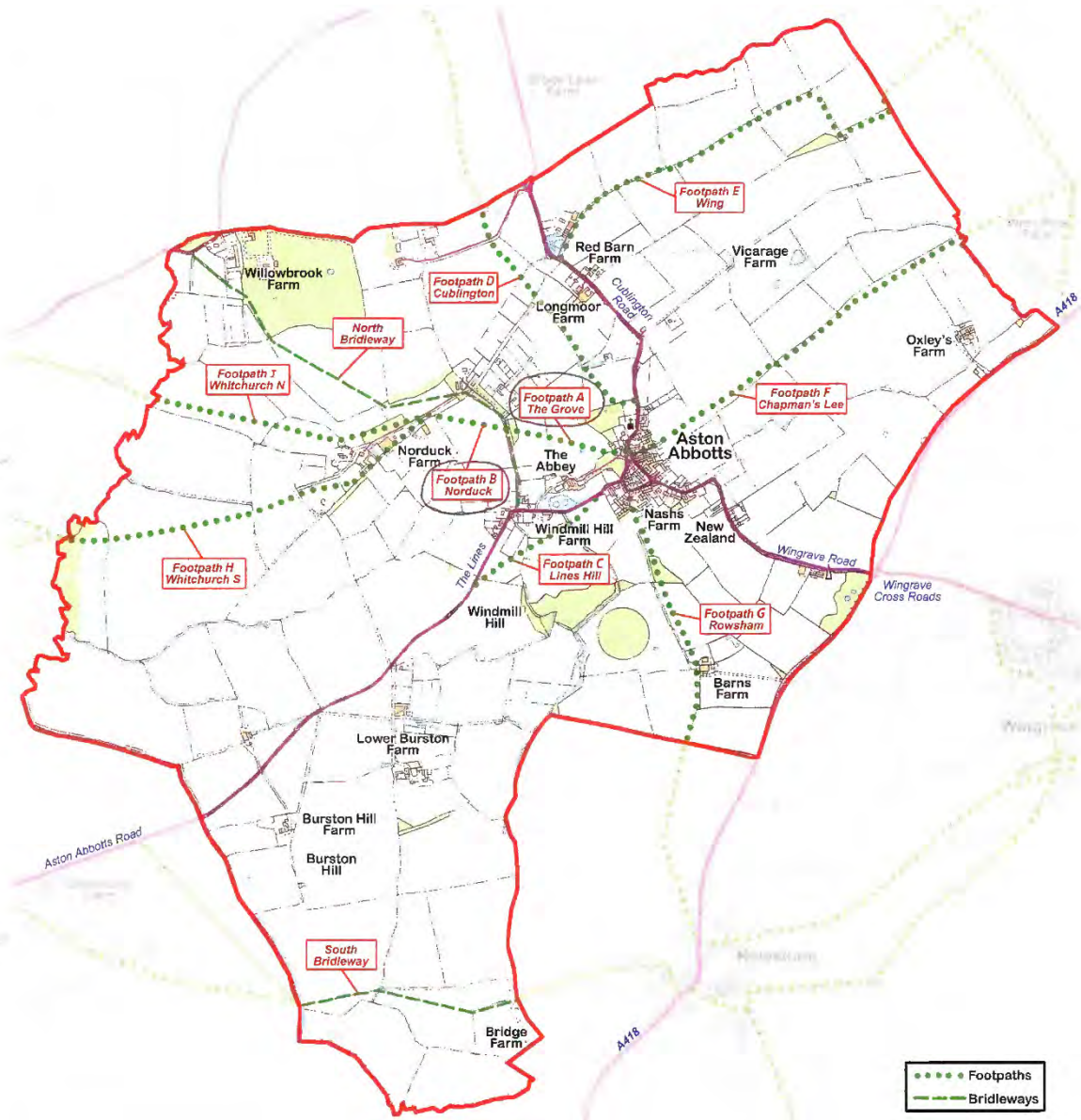


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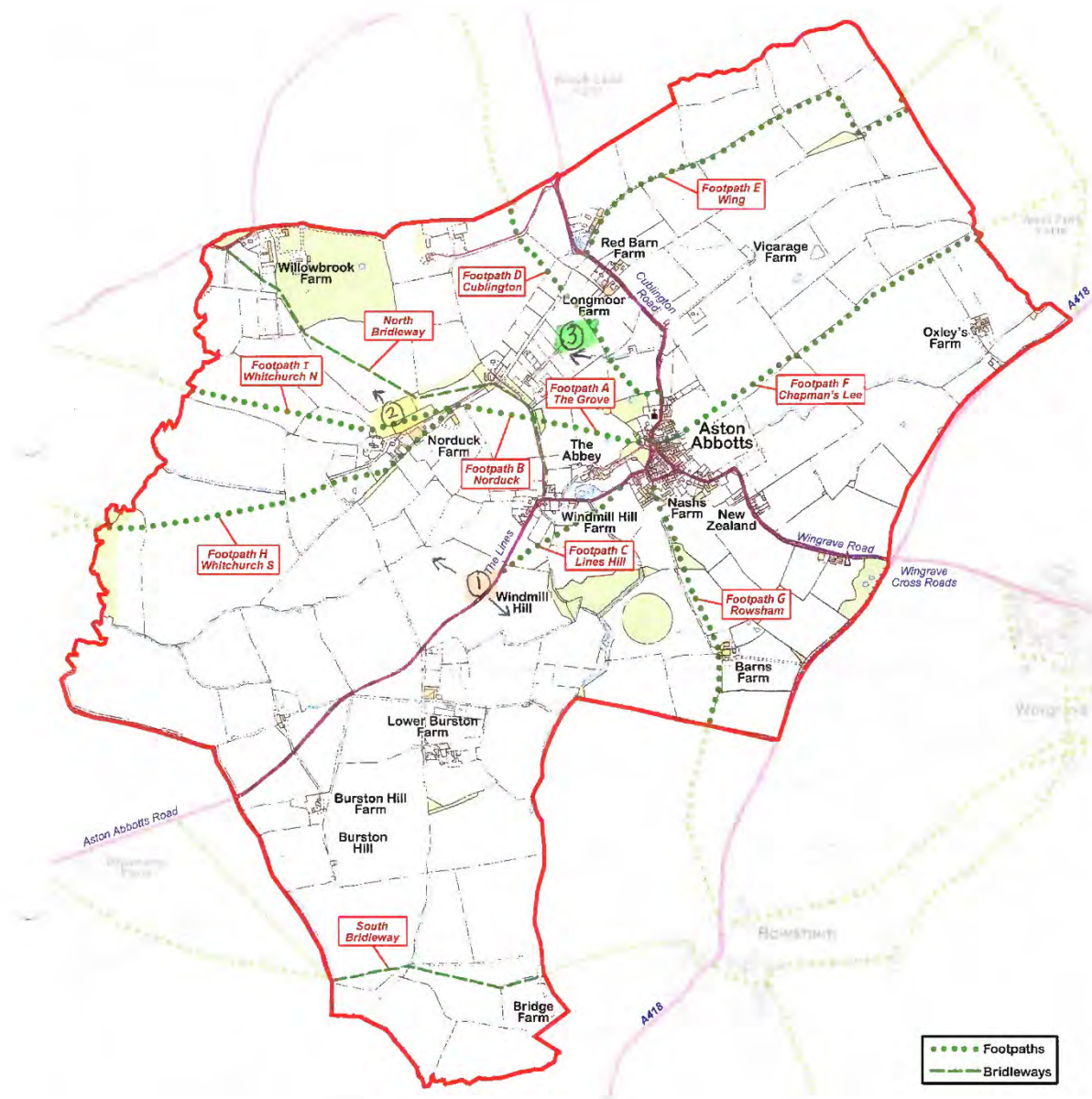


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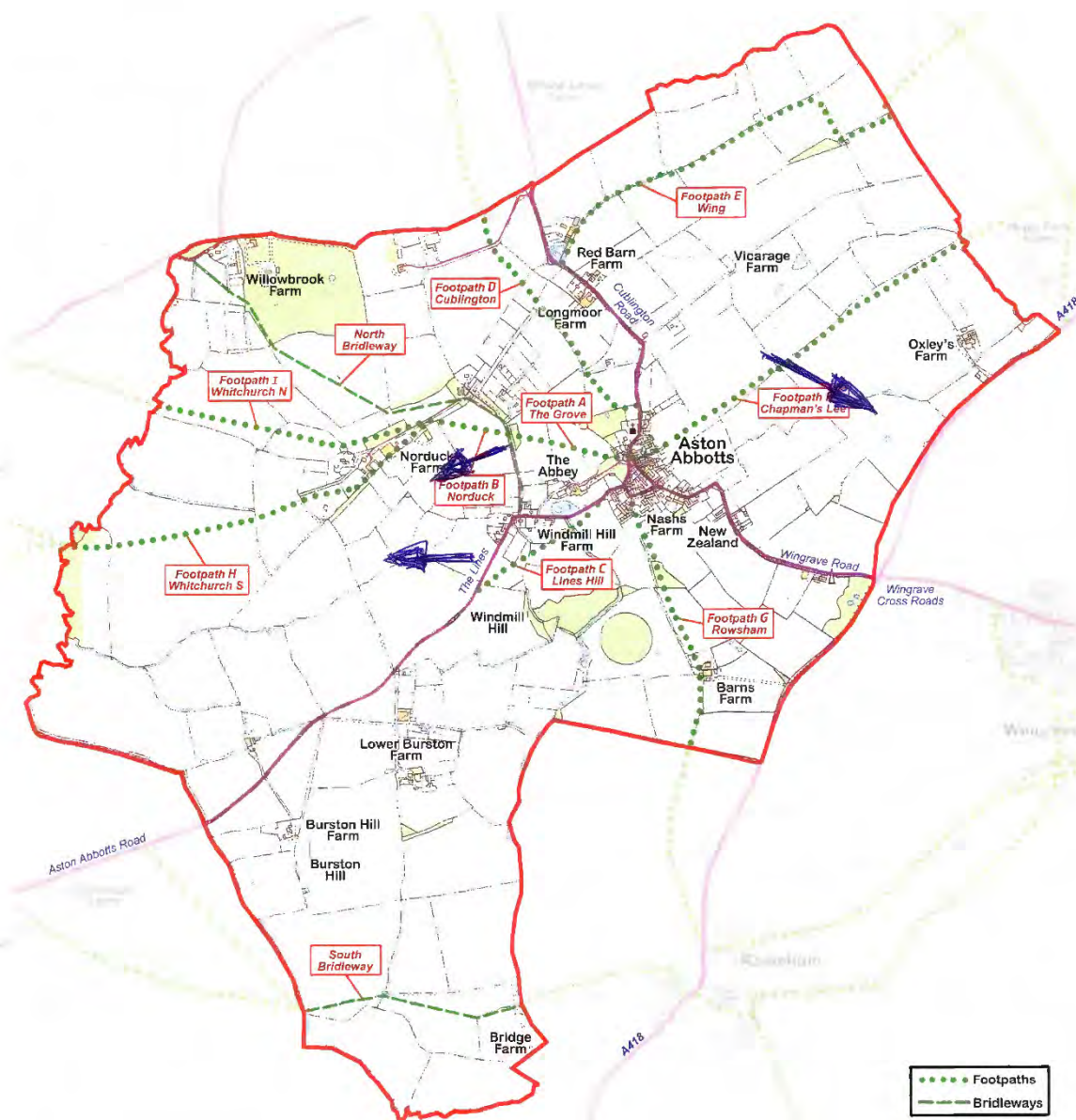


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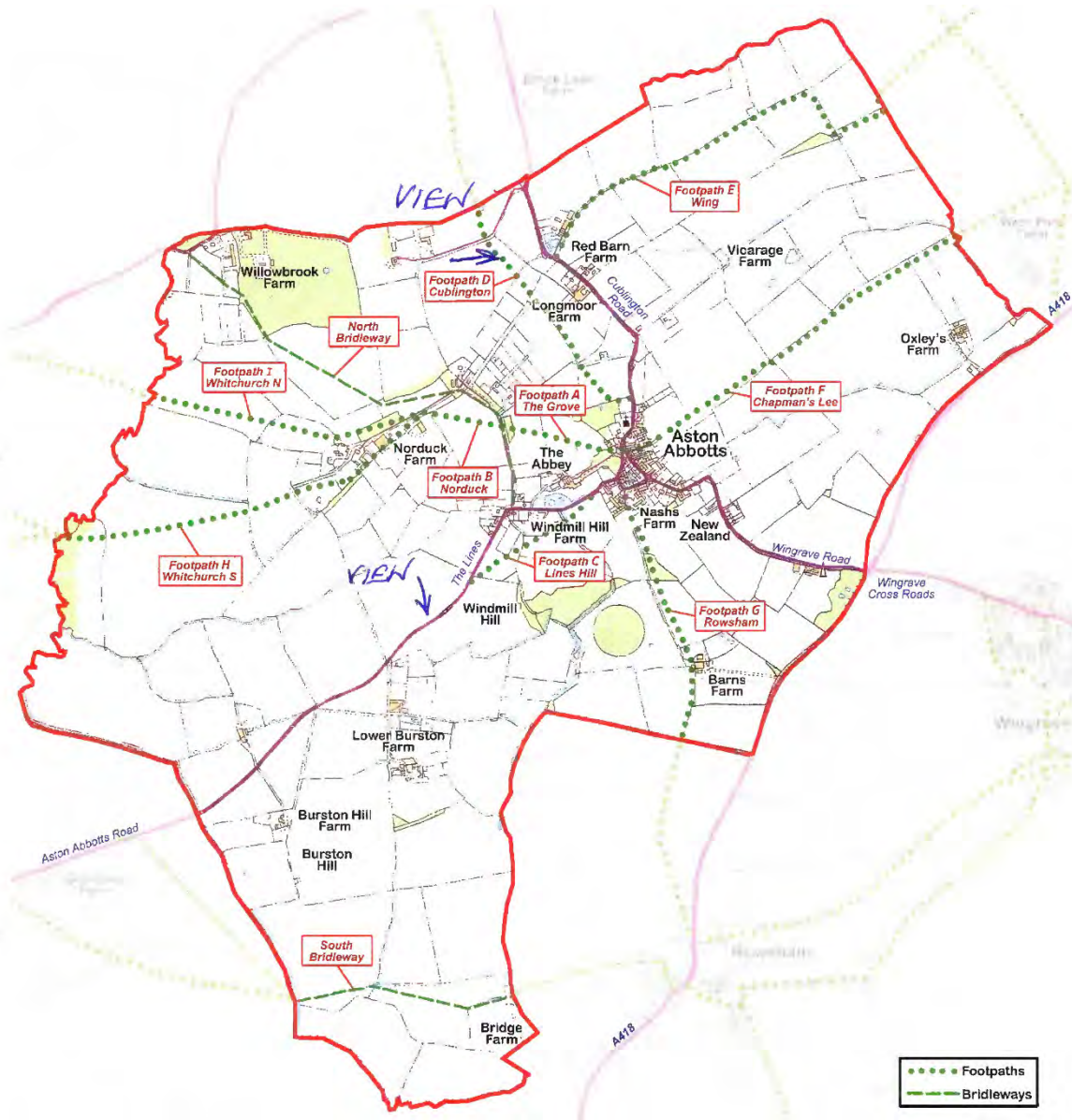


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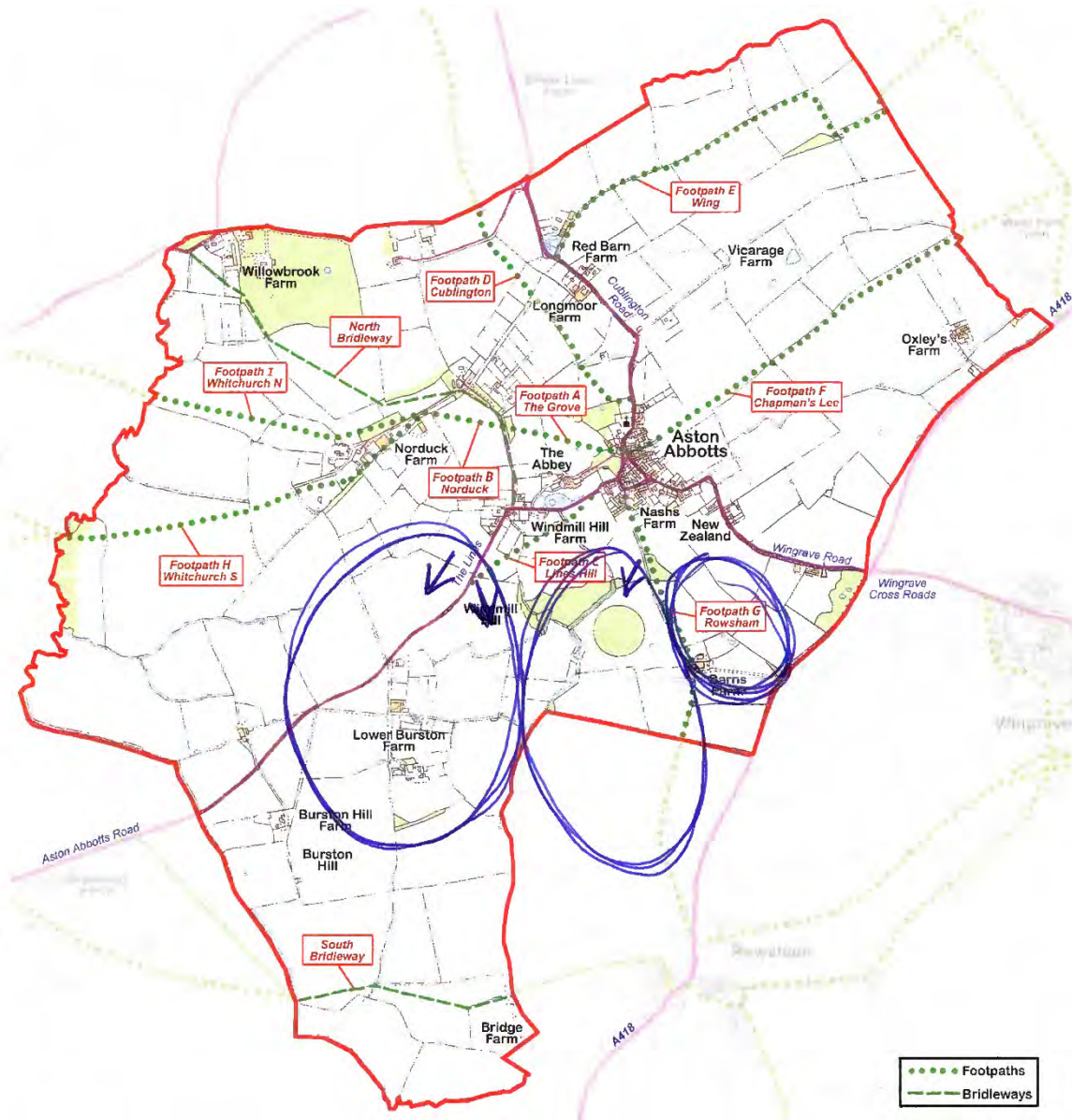


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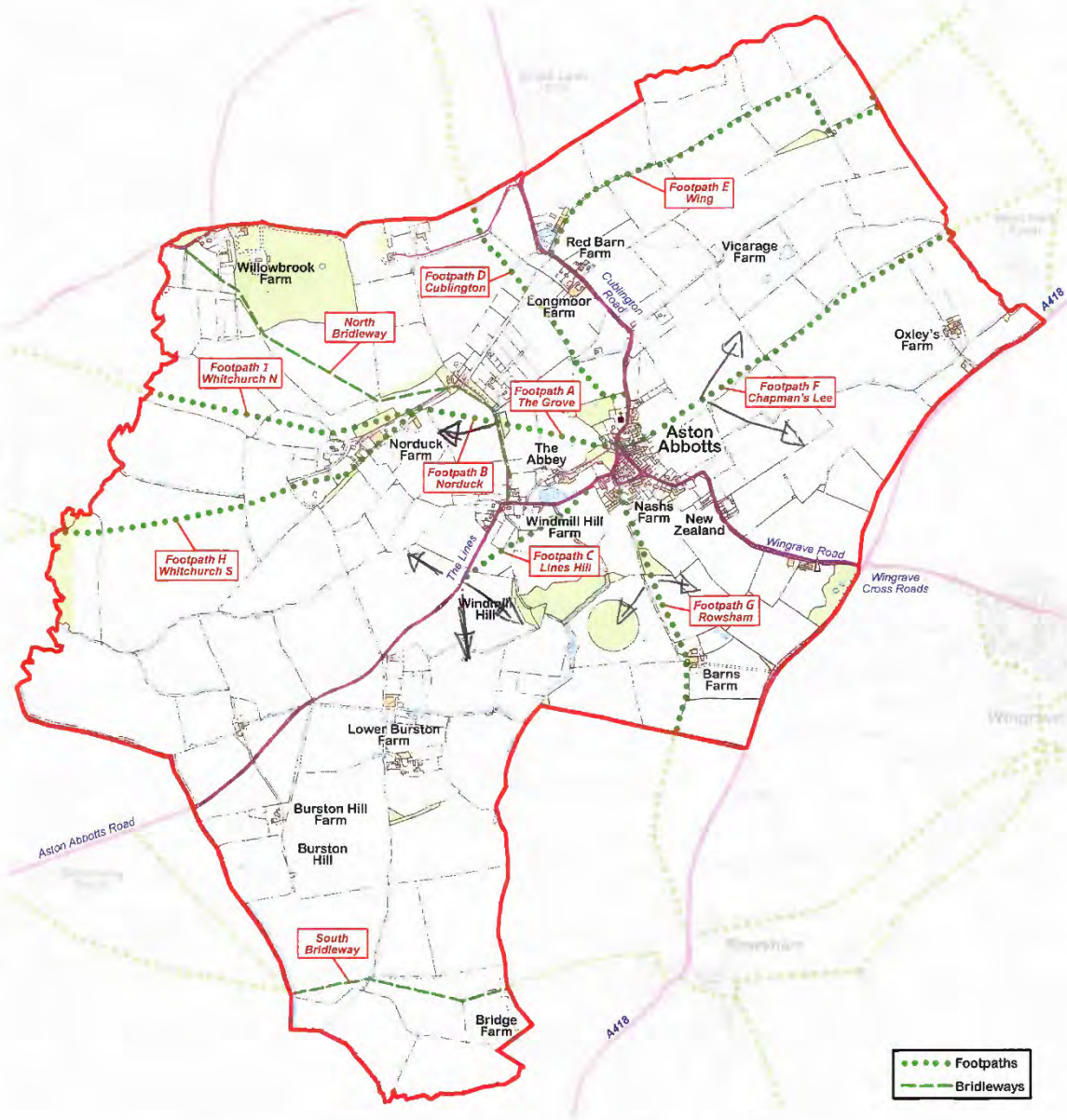


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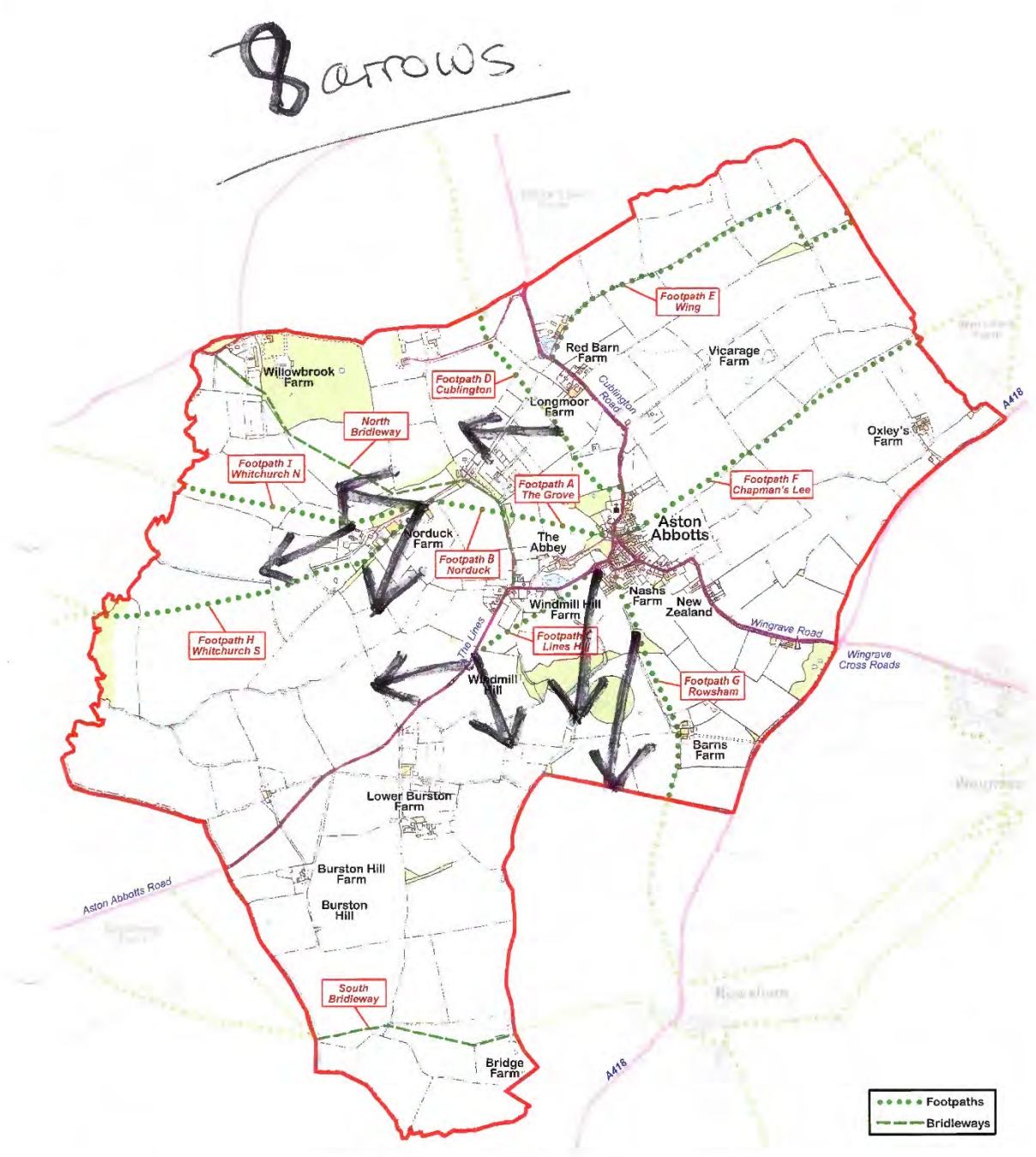


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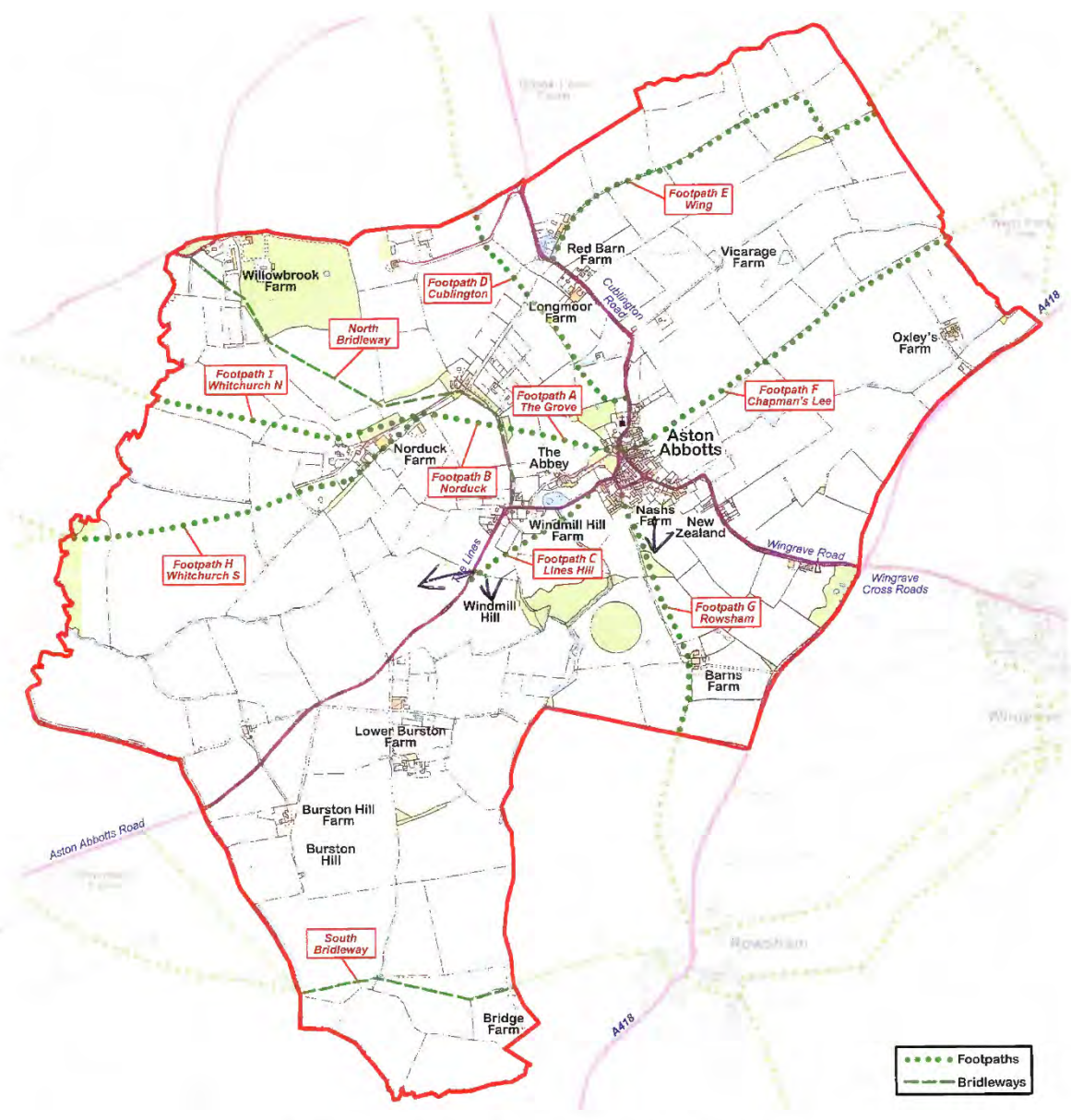


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

↓ view point

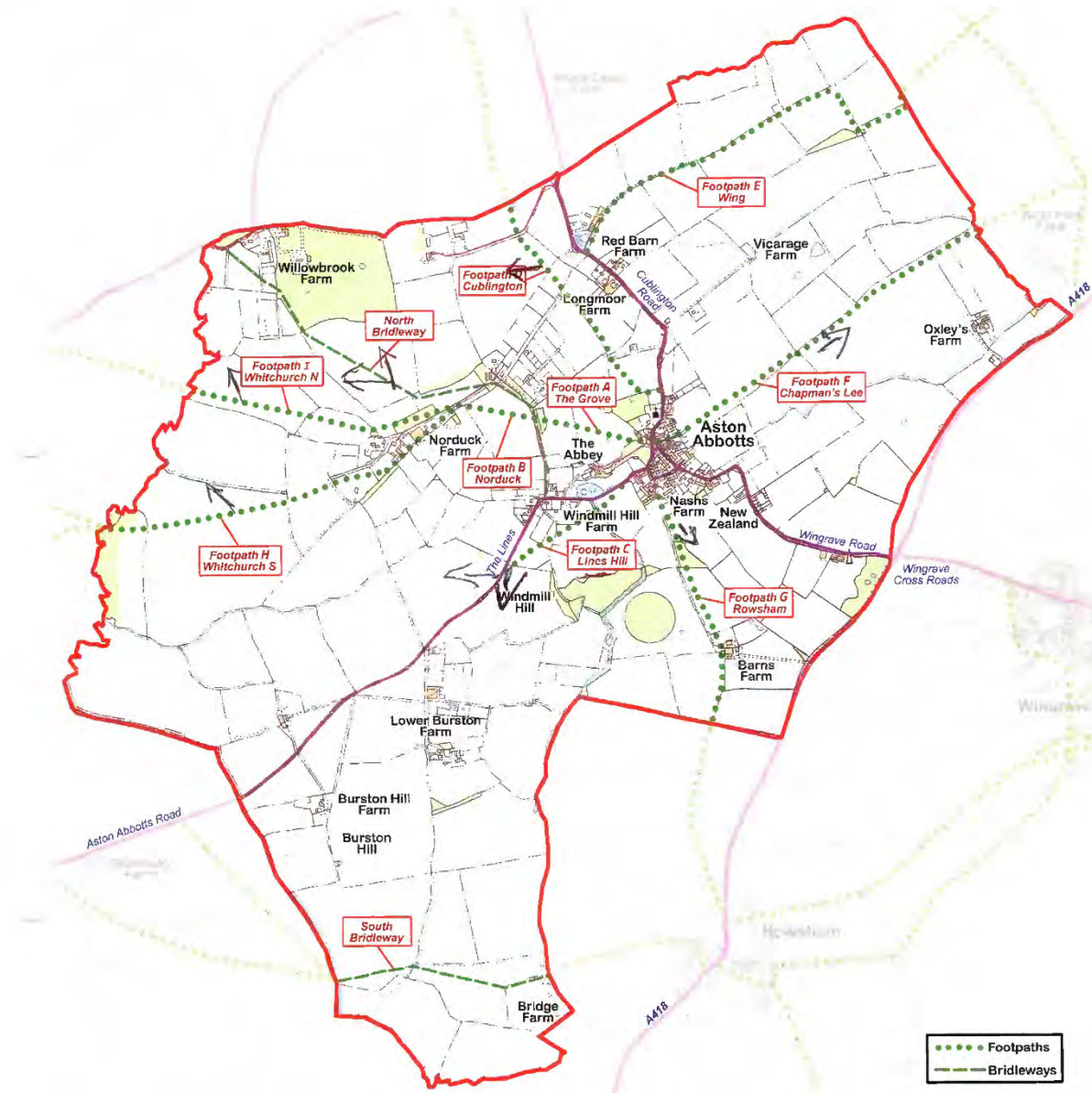


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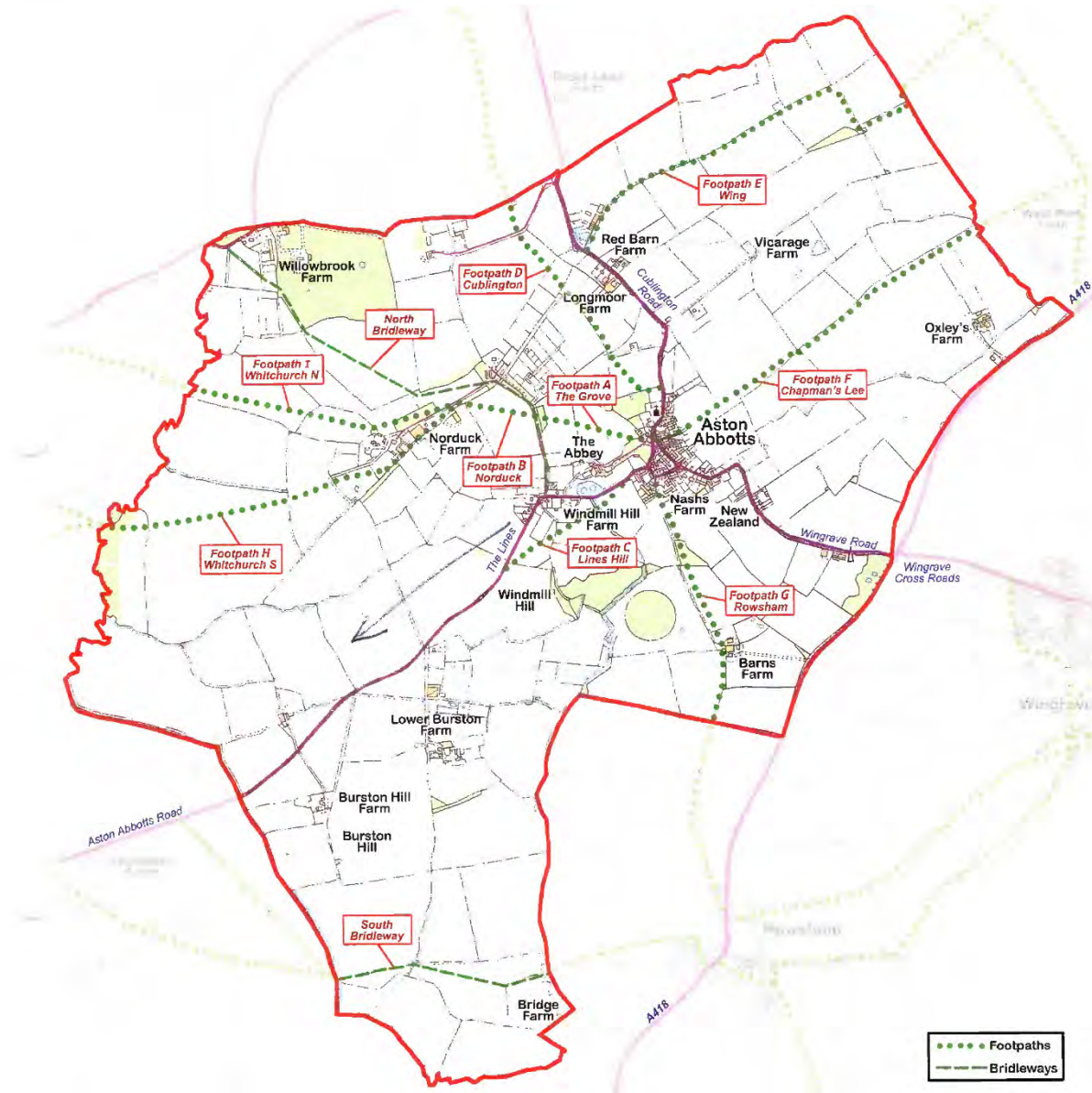


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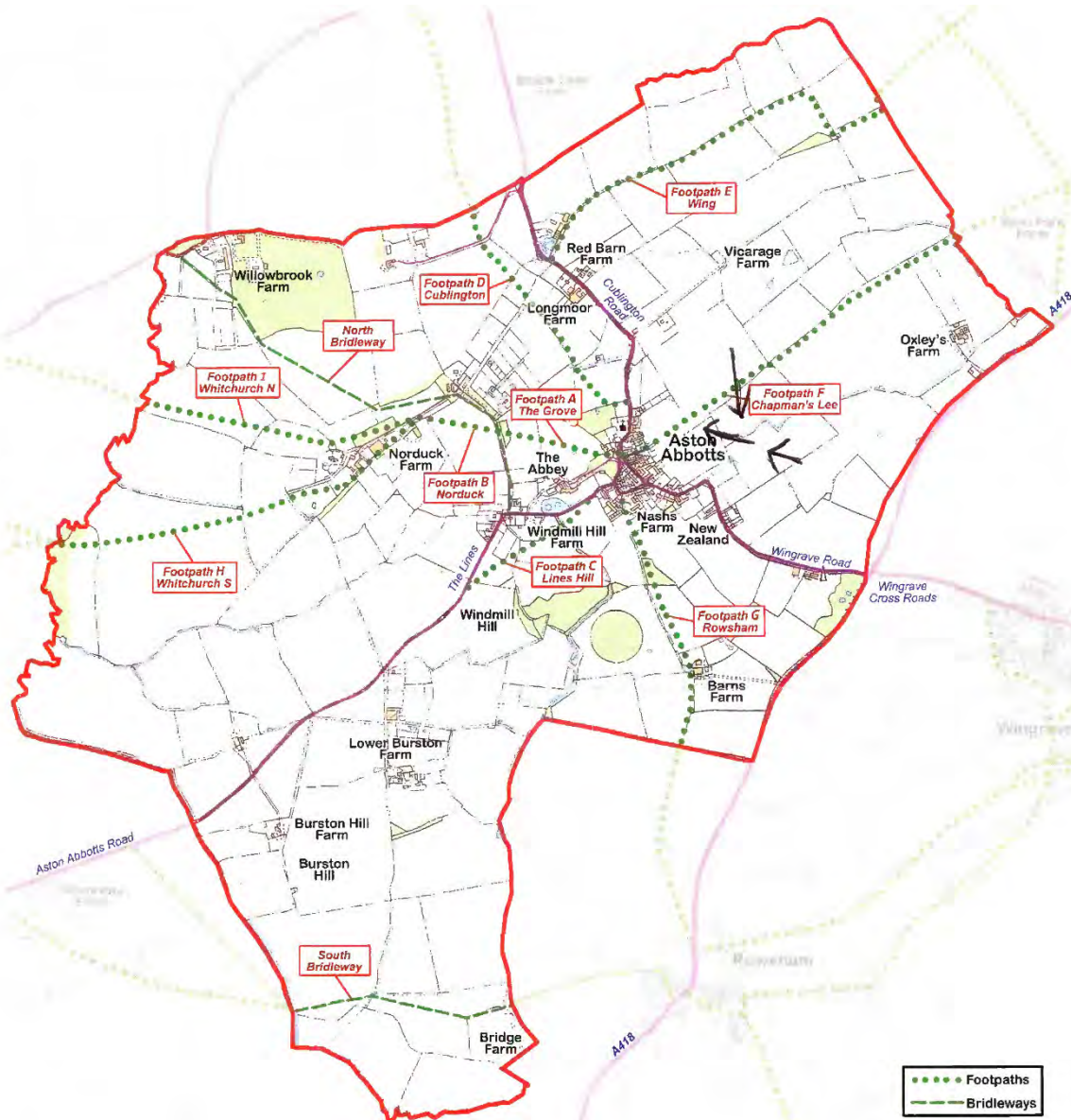


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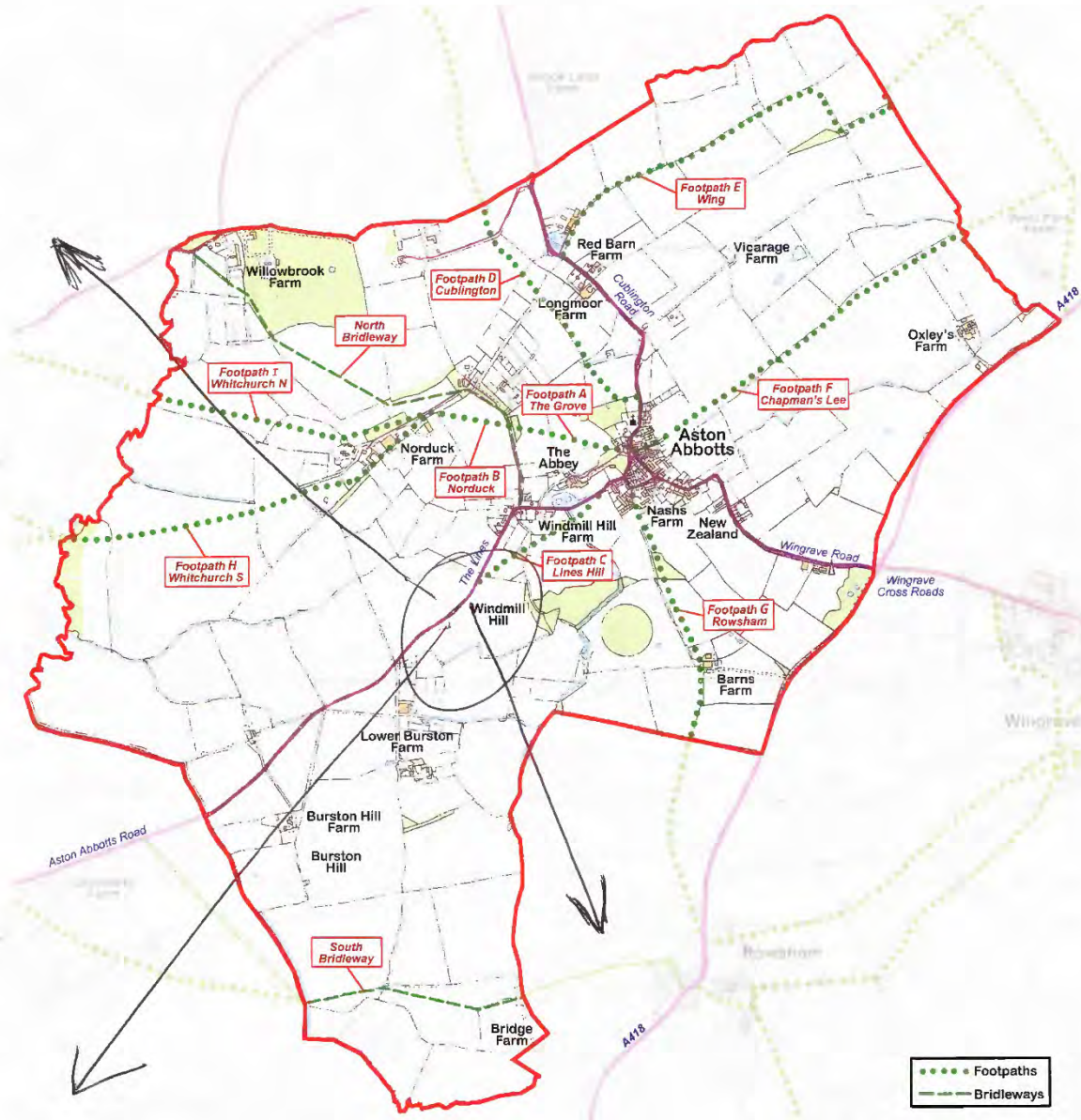


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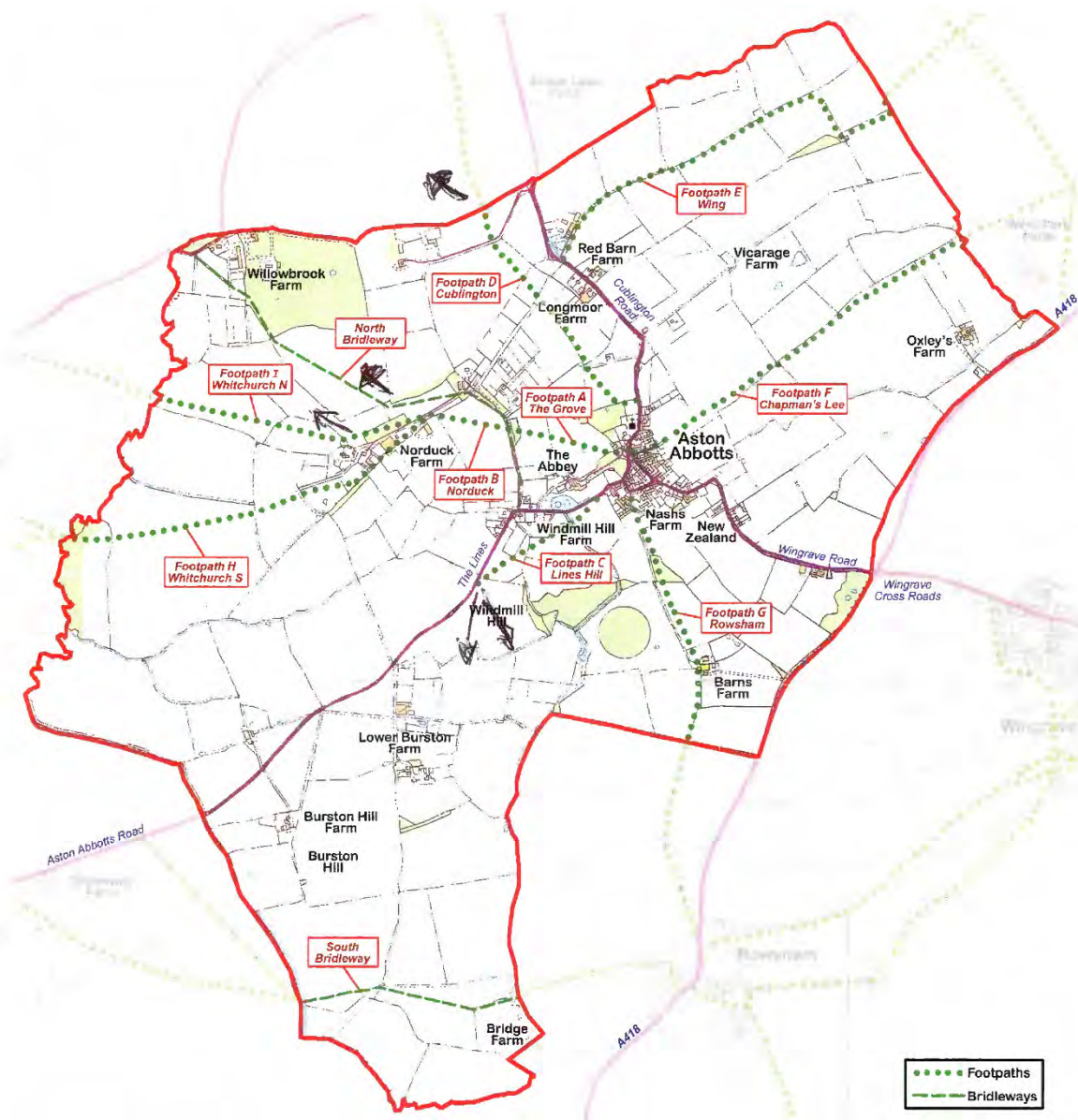


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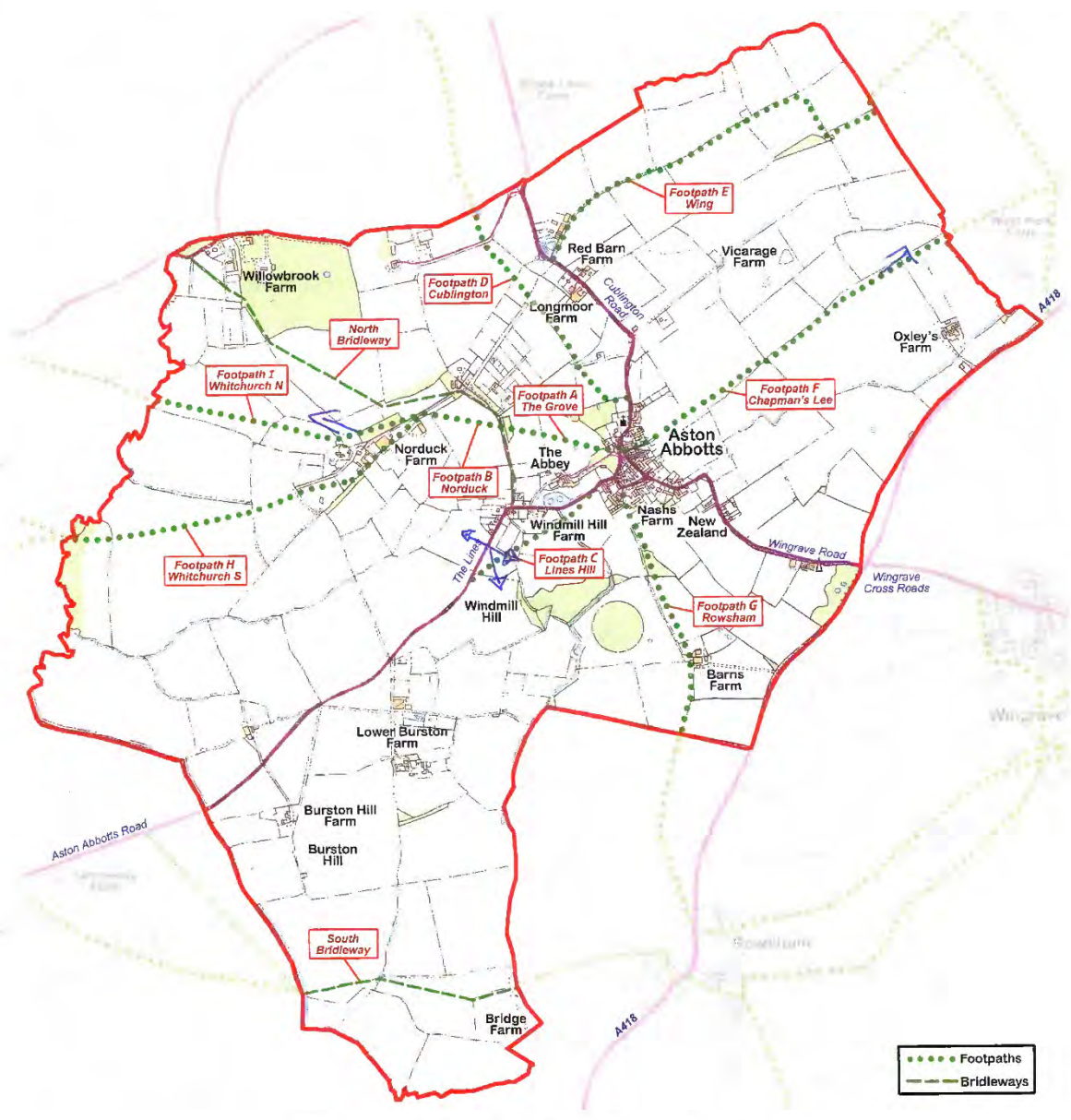


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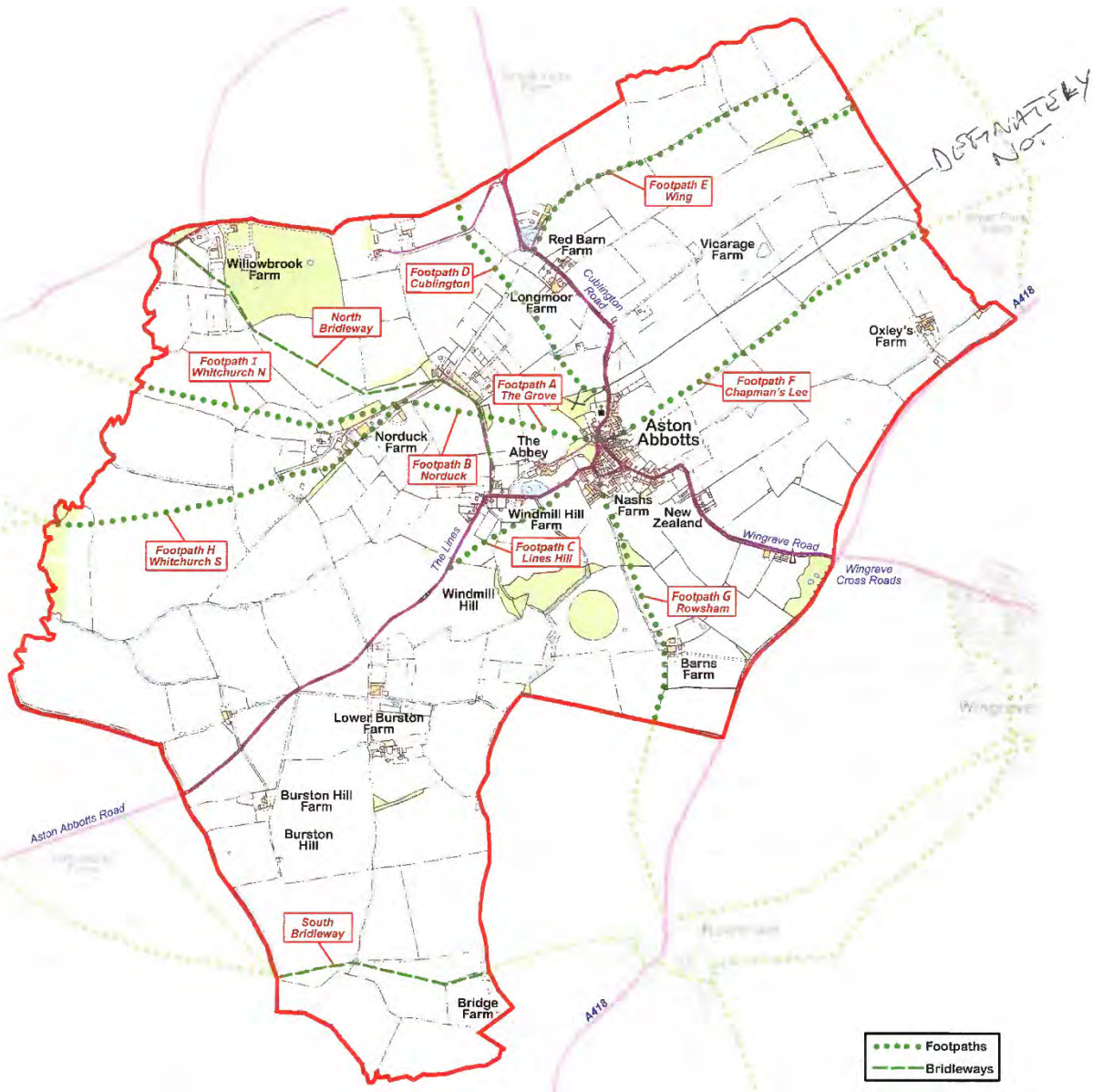


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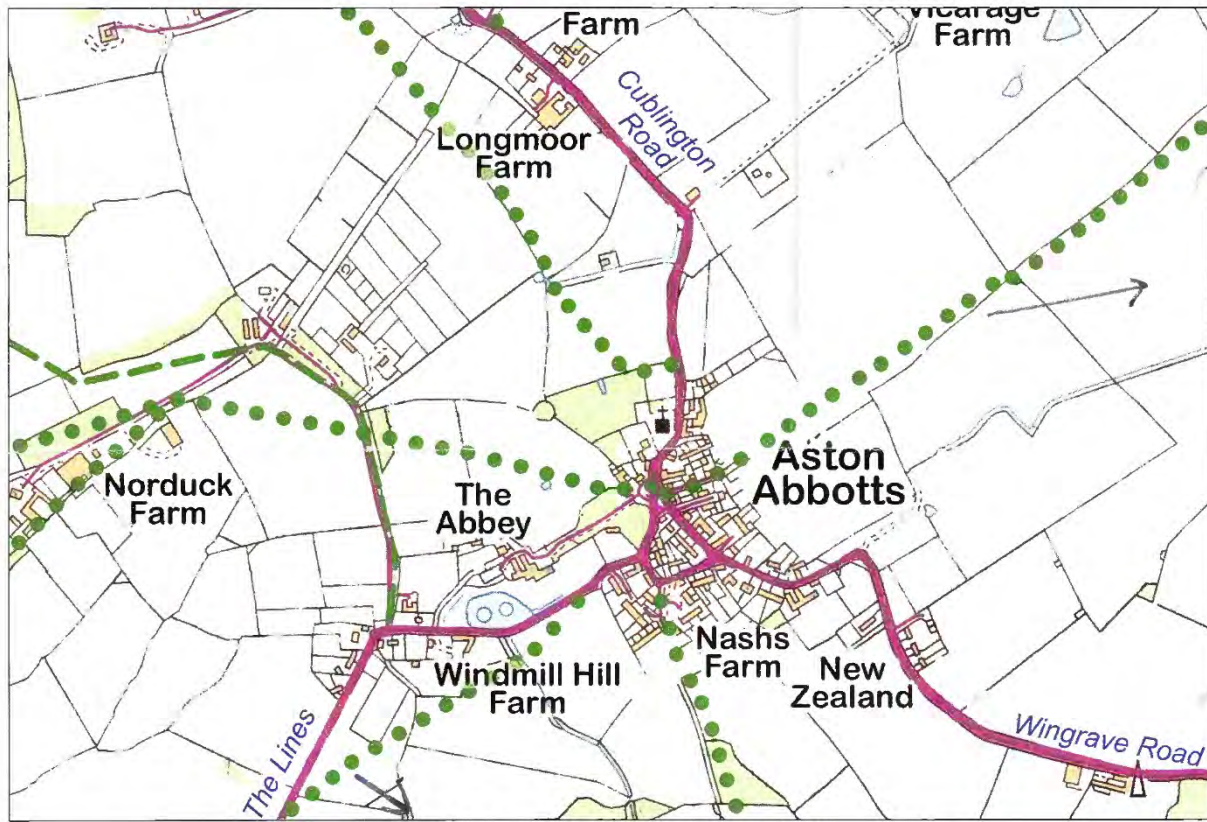


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds

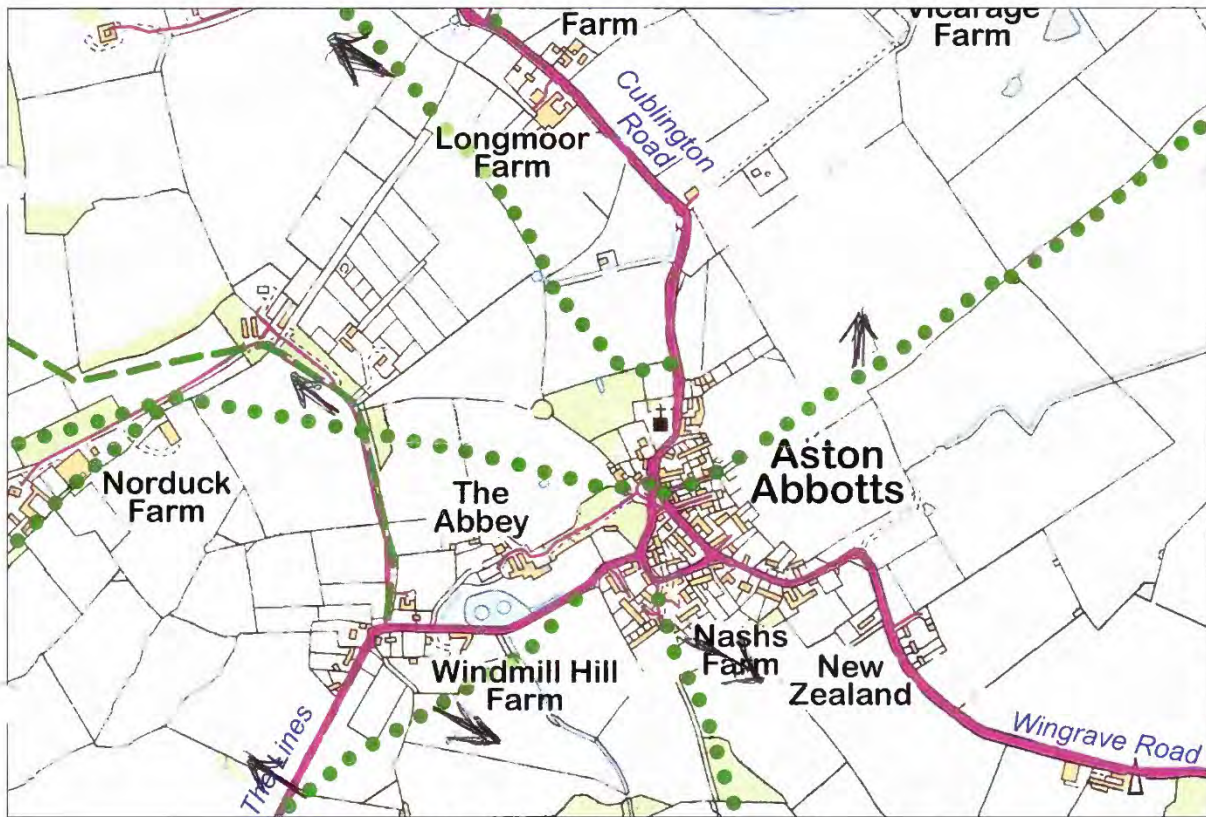
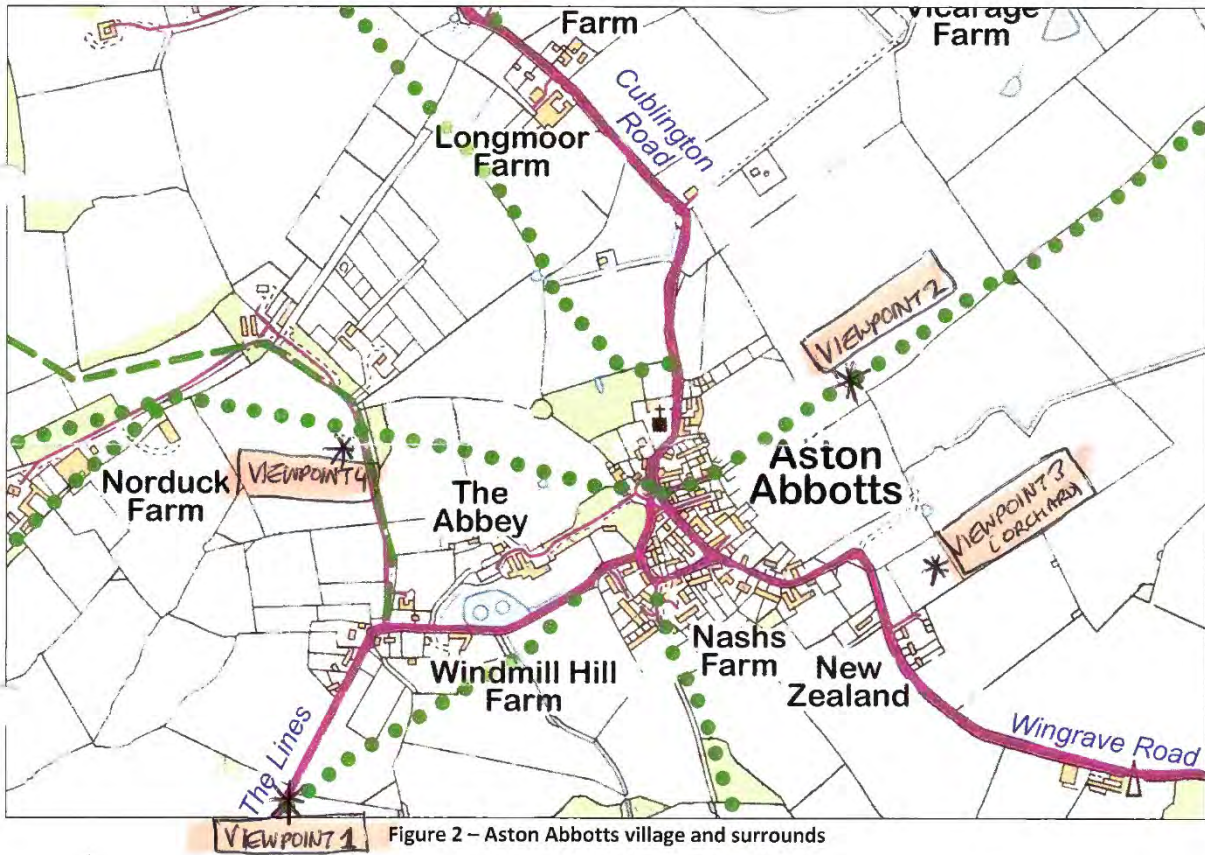


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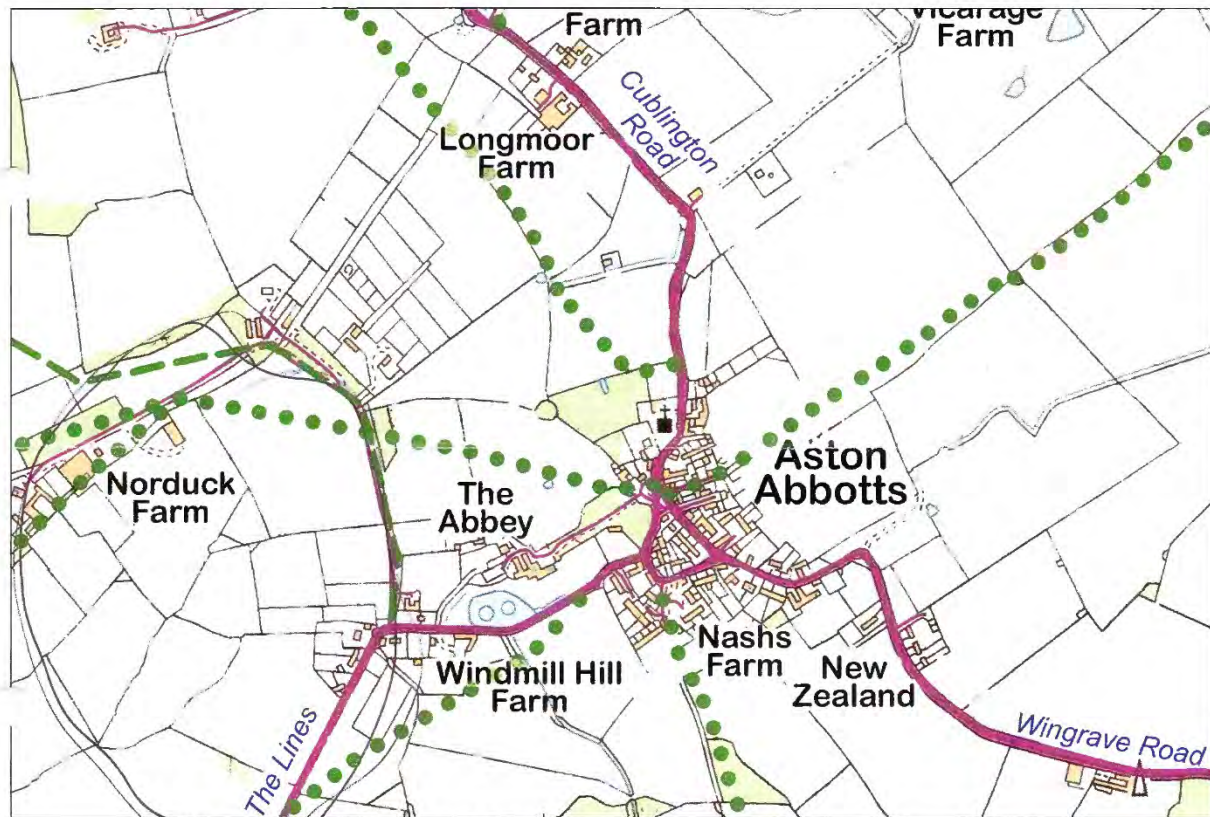


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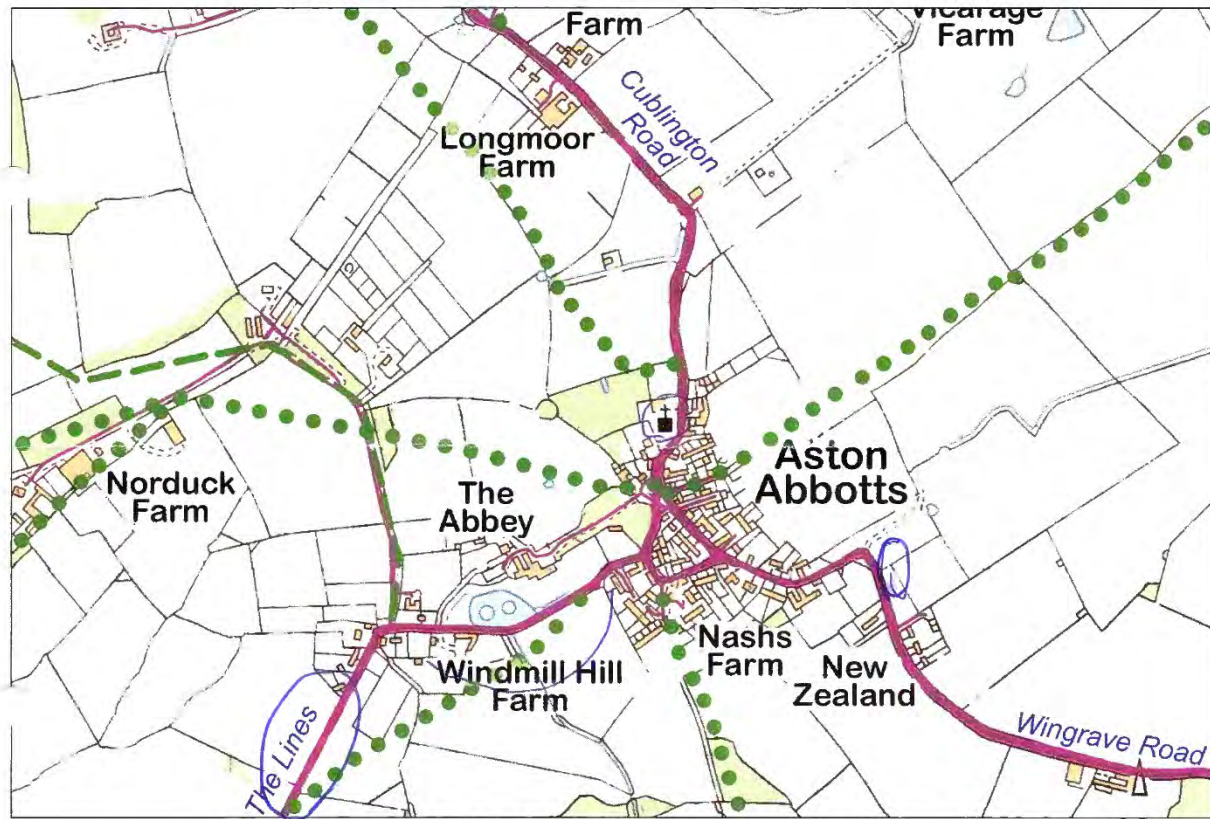


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds

* view on walk to Cublington

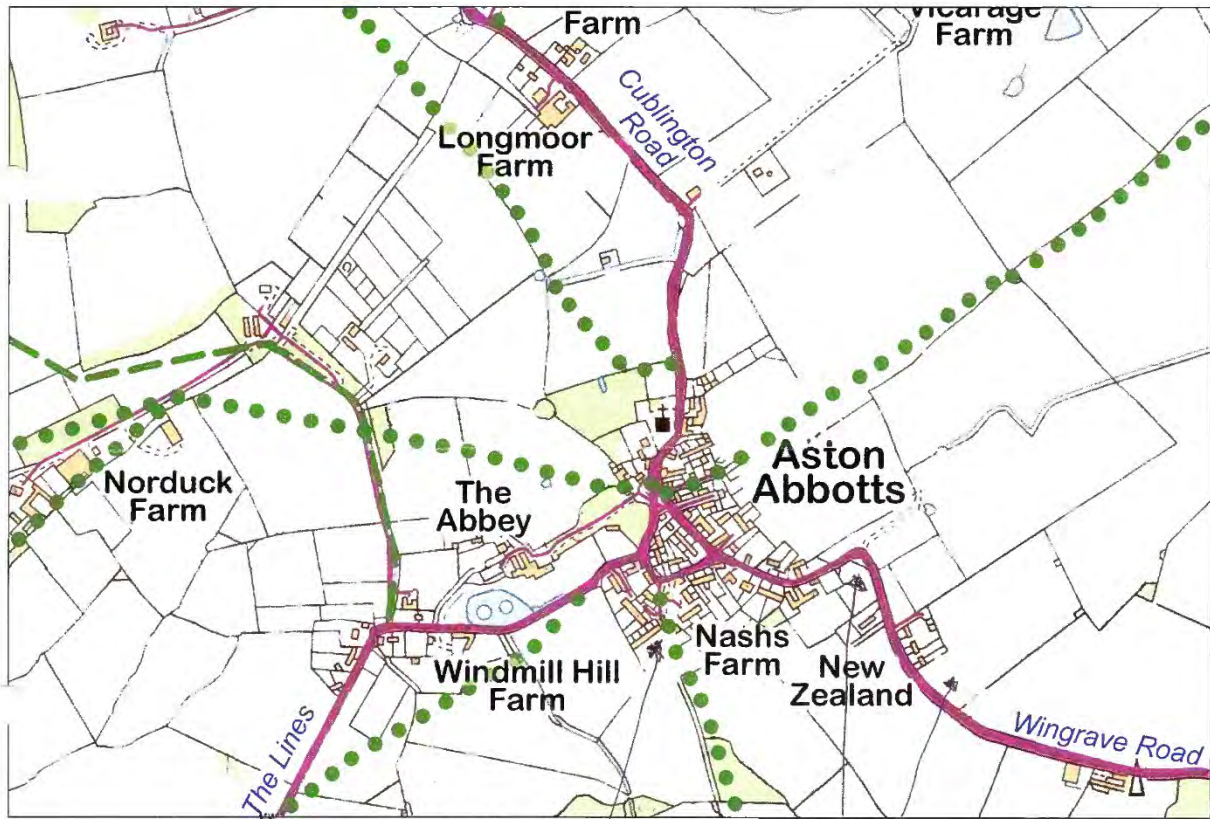


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds

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view from Rec over Aylesbury

Potential development sites

view overlooking Rowham on walk from Rec.

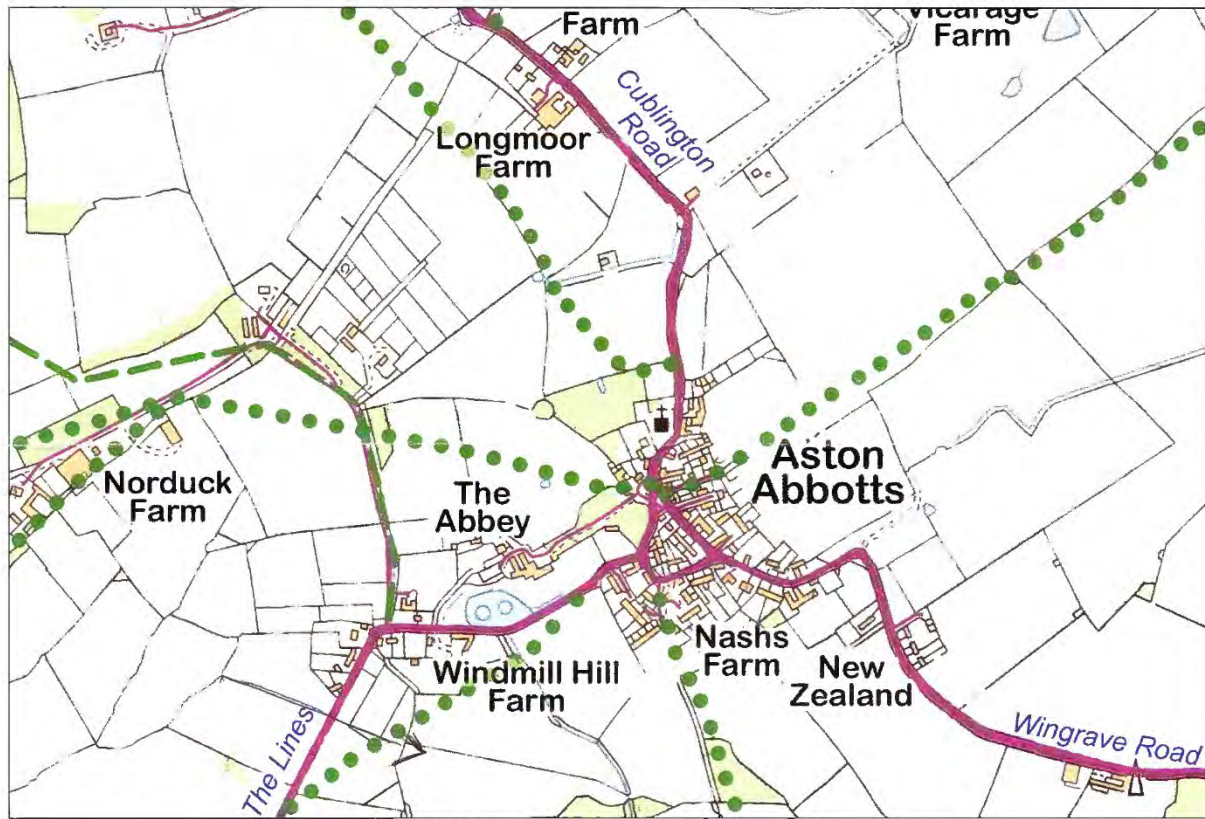


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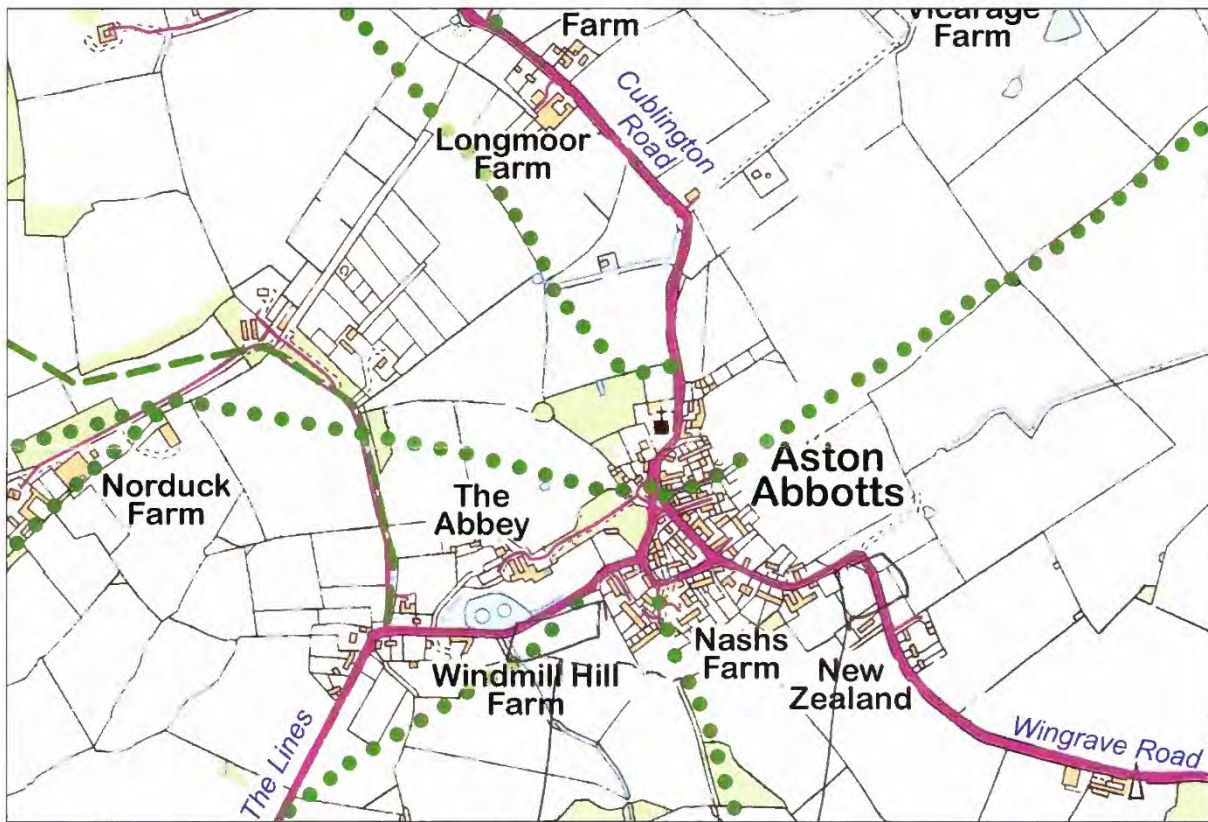


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds

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potential horsing area and
opportunity to connect footpaths

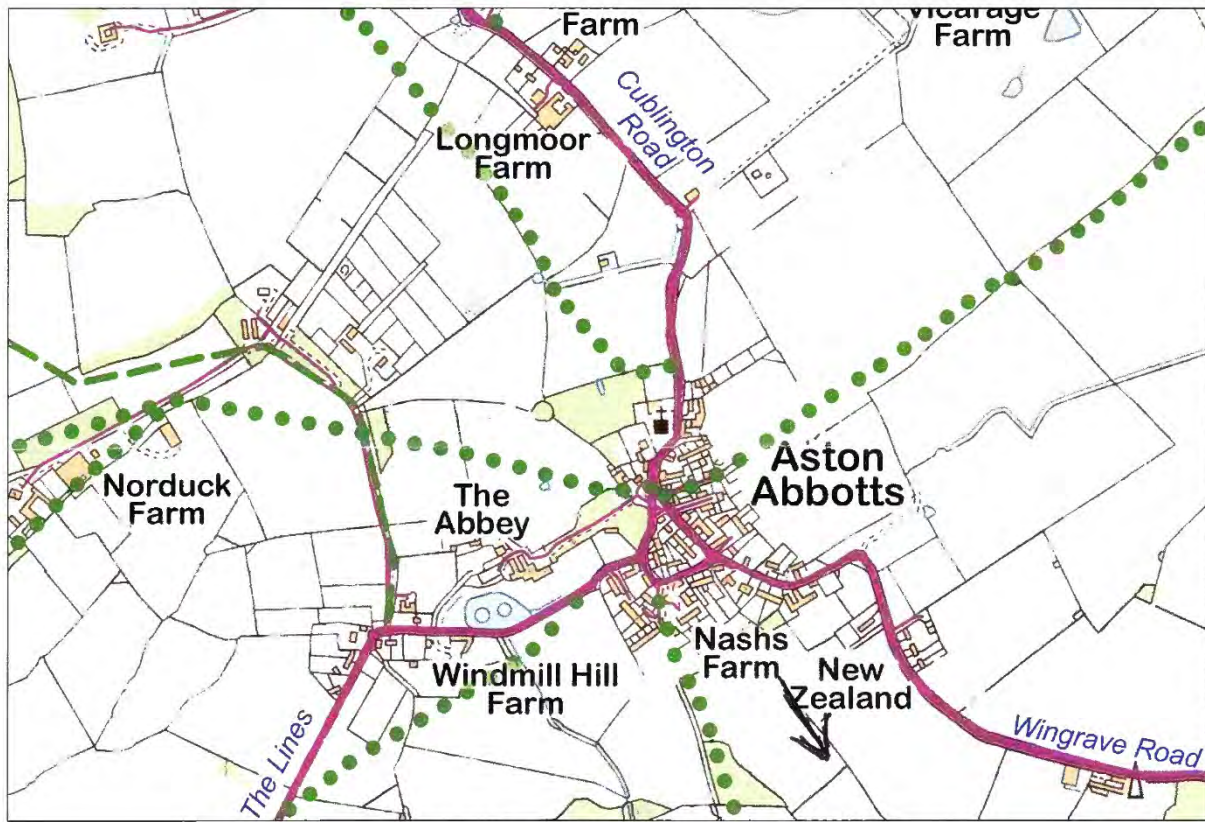


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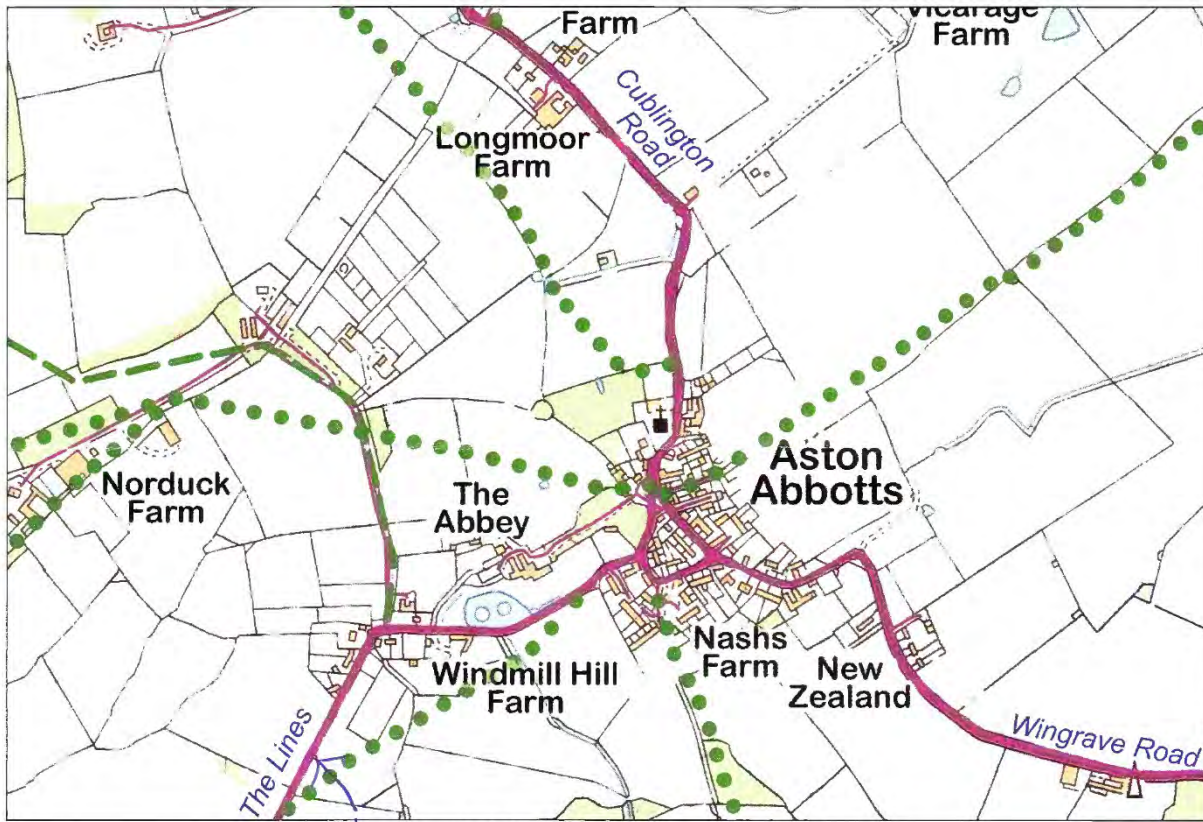


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds

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View from Lines Mill
is the best.

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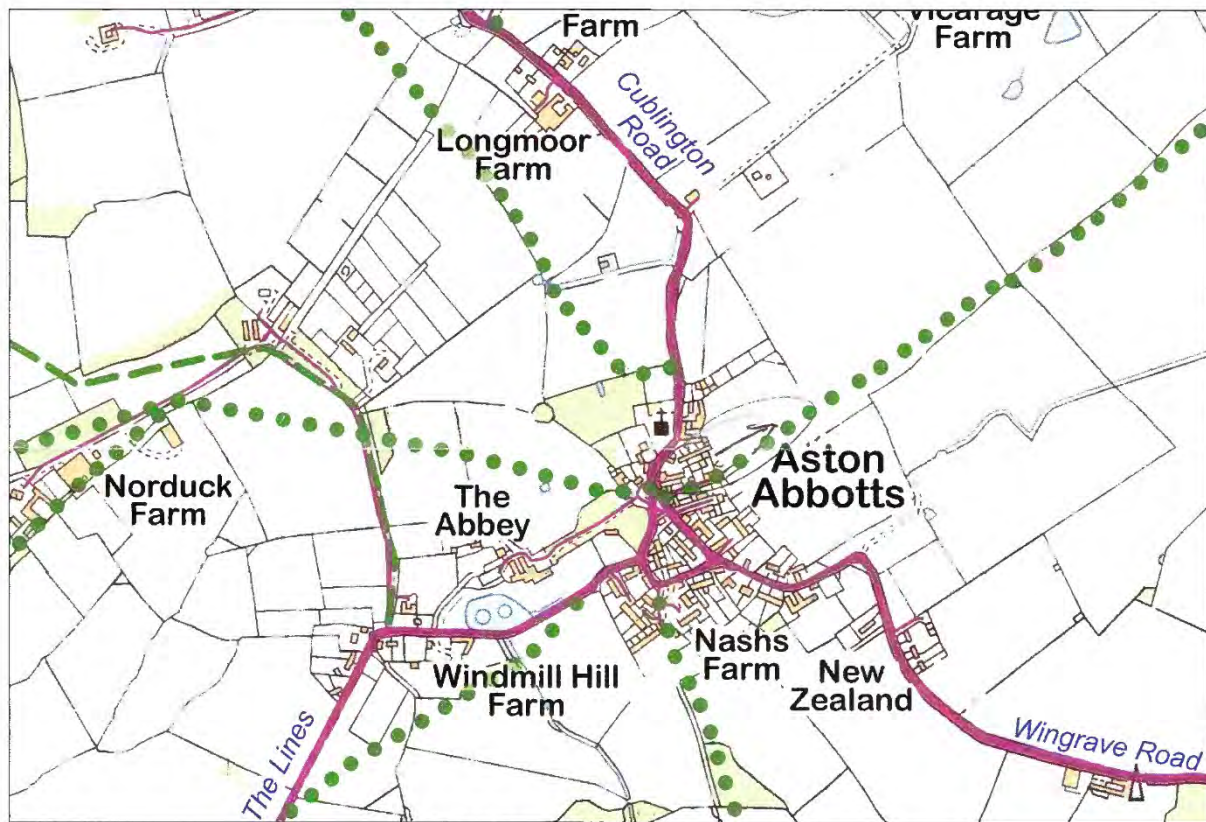


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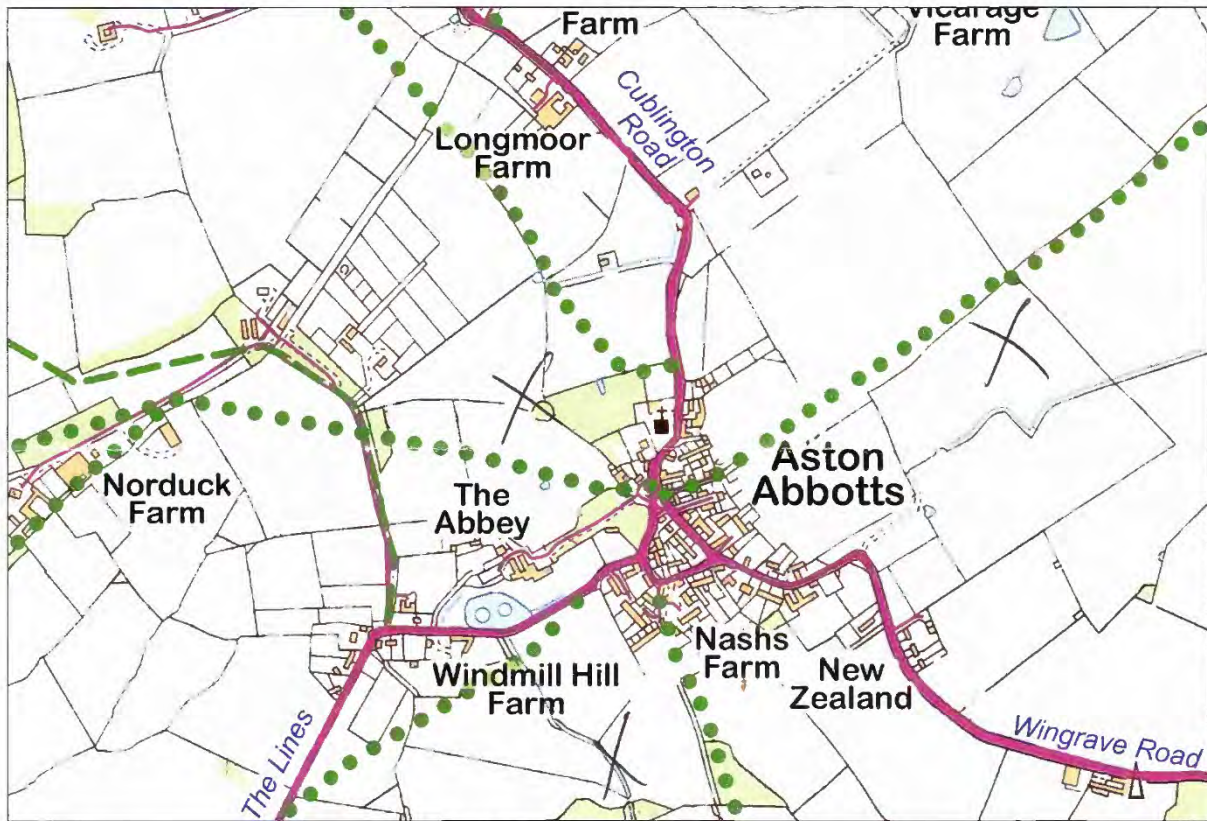


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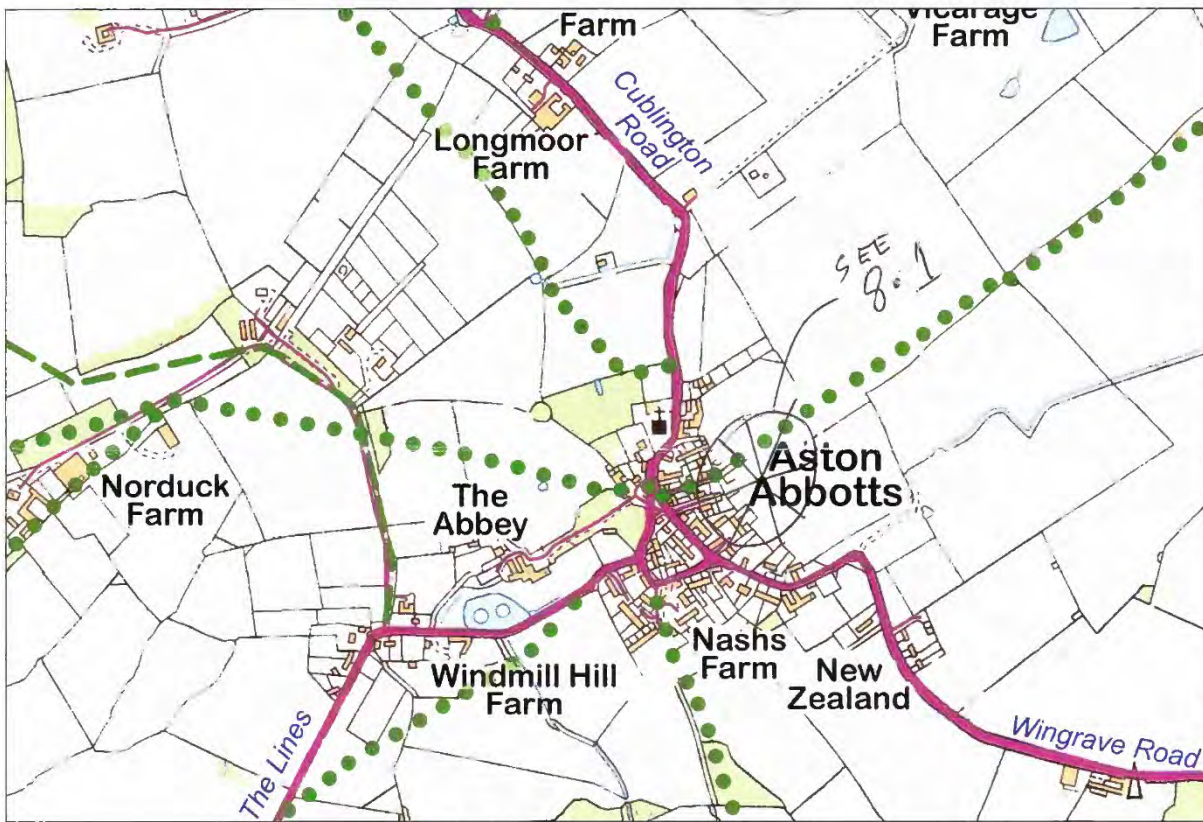


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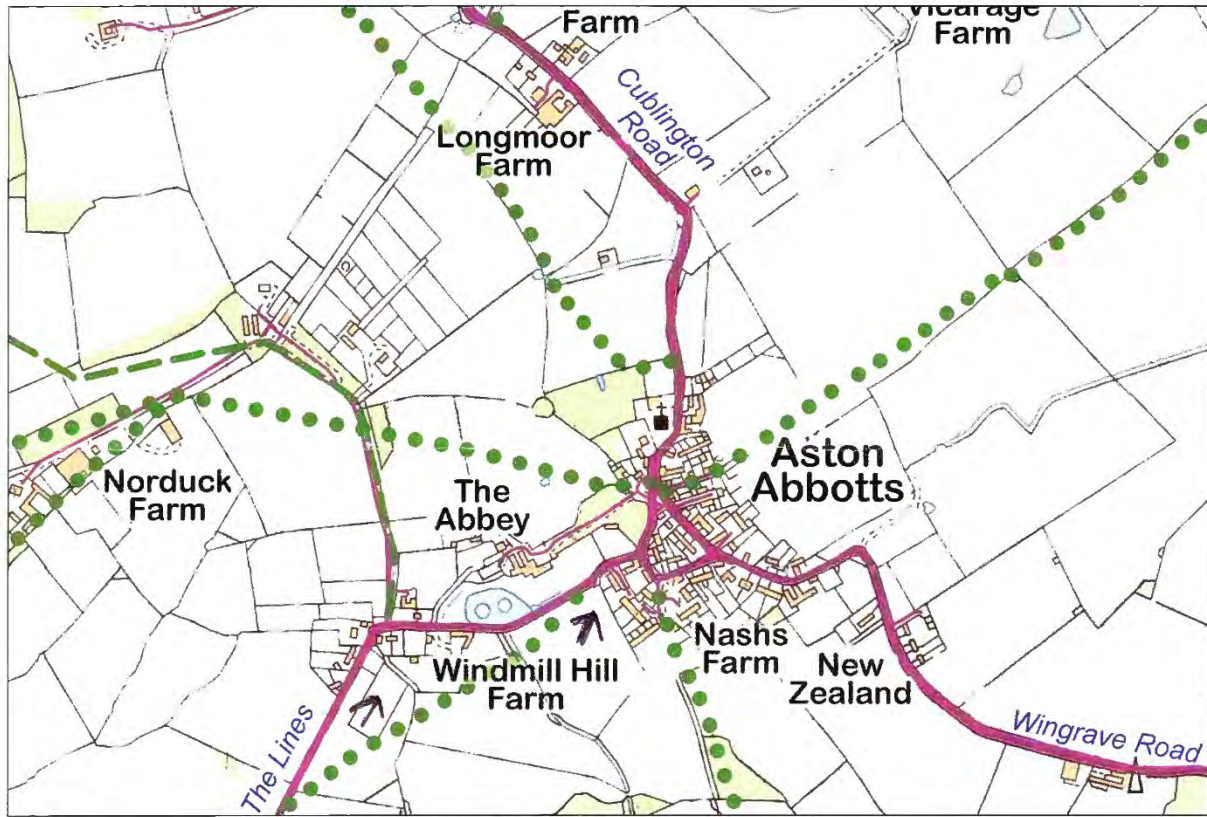


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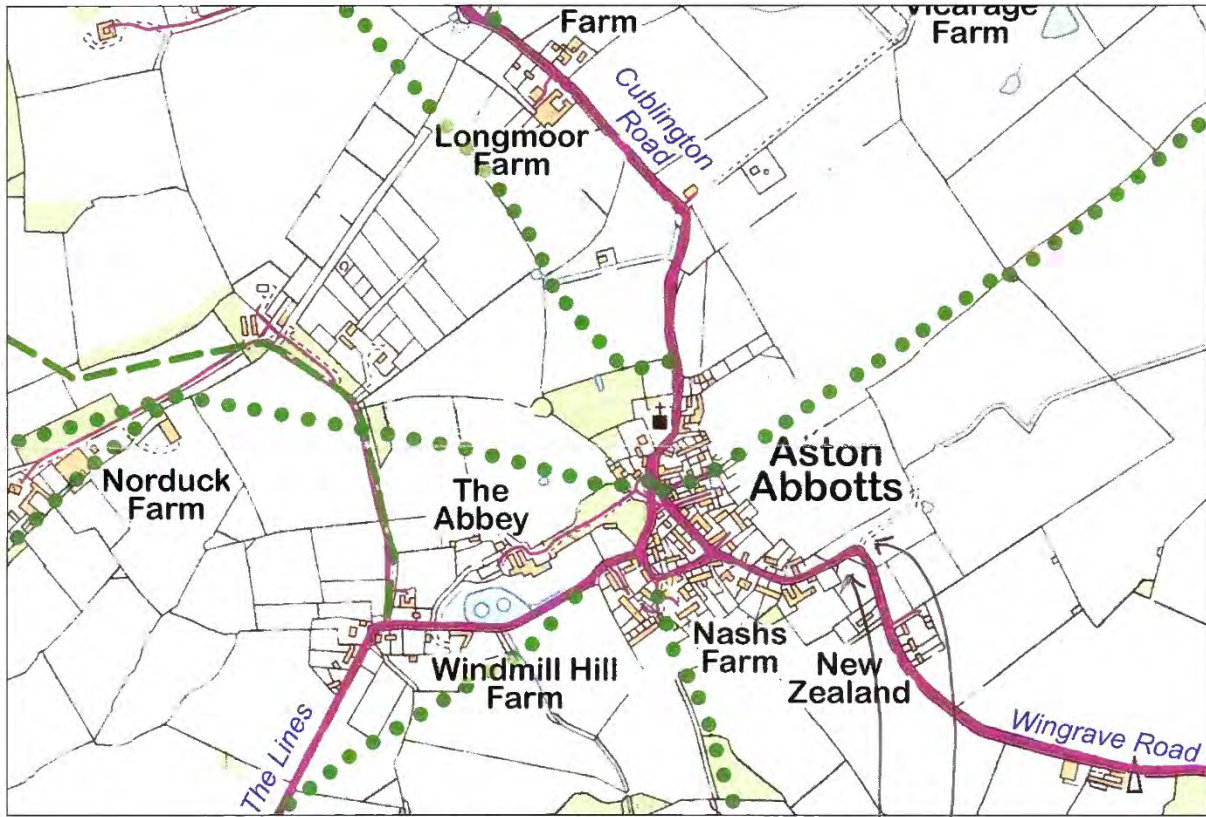


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds

POSSIBLE
HOUSING SITES

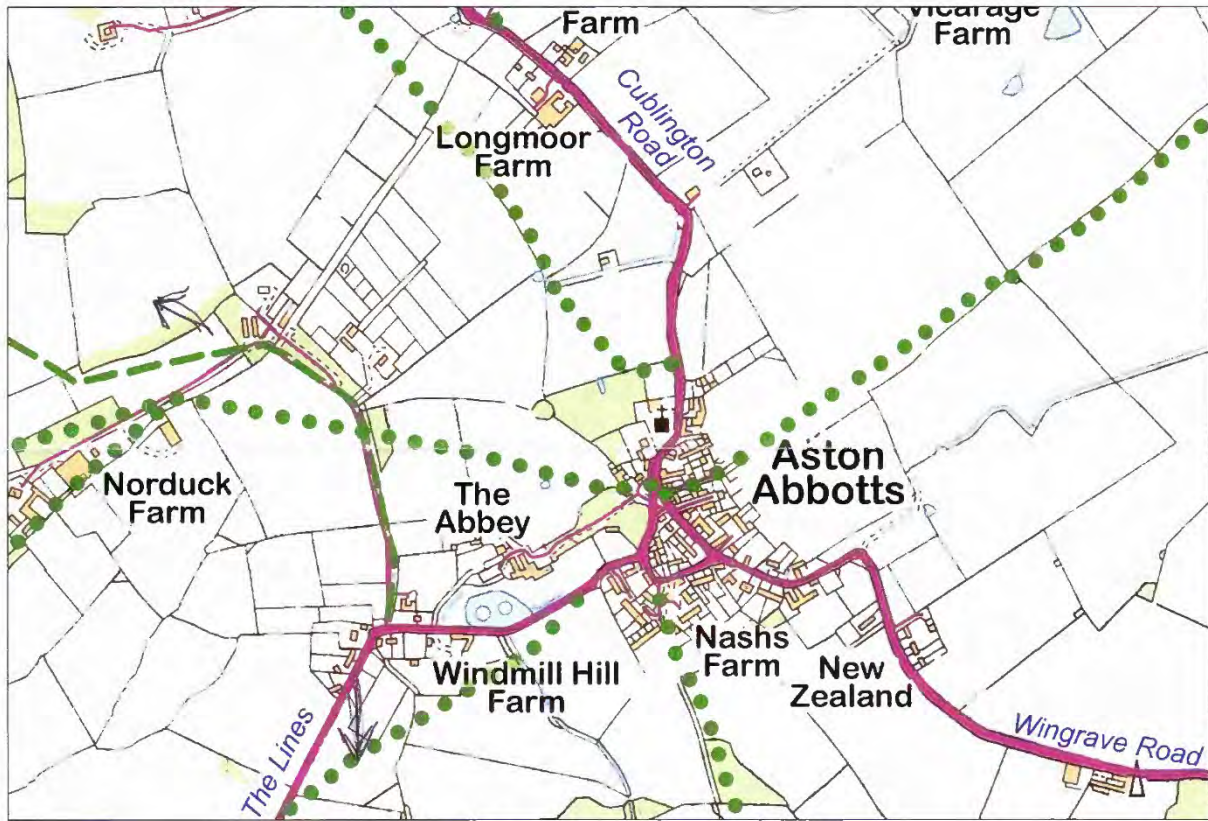


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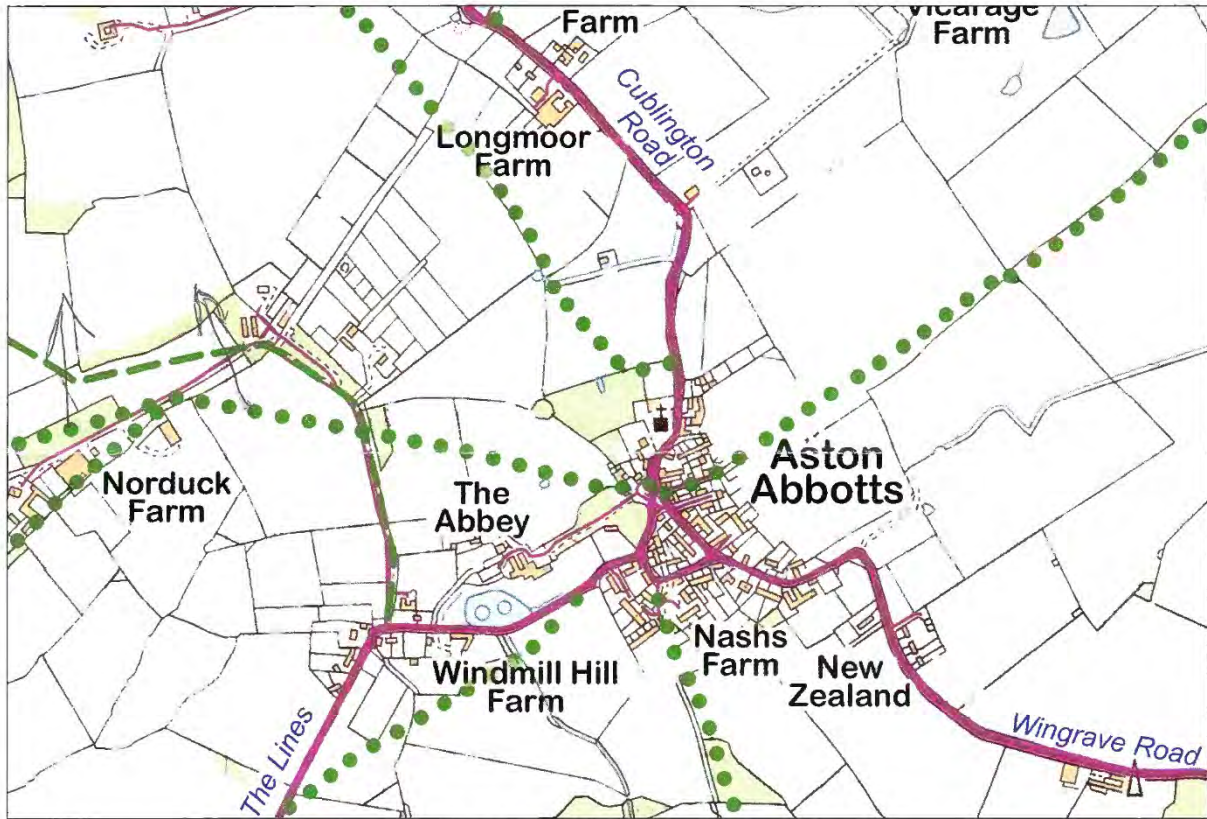


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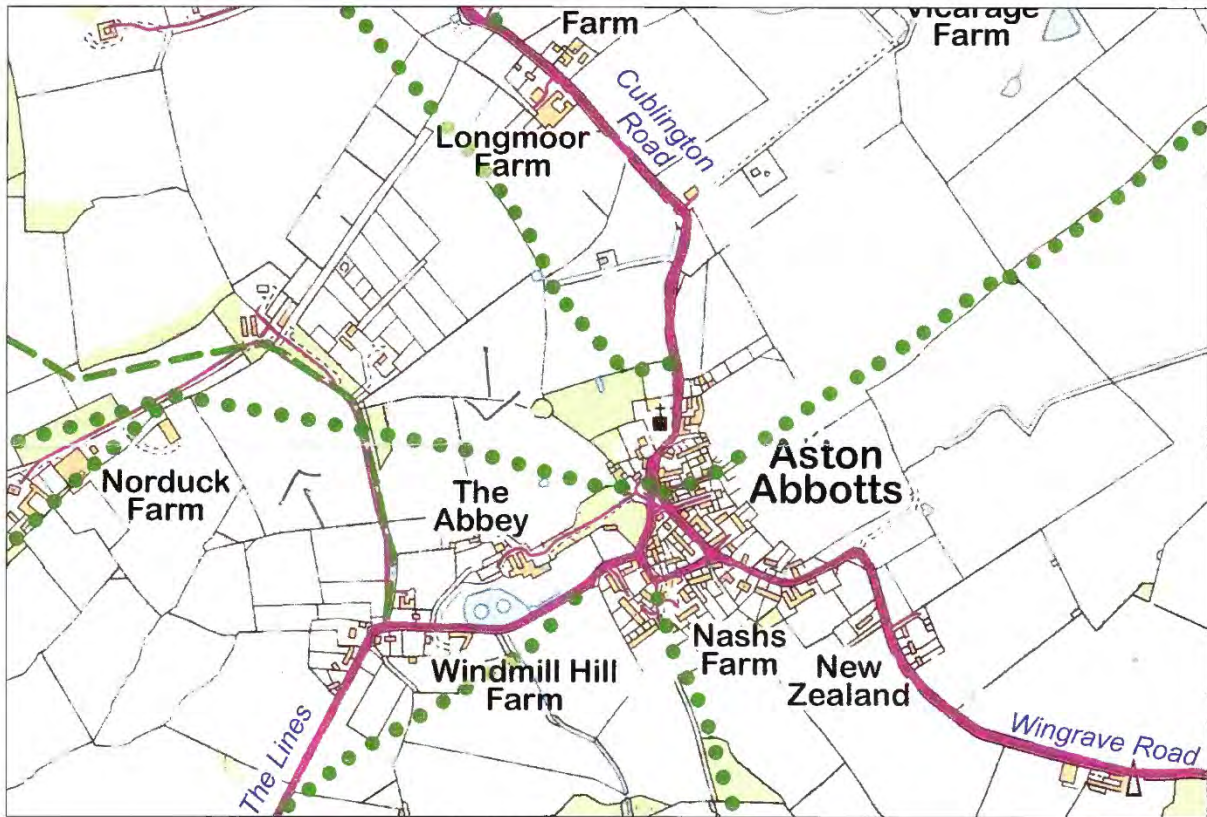


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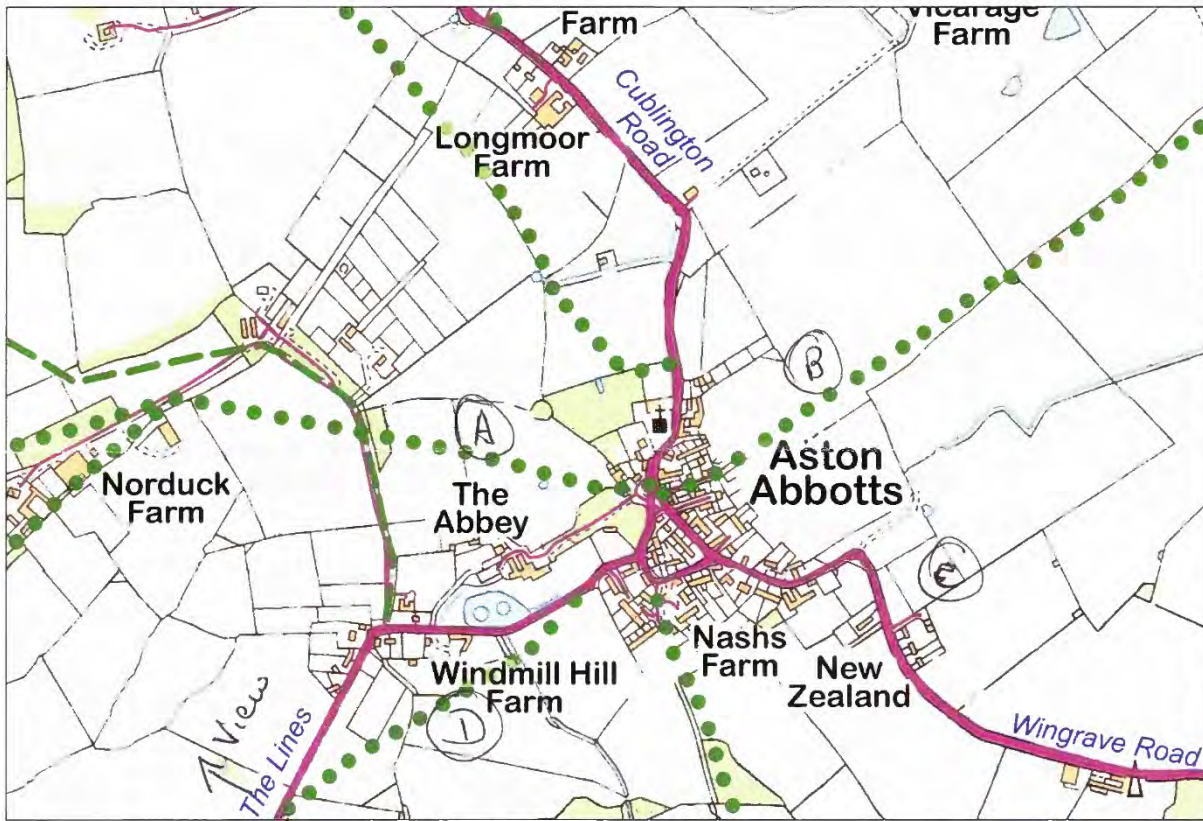


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds

Aston Abbots Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire - v04.docx

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Favourite view

- A. Green Space 1
- B. Green Space 2
- C. Orchard Green Space
- D. Green Space 3
- E. Church - Green Space + Green

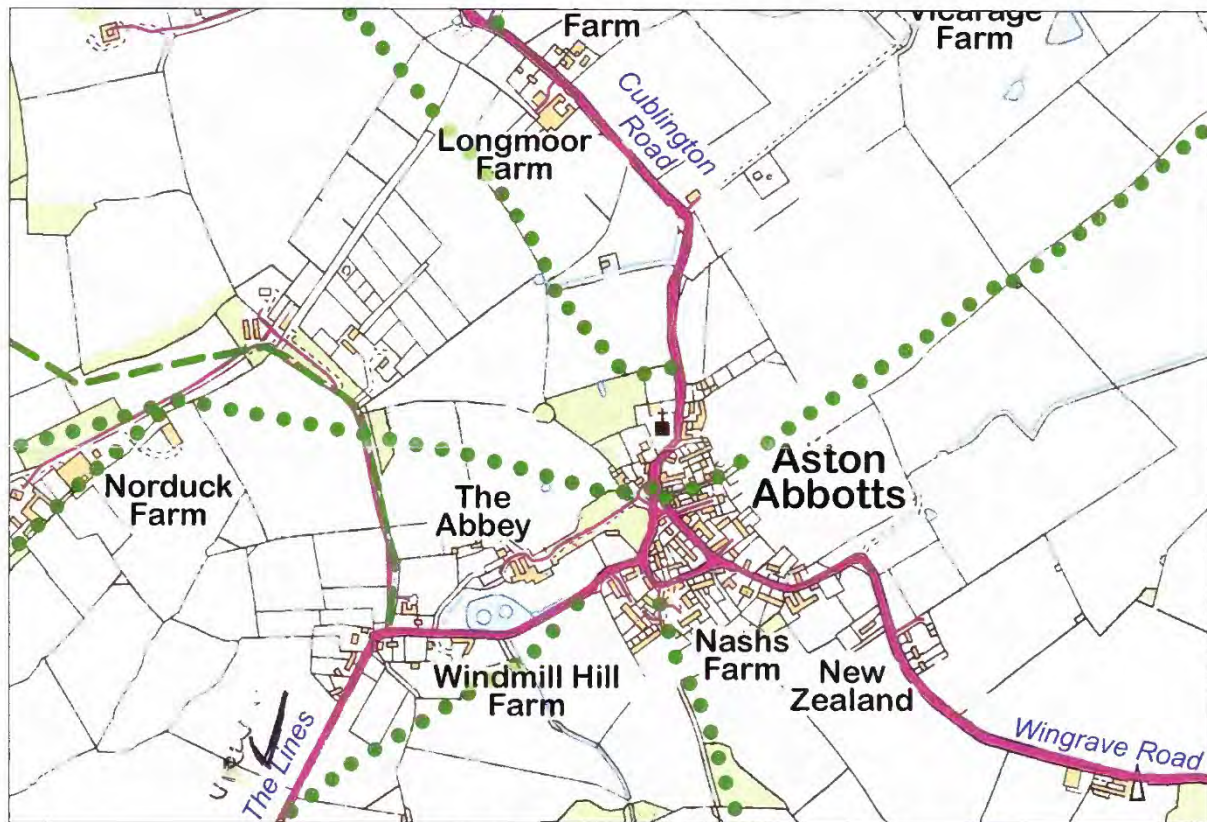


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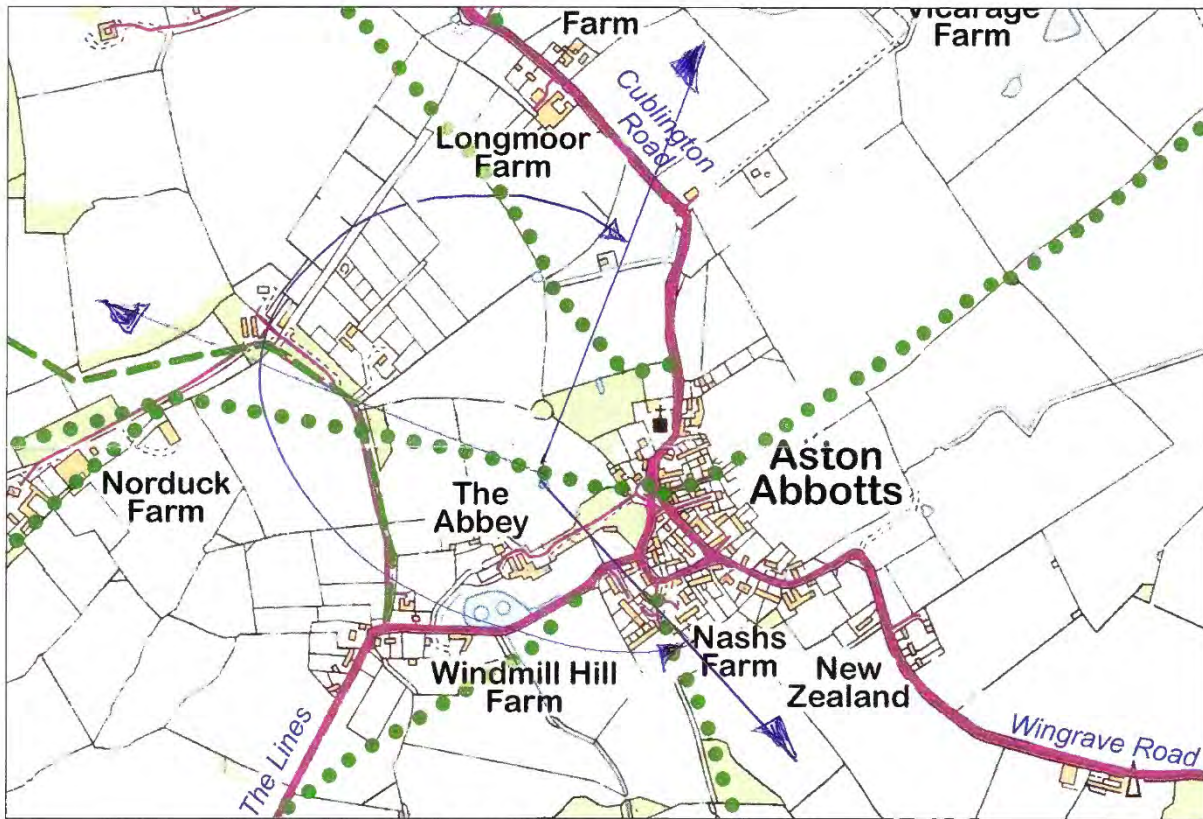


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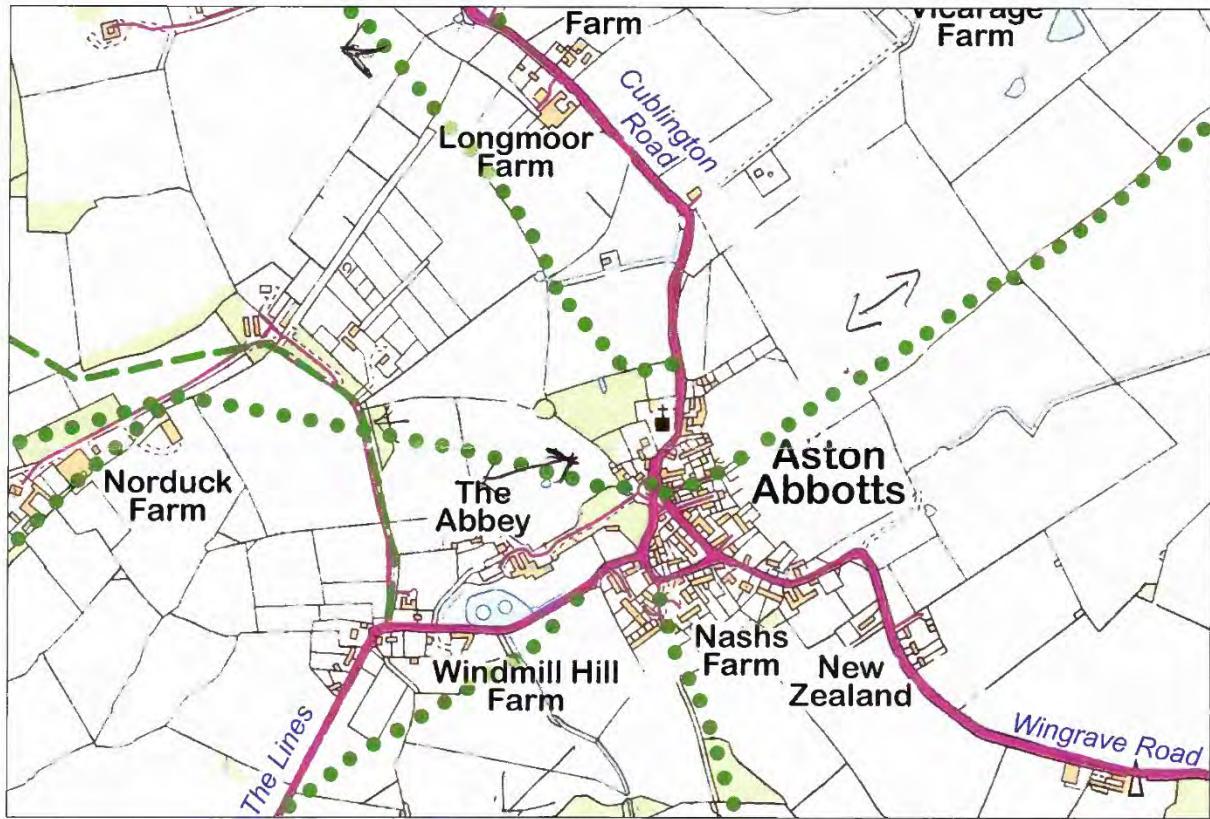


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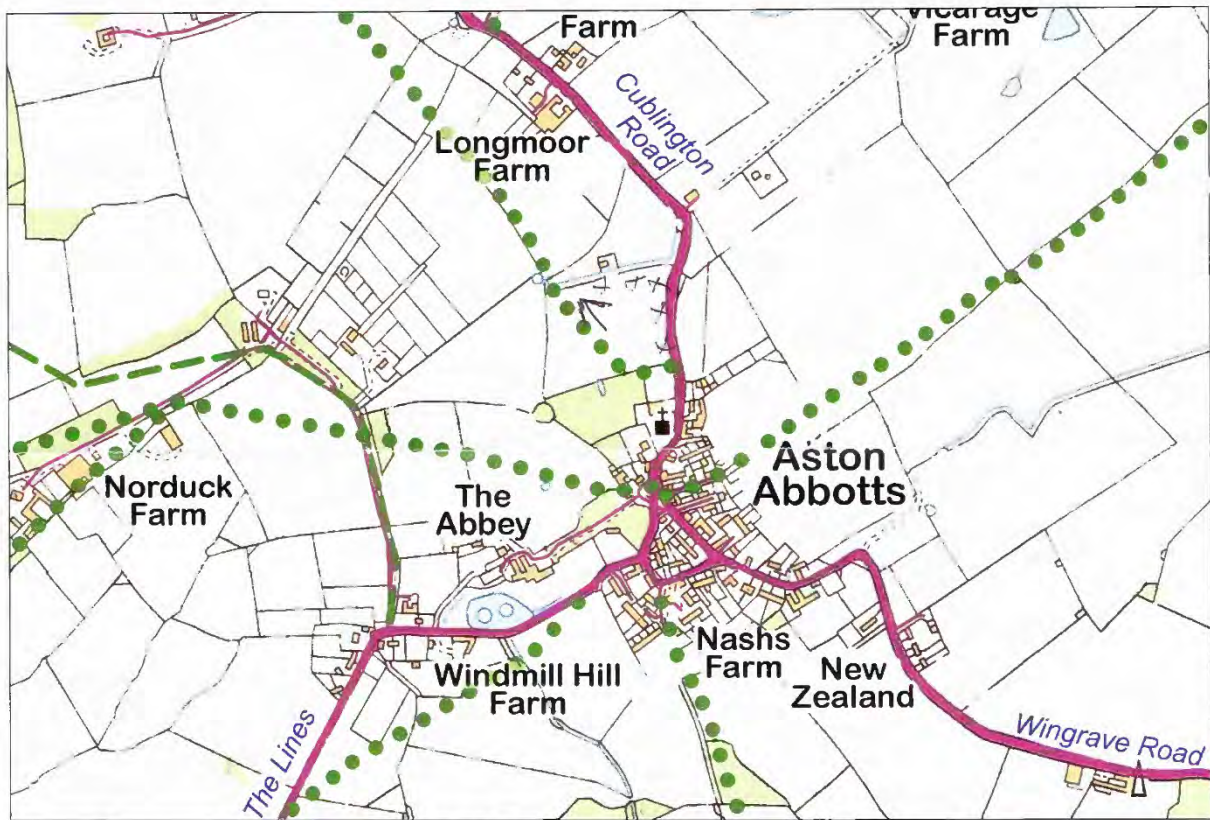


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds

Aston Abbots Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire - v04.docx

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NOT AROUND EDGES ! OF FIELD
LUCKY TO HAVE SO MANY FOOTPATHS -
NOT DOG WALKING PATHS -

Appendix B – Questionnaire

THE PARISH OF ASTON ABBOTTS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Resident,

This questionnaire is your opportunity to influence how Aston Abbots will develop over the coming years.

The Localism Act has given communities the power to shape their future by putting local plans at the heart of the planning system. Under the Act, parish councils and local people can make decisions about future development, its design and location. Aston Abbots Parish Council has made the decision to embrace these powers and to prepare what is known as a Neighbourhood Plan to encompass the whole Parish.

The main focus of any development is usually the visual aspect – especially in the case of new housing. Important though housing development is, our plan will also include policies that incorporate our aspirations for the future concerning issues such as green spaces, heritage assets, community facilities, the environment and economic activity – all things that directly impact our community.

The Plan, once adopted, will be a powerful document. It will enable us to make decisions for our future rather than having others decide it for us. It will be legally binding and, as such, must be consulted by Buckinghamshire Council and other authorities when determining future planning applications within the Parish.

Why it's important for everyone to have their say?

Whilst there may not be immediate pressure in the Parish of Aston Abbots to build additional houses, we know we may have to take some development to meet district and national targets in the future. We therefore need to ask ourselves:

- *Do we want to be involved in deciding how large such developments should be and where they should be located?*
- *When new developments do occur, do we want to influence their design?*

If we don't develop a Neighbourhood Plan, others will make the decisions for us.

So please get involved now and take the time to complete this questionnaire

This questionnaire is an important start to the process. It will be used to understand community opinion and will ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan will reflect of the consensus views of the residents of our Parish.

Please complete this questionnaire and return it in the envelope it came in by Saturday 7th May

You can post the completed questionnaire though the letter box of either of these locations:

*20 The Green
10 Wingrave Road*

Or, if you wish, you can hand it to any Parish Councillor:

<i>Heather Langdon</i>	<i>Jane Baylis</i>	<i>Jane Plested</i>
<i>Marissa Abel Smith</i>	<i>Richard Lakin</i>	<i>Sally Palmer</i>
<i>Trevor Hall</i>		

***Aston Abbots Parish Council
April 2022***

Please complete one questionnaire on behalf of each household (in this context, the term “you” refers collectively to all members of the household). If there is more than one household in the property, or there are differing views within the household, please contact the clerk of the Parish Council for additional copies (clerk@astonabbotts-pc.gov.uk).

You may remain anonymous but, at the end of the questionnaire, you can provide your name if you so wish.

Please note that all answers to the questionnaire will be treated as confidential and will be solely for the purposes of developing the Neighbourhood Plan. All information and data received will be managed in line with good practice set out in the Data Protection Act 2018. Also note that comments may be selected for anonymous inclusion in the final Neighbourhood Plan.

1. Household Details and Overall Feelings About Living in Aston Abbots

1.1	Number of members within the household <i>Please enter the number of adults and school-age children below</i>	
1.1a	Number of adults in household?	
1.1b	Number of school-age children in the household?	

1.2	What is the gender and ages of all members of the household? <i>Please tick both the Gender and Age Range for each person</i>									
	Gender			Age Range						
	Male	Female	Prefer not to say	Under 12	12-17	18-29	30-49	50-64	65-75	76+
Person 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Person 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Person 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Person 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Person 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If more than five persons, please list others below:</i>										

1.3	What is the work/education situation for all members of the household? <i>Please tick for each person</i>					
	Employed	Self Employed	Retired	Unemployed	In full-time education	Other (Please describe) <i>e.g., Looking after home/family, full-time carer, etc</i>
Person 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Person 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Person 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Person 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Person 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>If more than five persons, please list others below:</i>						

1.4	What is the housing status for the property? <i>Please tick</i>				
Owned with a mortgage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Owned outright	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rented from private landlord <input type="checkbox"/>	
Housing association	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social housing	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (<i>Please describe</i>)					

1.5	How long have you lived in Aston Abbots?
------------	---

1.6	How do you feel about living in Aston Abbots? <i>Please tick and please add any other factors which affect how you feel about the place</i>				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Has a nice environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is clean & tidy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is quiet/peaceful	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has strong sense of community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has good facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has good public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is convenient for commuting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is convenient for cultural activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is good for social activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is in good school catchment area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please add others factors you think important:</i>					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. HOUSING

There are currently approximately 185 dwellings within the Parish.

It is inevitable that additional housing will have to be built over the next 20 years. It is important that we understand your views in relation to increased housing in Aston Abbots.

2.1	Do you agree that, over the next 20 years, there will be a need for more housing? <i>Please tick</i>				
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure or don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.2	When new homes have to be built, how many homes do you think would be appropriate? <i>Please tick</i>				
Less than 10	10-20	21-30	31-50	Over 50	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

2.3

When new homes have to be built, which type do you think would be most suitable?

Please tick – you can tick more than one row.

Please note: If you are not in favour of any new housing, please do not tick all types as “strongly opposed to” The building of new homes will be inevitable within the next 20 years so it is therefore important to identify the types of property that are the least disagreeable.

	Strongly in favour	In favour	Don't mind	Opposed to	Strongly opposed to
Affordable homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing association homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retirement/sheltered homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bungalows	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small homes (1 bed)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medium size homes (2-3 beds)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Larger homes (4+ beds)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Please add others you think should be considered or opposed:					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.4

When new homes are built, do you agree that they must be built sustainably?

Please tick

Note: Sustainable building requires the use of renewable and recyclable materials when building new homes, as well as reducing energy consumption and waste. It must also ensure the building remains resource-efficient throughout its lifecycle. This is likely to incur higher initial costs which may affect the affordability of the housing.

Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Not sure or don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
--	-----------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------	---	--

2.5

When new homes are built, where do you think they should be located?

You must tick one to show your preference (refer to maps in Figures 1 and 2 and the notes below)

Notes:

- 1) “Within the village” means use of any available land close to the centre of the village. Such land is likely to be adjacent to existing properties.
- 2) “Greenfield site” means the use of farmland or other undeveloped land within the parish. The investment required to build on such sites (e.g., providing services etc) is likely to result in larger scale developments.

Only within the village <input type="checkbox"/>	Only greenfield sites <input type="checkbox"/>	Both within the village and greenfield sites <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please state) <input type="checkbox"/>
--	--	---	---

Please add any comments you think would help in identifying suitable locations for future housing (you can also add notes on the maps in Figures 1 and/or 2):

3. ECONOMY

Neighbourhood Planning creates the chance for the community to influence the local economic pattern by working with the Local Authority to look at how development can provide local jobs. Most of our residents have to travel out of the community to their work, thus increasing traffic and travelling cost for working people.

3.1 For members of the household that are employed, where do they work? <i>Please tick or state in "Other"</i>							
	Aston Abbotts	Aylesbury	Leighton Buzzard	Milton Keynes	Luton or Dunstable	London	Other (please state)
Person 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Person 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>If more than two persons are in employment, please list others here:</i>							

3.2 Do any members of the household run a business from home? <i>Please tick and, if Yes, please answer the following question</i>										Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>		
3.2a	Please state the nature of the business(es) (if more than one then just answer for the two largest businesses). <i>Please tick</i>												
		Accommodation services	Agriculture	Catering	Construction/Landscaping	Education	Health and well-being	Financial and/or Insurance	Information/Communication	Retail	Other (please state)		
	Business 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Business 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

3.3 Do any members of the household own/rent business premises in the parish? <i>Please tick and, if Yes, please answer the following two questions</i>										Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
3.3a	Do they see the business(es) staying in the parish for the next 10 years? <i>Please tick and, if No, please explain why:</i>										Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

3.3b	Please state the nature of the business(es) (if more than one then just answer for the two largest businesses). Please tick										
		Accommodation services	Agriculture	Catering	Construction/Landscaping	Education	Health and well-being	Financial and/or Insurance	Information/Communication	Retail	Other (please state)
	Business 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Business 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

3.4	Would you be in favour of the development of more Business Units within the Parish? <i>Please tick</i>				
Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Not sure or don't know <input type="checkbox"/>

3.5	Please add other suggestions for improving our economy. If a business is being run from home, or member of the household owns/rents a business in the parish, please provide any suggestions that could assist the success of the business(es):

4. COMMUNICATION

This Section covers communication of important news and information, including social information.

4.1	Community news and information - how important is it to you? <i>Please tick</i>			
Very important <input type="checkbox"/>	Important <input type="checkbox"/>	Fairly Important <input type="checkbox"/>	Not important <input type="checkbox"/>	

4.2	How easy is it to find community news and information for Aston Abbotts? <i>Please tick</i>			
Very Easy <input type="checkbox"/>	Easy <input type="checkbox"/>	Difficult <input type="checkbox"/>	Very difficult <input type="checkbox"/>	

4.3 As sources of community news and information, how would you rate the following? <i>Please tick and add and others you think important</i>							
	Very Good	Good	OK	Poor	Very Poor	Don't use it	Was not aware it existed
Parish noticeboards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parish Council website (<i>see notes*</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aston Abbotts website (<i>see notes*</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aston Abbotts Chronicle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aston Abbotts Email Post Box (<i>see notes*</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local county newspapers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BBC Three Counties Radio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facebook (<i>see notes*</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Twitter (<i>see notes*</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please add others you think important:</i>							
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

*Notes: Parish Council website address: astonabbotts-pc.gov.uk

Aston Abbotts website address: www.aston-abbotts.co.uk

To sign up to the AA Postbox please see: www.aston-abbotts.co.uk/postbox.htm

Facebook Aston Abbotts Community: www.facebook.com/groups/astonabbotts

Twitter #astonabbotts: twitter.com/hashtag/AstonAbbotts?src=hashtag_click&f=live

4.4 If you don't think you're getting sufficient local news or information, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help:	

5. INFRASTRUCTURE

This section covers the following topics:

- Internet Connectivity
- Facilities
- Education Services
- Recreation, Footpaths and Bridleways
- Allotments

Internet Connectivity

5.1 Do you have a broadband internet connection within the household? <i>Please tick</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Facilities

5.2

Which of the following facilities do you use and how often do you use them?

Please tick

Note: Education Services are covered in Questions 5.4 and 5.5, and Allotments in Question 5.09

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Rarely	Never
Village Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation Ground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's Play Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Church	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Orchard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please add others you think important:</i>					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5.3

Which of the following do you think will need to be developed in the Parish?

Please tick and add and others you think important

Notes:

1) Education Services as covered in Questions 5.4 and 5.5

2) The term "Local" below does not imply the facility is within the village. Local facilities could include facilities that are within an acceptable distance (by your preferred method of transport, i.e., walking, bicycle, car etc)

	We don't need any more of this even with new housing	We have enough now but will need more if new housing is built	We need more of this without any new housing	Don't know
Local shops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks/play area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parking spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road capacity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bus services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please add other Community Facilities you think important:</i>				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you would like to see more action to develop facilities within the parish, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help:

Educational Services

5.4	Nurseries and Preschool <i>If there are children in your household that attend nursery or preschool, please provide details below</i>	
5.4	Please list below the nursery/preschool that the child(ren) attend:	

5.5	Schools <i>If there are school-age children in your household, please answer the following two questions</i>	
5.5a	Please list below the school(s) that the child(ren) attend:	
5.5b	Were the school(s) the preferred choice for the child(ren)? <i>Please tick</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If not, and it was an issue related to catchment area, what was the preferred school(s):	

Recreation, Footpaths and Bridleways

5.6	How do you rate the play and recreational facilities for the village? <i>Please tick</i>				
Very Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>	Very Poor <input type="checkbox"/>	
If you would like to see more action to improve the play and recreational facilities, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help:					

5.7	How often do you use the footpaths? <i>Please tick</i> All public footpaths are identified on the map in Figure 1					
Often in summer <input type="checkbox"/>	Often in winter <input type="checkbox"/>	Sometimes in summer <input type="checkbox"/>	Sometimes in winter <input type="checkbox"/>	Rarely <input type="checkbox"/>	Never <input type="checkbox"/>	
If so, which one(s) do you use the most and why?						

5.8	How often do you use the bridleways? Please tick <i>The two bridleways are identified on the map in Figure 1</i>				
Often in summer <input type="checkbox"/>	Often in winter <input type="checkbox"/>	Sometimes in summer <input type="checkbox"/>	Sometimes in winter <input type="checkbox"/>	Rarely <input type="checkbox"/>	Never <input type="checkbox"/>
If so, which one(s) do you use frequently and why?					

Allotments

5.09	Allotments <i>Please tick</i>		
5.09a	Do any of the members of the household rent or share an allotment?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
5.09b	If they don't rent or share an allotment, would they like to?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

6. PRIVATE TRANSPORT

6.1	Private Vehicles		
6.1a	How many vehicles are there for the household? <i>Please enter number against each type of vehicle – leave blank if none</i>		
		No of Vehicles	
	Petrol		
	Diesel		
	Hybrid		
	Electric		
	Other (<i>Please state</i>):		
6.1b	Do you rely on on-street parking for your vehicles? Please tick	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
6.1c	If you have answered Yes to the previous question, how many of your vehicles are typically parked on the street?		

6.2	Electric Vehicles		
6.2a	If you do not currently own an electric vehicle, are you considering getting one in the next 5 years? Please tick	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
6.2b	Would the lack of an on-street charging point prohibit you from getting an electric vehicle? Please tick	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

7. ENVIRONMENT

7.1

How important is to you, and how highly do you value, the countryside and landscape around the Parish? *Please tick*

Very Important

Important

Fairly Important

Not important

Please place an arrow on the maps in Figures 1 or 2 showing your favourite views *from a public viewpoint*. Please elaborate below if you wish:

7.2

Which Green Spaces are important to you

Note: Green space is land, not necessarily provided for formal recreation or public amenity, which makes a positive visual and environmental contribution to the Parish.

Are there any Green Spaces within the Parish are important to you?' If so, please describe them and/or mark them on the maps in Figures 1 or 2.

8. HISTORY & ECOLOGY

History

Our historic environment includes buildings and features such as walls etc. Our parish has shown a keen interest in its historical roots. At the turn of the millennium, a very active History Group produced a widely praised book “Aston Abbotts 1000-2000, A Village History” and the Aston Abbotts Chronical frequently publishes historical articles. Our close links with the Czech Republic and Slovakia culminating in the recent unveiling of the History Board on The Green is a testament to the desire of many to ensure that the history of the parish is well preserved.

Wildlife

Our parish is teeming with lots of wildlife. Part of our plan can also include the preservation and protection of specific areas where rare and not so rare wildlife is accessible to all. This will benefit the parish on a local scale and also encourage visitors.

8.1	How do you feel about our historical past being preserved for future generations? <i>Please tick</i>		
Very important <input type="checkbox"/>	Important <input type="checkbox"/>	Fairly important <input type="checkbox"/>	Not important <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Are there any important historic features or buildings you wish to see protected? If so, please describe them and mark them on the maps in Figures 1 <u>or</u> 2 if you wish.</p>			

8.2	How do you feel about our wildlife being preserved for future generations? <i>Please tick</i>		
Very important <input type="checkbox"/>	Important <input type="checkbox"/>	Fairly important <input type="checkbox"/>	Not important <input type="checkbox"/>

8.3 Do you think that these are a good idea? <i>Please tick</i>			
	Yes	No	No opinion
Website (Historical and ecological information)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information signs at points of interest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
History display boards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open History days and Ecology days	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking guides – what to see where	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guided tours for history/ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Living memories website (for people inside and outside the parish)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If you would like to see more action to support our historical heritage, ecology, and local wildlife, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help:</p>			

9. OTHER

9.1 If we were to encourage alternative energy, which would you support? <i>Please tick</i>			
	Agree	Disagree	No opinion
Wind power	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solar power	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If you would like to see more action to encourage alternative energy, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help:</p>			

9.2

Please write in anything else you can think of that has not been covered within this questionnaire and that you think should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan:

9.3

Would anybody in the household like to help in developing the Neighbourhood Plan? *Please tick*

Yes

No

We will be looking for people who have an interest in planning the future of the Parish and we would welcome help with various aspects of producing the neighbourhood plan including communications and publicity, project management, IT skills, organisational skills, and general help such as delivering leaflets etc. If you would like to help, then please contact the Parish Council Clerk at clerk@astonabbotts-pc.gov.uk with information on areas of interest and any specific expertise.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this Questionnaire

Contact Details - *OPTIONAL*

All responses will remain anonymous unless you wish to provide your contact details. These details shall only be made available to the Parish Council and to those persons developing the Neighbourhood Plan and will enable them to contact you to discuss any specific details or concerns.

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Telephone:

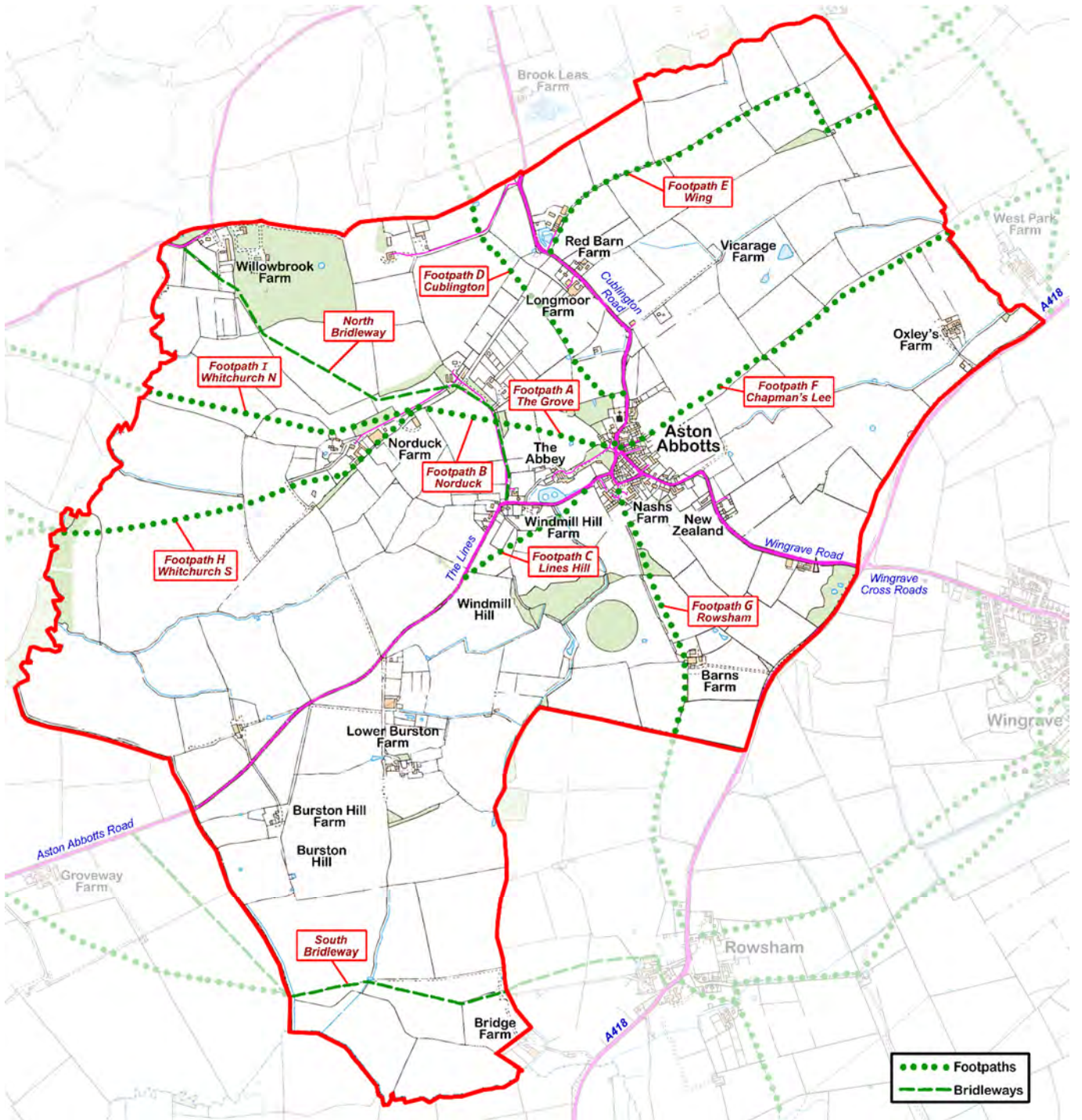


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary

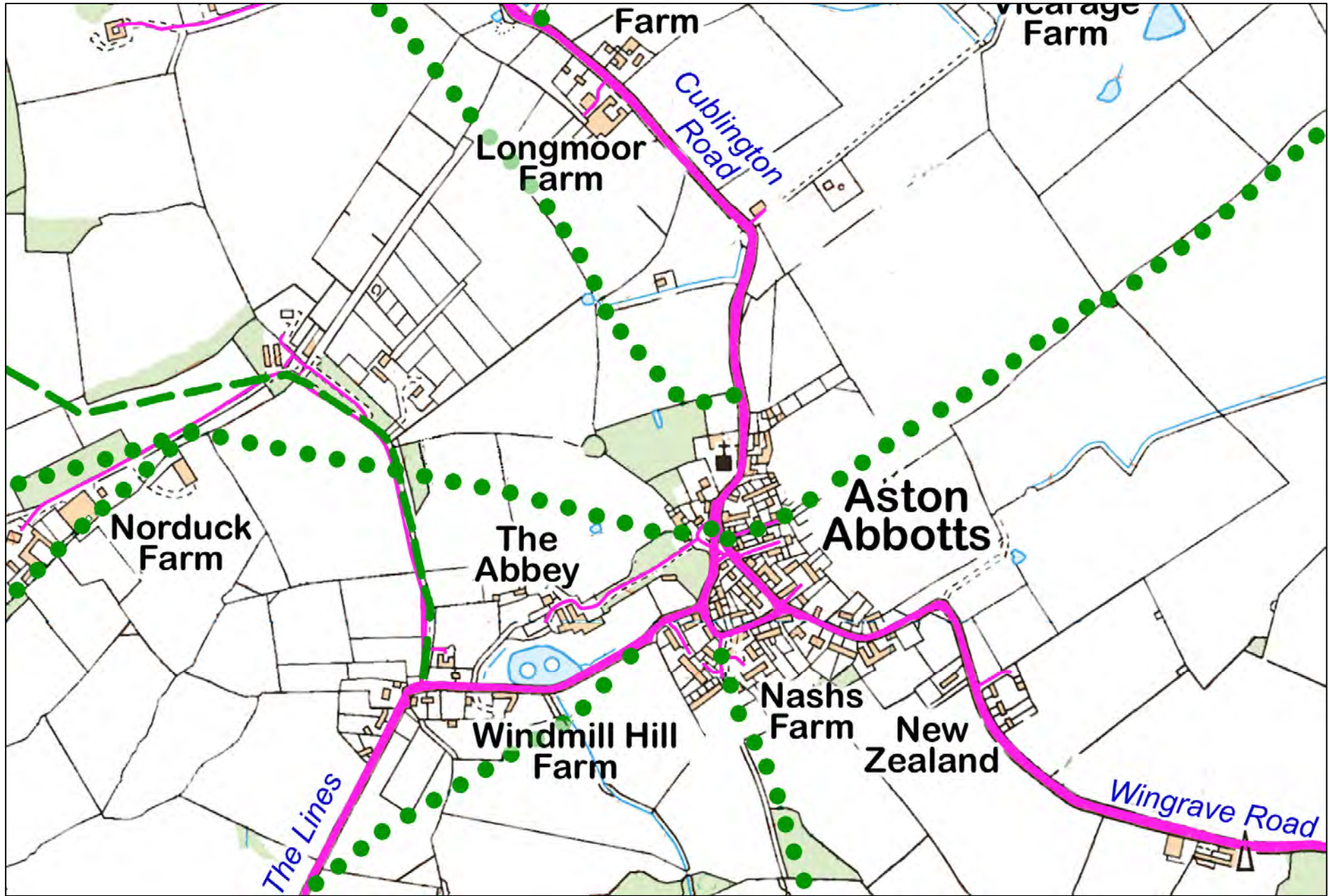


Figure 2 – Aston Abbots village and surrounds



Community and Facilities Evidence Report

Reference: 0202-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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2.7. Which of the following do you think will need to be developed in the Parish?	12

1. Summary

The community of Aston Abbots has changed over the years, from a farming and agricultural community to a more diverse community with a significant number of new residents. Villagers very much value the countryside location with numerous local walks and the beautiful scenery.

There is now a mix of ages living in the village and there are different models of community engagement, from joint community events in the village hall, to small network or friendship groups meeting in each other's homes or local pubs. Aston Abbots used to have its own pub, The Royal Oak, but this closed in November 2020¹. This used to act as an informal community hub with several groups and individuals meeting there. There is still the Village Hall which hosts several events, including a monthly quiz, monthly Bingo, two-weekly Whist Drives and weekly Thursday morning café. A monthly Pop-up Pub was trialled for a short period and this might be rolled out more permanently in the future.

The Village Hall is available for those who like to meet up for collective community events. Other residents prefer more informal gatherings for events such as the local ladies' group (referred to as the GNOMES), men's group, book group, etc. There is also a local WhatsApp group for parents.

38% of respondents use the hall weekly or monthly. 45% rarely use the village hall.

The community spirit is also evidenced by the pride villagers have in where they live. The village won the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village for 2022 and previously in 2019. Volunteers take part in litter picking and also cutting the grass in the Church grounds. There is also an Annual Fete run by volunteers and Annual Firework Display. The village is proud of its history and there are two History Boards on the Village Green.

83 % of respondents to the Neighbourhood Survey either strongly agreed or agreed that Aston Abbots has a strong sense of community. Only 3% disagreed.

The other community assets in Aston Abbots are the Church, Village Hall, Recreation Ground, allotments and orchard. The Church has introduced monthly "all age" services, led by lay-members, which are quite popular and are preceded by a Church breakfast in the Village Hall.

The Recreation Ground is mainly used by parents, carers and grandparents and their children or grandchildren. An outside table tennis table for all ages has recently been purchased by the Parish Council and there is currently discussion about replacing the existing play equipment, and possibly additional other all-age activities.

Public transport is important for Aston Abbots as people have to travel to shop, go to the Post Office, attend school, doctor appointments, meals out, etc. For those who do not have a car, or cannot drive, they rely on the buses. From March to October, there is a weekly village bus trip to Aylesbury and Leighton Buzzard for anybody to use, although the users tend to be retired villagers who have a bus pass. This is organised by a local resident and helps to promote the importance of using and maintaining our local bus services.

Most people do drive, and Aylesbury and Leighton Buzzard are equidistant from Aston Abbots.

68% of respondents said the village is convenient for commuting.

¹ The Royal Oak, and its closure, is discussed in the *Parish Issues, Aspirations and Parish Council Actions* Evidence Report

Community news and information is important to the majority of people in Aston Abbotts. The two most used methods of communication are reading and/or contributing to the monthly Chronicle magazine, and the Aston Abbotts Post Box, which is a local emailing facility for people wanting to share information. There is also an Aston Abbotts Community Facebook Group and also a separate Aston Abbotts Business Facebook Group where people advertise their services.

The Chronicle Magazine, in particular, is highly value by the community. It typically runs to 40 plus pages and, unlike many other small parish newsletters, it is not dominated by advertising. Typically, it is largely filled with articles from the residents which normally occupy around 75% of the publication.

100% of respondents said that Community News was either very important, important or fairly important.

84% and 66% respectively said the Chronicle and Email Postbox were 'very good' or 'good' (with 51% and 45% saying 'very Good').

Opportunities exist to enhance the existing community assets and introduce more facilities, entertainment and recreational activities. This will require some innovative ideas, creative thinking, and willing volunteers.

2. 2022 Survey Results

In Section 1 of the 2022 Parish survey, the following question was asked:

- How do you feel about living in Aston Abbotts?

The following topics were covered:

- Has a nice environment
- Has a nice environment
- Is quiet/peaceful
- Has strong sense of community
- Has good facilities
- Has good public transport
- Is convenient for commuting
- Is convenient for cultural activities
- Is good for social activities
- Is in good school catchment area

Section 4 was dedicated to Communication and asked two questions:

- Community news and information - how important is it to you?
- How easy is it to find community news and information for Aston Abbotts?

The residents were then asked to rate the sources of community news and information which included:

- Parish noticeboards
- Parish Council website
- Aston Abbotts website
- Aston Abbotts Chronicle
- Aston Abbotts Email Post Box
- Local county newspapers
- BBC Three Counties Radio
- Facebook
- Twitter

Section 4 concluded by providing the residents the opportunity to provide suggestions/ideas:

- If you don't think you're getting sufficient local news or information, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help

Section 5 covered infrastructure and asked the residents which of the following facilities were used and how often:

- Village Hall
- Recreation Ground
- Children's Play Area
- Church
- The Orchard

Section 5 also asked for the residents to identify facilities that will need to be developed.

The summary of the responses and additional comments to the questions listed above is detailed in the following subsections. **Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns (barring human error in the transcription). No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.**

2.1. How do you feel about living in Aston Abbots?

Has a nice environment

Strongly agree	57	69%
Agree	24	29%
Neither agree nor disagree	2	2%
Disagree		
Strongly disagree		
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

Has a nice environment

Strongly agree	37	45%
Agree	40	49%
Neither agree nor disagree	4	5%
Disagree	1	1%
Strongly disagree		
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Is quiet/peaceful

Strongly agree	41	50%
Agree	30	37%
Neither agree nor disagree	6	7%
Disagree	4	5%
Strongly disagree	1	1%
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Has strong sense of community

Strongly agree	22	27%
Agree	45	56%
Neither agree nor disagree	11	14%
Disagree	1	1%
Strongly disagree	2	2%
<i>No Response</i>	3	[4%]

Has good facilities

Strongly agree		
Agree	11	13%
Neither agree nor disagree	24	29%
Disagree	42	51%
Strongly disagree	6	7%
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

Has good public transport

Strongly agree	6	7%
Agree	27	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	35	43%
Disagree	9	11%
Strongly disagree	5	6%
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Is convenient for commuting

Strongly agree	9	11%
Agree	46	57%
Neither agree nor disagree	18	22%
Disagree	6	7%
Strongly disagree	2	2%
<i>No Response</i>	3	[4%]

Is convenient for cultural activities

Strongly agree	4	5%
Agree	32	41%
Neither agree nor disagree	32	41%
Disagree	10	13%
Strongly disagree	1	1%
<i>No Response</i>	5	[6%]

Is good for social activities

Strongly agree	3	4%
Agree	27	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	32	40%
Disagree	17	21%
Strongly disagree	2	2%
<i>No Response</i>	3	[4%]

Is in good school catchment area

Strongly agree	9	11%
Agree	34	43%
Neither agree nor disagree	35	44%
Disagree	1	1%
Strongly disagree		
<i>No Response</i>	5	[6%]

2.2. Community news and information - how important is it to you?

Community news and information - how important is it to you?

Very important	43	52%
Important	31	37%
Fairly Important	9	11%
Not important		
<i>No Response</i>	1	[1%]

2.3. Community news and information - how important is it to you?

Is it easy to find community news and information for Aston Abbotts?

Very Easy	26	33%
Easy	46	58%
Difficult	6	8%
Very difficult	1	1%
<i>No Response</i>	5	[6%]

2.4. Community news and information - how important is it to you?

The residents were asked to rate the sources of community news, the response to which are shown in the tables below:

Parish noticeboards

Very Good	7	9%
Good	15	19%
OK	23	29%
Poor	7	9%
Very Poor		
Don't use it	28	35%
Was not aware it existed		
<i>No Response</i>	4	[5%]

Parish Council website

Very Good	7	9%
Good	8	11%
OK	17	22%
Poor	2	3%
Very Poor		
Don't use it	32	42%
Was not aware it existed	10	13%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[10%]

Aston Abbots website

Very Good	13	17%
Good	15	20%
OK	18	24%
Poor	3	4%
Very Poor	1	1%
Don't use it	24	32%
Was not aware it existed	2	3%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[10%]

Aston Abbots Chronicle

Very Good	42	51%
Good	27	33%
OK	11	13%
Poor	2	2%
Very Poor		
Don't use it		
Was not aware it existed		
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Aston Abbots Email Post Box

Very Good	36	45%
Good	17	21%
OK	9	11%
Poor	2	3%
Very Poor	1	1%
Don't use it	11	14%
Was not aware it existed	4	5%
<i>No Response</i>	4	[5%]

Local county newspapers

Very Good	1	1%
Good	1	1%
OK	12	16%
Poor		
Very Poor	6	8%
Don't use it	52	68%
Was not aware it existed	4	5%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[10%]

BBC Three Counties Radio

Very Good		
Good	2	3%
OK	7	9%
Poor	2	3%
Very Poor	2	3%
Don't use it	60	81%
Was not aware it existed	1	1%

No Response 10 [12%]

Facebook

Very Good	11	14%
Good	13	17%
OK	8	11%
Poor	4	5%
Very Poor	1	1%
Don't use it	36	47%
Was not aware it existed	3	4%

No Response 8 [10%]

Twitter

Very Good		
Good	1	1%
OK	2	3%
Poor		
Very Poor		
Don't use it	56	76%
Was not aware it existed	15	20%

No Response 10 [12%]

The following comments were made:

- Bucks Radio (Very Good)
- Church noticeboard (Poor)
- Social groups within the village (Very Good)

2.5. Suggestions/ideas to improve communication

The following table shows the responses to 'If you don't think you're getting sufficient local news or information, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help':

We're just outside the village but within the parish. Next-door receive the Chronicle but we don't, so we are unaware of upcoming events.
Facebook & Chronical are great!
Join the dots merge - aa.co.uk /Facebook and the Chronicle to create a digital first option, with optional print edition. Even PDF Newsletter is a no brainer.
More regular updates on websites (village and Parish Council). Church does not always publicise service times e.g. Easter service time / invitation only appeared on the "postie" on Good Friday in Village.
Pub has closed but that was a community hub
[REDACTED]
Website could be updated more regularly, especially in regards village events.
I struggle with it so I do not use AA Postbox etc. The Chronicle is helpful and keeps me up to date.
A focal meeting place i.e. pub would be very useful for social interaction
Bring back the village shop!
The Aston Abbotts website is out of date and needs updating. The website is only helpful if it is kept updated.
One has to buy Bucks publications.

2.6. Which of the following facilities do you use and how often do you use them?

Village Hall

	Daily		
	Weekly	24	29%
	Monthly	7	9%
	Rarely	37	45%
	Never	14	17%
	<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

Recreation Ground

	Daily	5	6%
	Weekly	13	16%
	Monthly	13	16%
	Rarely	33	41%
	Never	16	20%
	<i>No Response</i>	4	[5%]

Children's Play Area

Daily	1	1%
Weekly	10	12%
Monthly	9	11%
Rarely	19	23%
Never	42	52%
<i>No Response</i>	3	[4%]

Church

Daily		
Weekly	16	20%
Monthly	5	6%
Rarely	36	44%
Never	24	30%
<i>No Response</i>	3	[4%]

The Orchard

Daily	2	3%
Weekly	6	8%
Monthly	19	24%
Rarely	32	40%
Never	21	26%
<i>No Response</i>	4	[5%]

2.7. Which of the following do you think will need to be developed in the Parish?

The residents were asked to rate several facilities against the following criteria:

- We don't need any more of this even with new housing
- We have enough now but will need more if new housing is built
- We need more of this without any new housing
- Don't know

Local shops

Don't need any more..	17	22%
Need more with new homes..	9	12%
Need more regardless..	39	51%
Don't know	11	14%
<i>No Response</i>	8	[10%]

Leisure facilities

Don't need any more..	22	30%
Need more with new homes..	16	22%
Need more regardless..	16	22%
Don't know	19	26%
<i>No Response</i>	11	[13%]

Parks/play area

Don't need any more..	32	43%
Need more with new homes..	28	37%
Need more regardless..	8	11%
Don't know	7	9%
<i>No Response</i>	9	[11%]

Parking spaces

Don't need any more..	7	9%
Need more with new homes..	31	40%
Need more regardless..	32	42%
Don't know	7	9%
<i>No Response</i>	7	[8%]

Road capacity

Don't need any more..	17	23%
Need more with new homes..	28	38%
Need more regardless..	14	19%
Don't know	15	20%
<i>No Response</i>	10	[12%]

Bus services

Don't need any more..	10	13%
Need more with new homes..	21	27%
Need more regardless..	24	31%
Don't know	22	29%
<i>No Response</i>	7	[8%]

The residents also identified the following things for development:

- Activity for 10-16 year olds (Need more with new homes..)
- Bridleways (Need more regardless..)
- Cycle paths (Need more regardless..)
- Dog poo bins (Need more regardless..)
- Footpaths (Need more regardless..)
- GP Surgery (Need more regardless..)
- Improved/controlled traffic flow by non-local traffic/inappropriate size/speed (Need more regardless..)
- Improvements to pavements and footpaths (Need more regardless..)
- Library bus (Need more regardless..)
- Licenced social club (Need more regardless..)
- Outdoor exercise (Need more regardless..)
- Pavement (Need more regardless..)
- Pavements within village (Need more regardless..)
- Pub (Need more regardless..) [x13]
- Pub/Restaurant (Need more regardless..) [x2]
- Renewable energy (Need more regardless..)
- Street Lights (Need more regardless..)
- Tennis courts (Need more regardless..)
- Traffic calming (Need more regardless..)



Footpaths and Bridleways Evidence Report

Reference: 0183-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

This document outlines the existing footpaths and bridleways within the Parish of Aston Abbotts. It also discusses possible future aspirations to expand the network of footpaths.

There are numerous footpaths and bridleways in the Parish. Respondents to the questionnaire often used the footpaths in summer (43%) and winter (35%) with only 6% saying 'rarely' or 'never'. 45% of respondents also said that they use the bridleways.

One of the most used sections of the footpath network is a circular walk which about 2km with about three quarters being on footpath or bridleway. The remainder being on road on both Moat Lane and The Lines. The longest section of road is The Lines going south from the village upon which the National Speed Limit applies.

Many residents highlighted a strong desire for additional circular walks that avoid roads as much as possible. Three aspirational schemes have been investigated and the findings are presented in Section 5.

2. Existing Footpaths and Bridleways

The map depicted in Figure 1 highlights the existing footpaths (shown as dotted green lines) and bridleways (shown as dashed green lines).

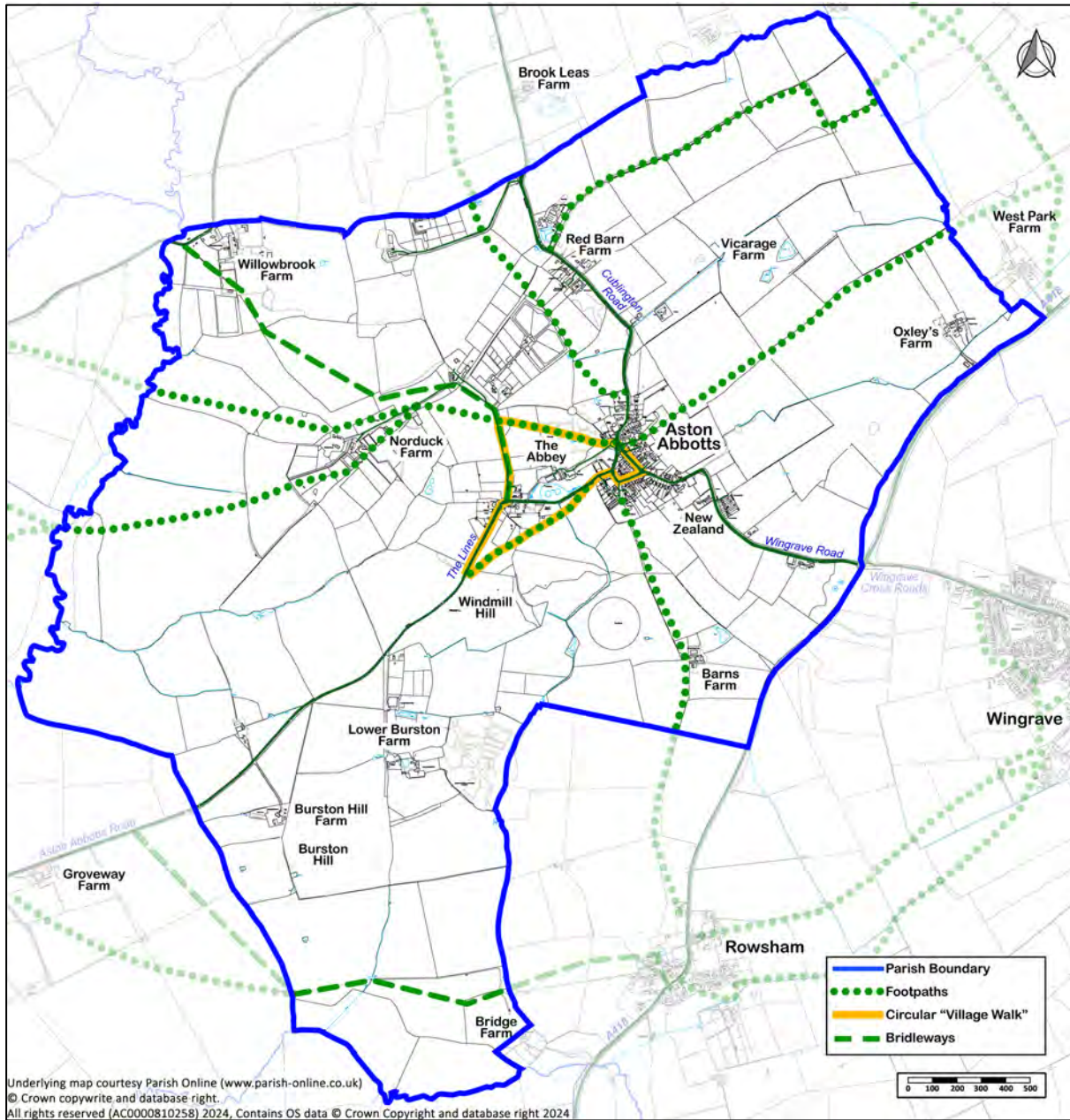


Figure 1 - Location of public footpaths and bridleways

3. Circular Walk

Figure 2 depicts the circular walk, colloquially known as the “Village Walk”. This circular walk is highly valued by both residents and visitors. Given the demographics of our community, it’s an important feature for peoples’ health and wellbeing.

The circular village walk passes through two significant areas of agricultural land. The northern section goes through what we know as "The Grove," and the southeastern leg passes through several fields, offering stunning views of Aylesbury Vale.

The total length of the village walk is about 2km with about three quarters being on footpath or bridleway and the remainder on road, using both Moat Lane and The Lines. The longest section of road is The Lines going south from the village boundary on which the National Speed Limit applies.

Figure 2 - Circular walk shown highlighted in orange

4. Footpath and Bridleway Usage – Questionnaire Response

In the 2022 Questionnaire, question 5.7 asked the residents: “How often do you use the footpaths?” Nearly 50% of the residents who responded to the question used the footpaths “Often” (43%) or “Sometimes” (6%).

The residents were also asked which footpaths they used the most. Fifty-nine of the responses provided this information.

The results of the question on footpaths are shown in Appendix A (Section A.2) along with the responses relating to usage. A similar question relating to bridleways was also included in the Questionnaire. Responses to this question are shown in Appendix A (Section A.3).

5. Aspirational Extensions to the Footpath Network

In response to the parish wide survey, many residents highlighted a strong desire for additional circular walks (refer to Appendix A, Section A.4). The possibility of additional circular walks was also discussed at the Showcase Event in December 2023.

Three aspirational schemes have been identified which are described further in this section.

However, it is very important to note that these schemes are currently purely aspirational. No consultation process has begun with landowners and no feasibility studies undertaken. **It is recognised that new footpaths would place additional burdens and responsibilities on the landowner and would only proceed with their willing consent.** Costs would be incurred (e.g. signage, gates, fencing and stiles), with the initial outlay having to be borne by the parish. **Any future expansion of the footpaths can therefore only be instigated if a budget is made available and with the consent of the residents for parish funds to be spent on such a venture.**

For this to progress, it would be necessary to undertake a detailed feasibility study, in partnership with landowners, to produce budgeted proposals and explore external sources of funds. A full consultation process would then be required with landowners and other stakeholders.

Given the current funding status, it is unlikely that any proposed plans for additional circular walks will be considered in the near future.

The three aspirational schemes that could be considered are outlined in the following sections.

5.1. Scheme 1 - Extended Circular Village Walk (1)

A new potential route has been suggested that could extend the circular walk from 2km to approximately 3.8km.

This could be achieved using the route illustrated in Figure 3 with the new footpaths shown as the dotted red paths.

There are two distinct sections to this new route which are labelled as Track 1 and Track 2 in Figure 3.

Track 1 covers approximately 850m, including a portion along an existing track, and would connect 'The Lines' with the footpath that runs from Norduck Farm to Whitchurch and Hardwick.

However, for this path to be accessed where it joins The Lines there is a section of about 500m along The Lines, as shown by Track 2 in Figure 3, on which the National Speed Limit applies. If the new circular walk were to become widely used, then this stretch of road would pose pedestrian safety concerns due to the bend in the road. Therefore, if the scheme were to become a reality, it would be highly advisable to do so only with a safe footpath running alongside the road (on the edge of the field) as shown in Figure 3.

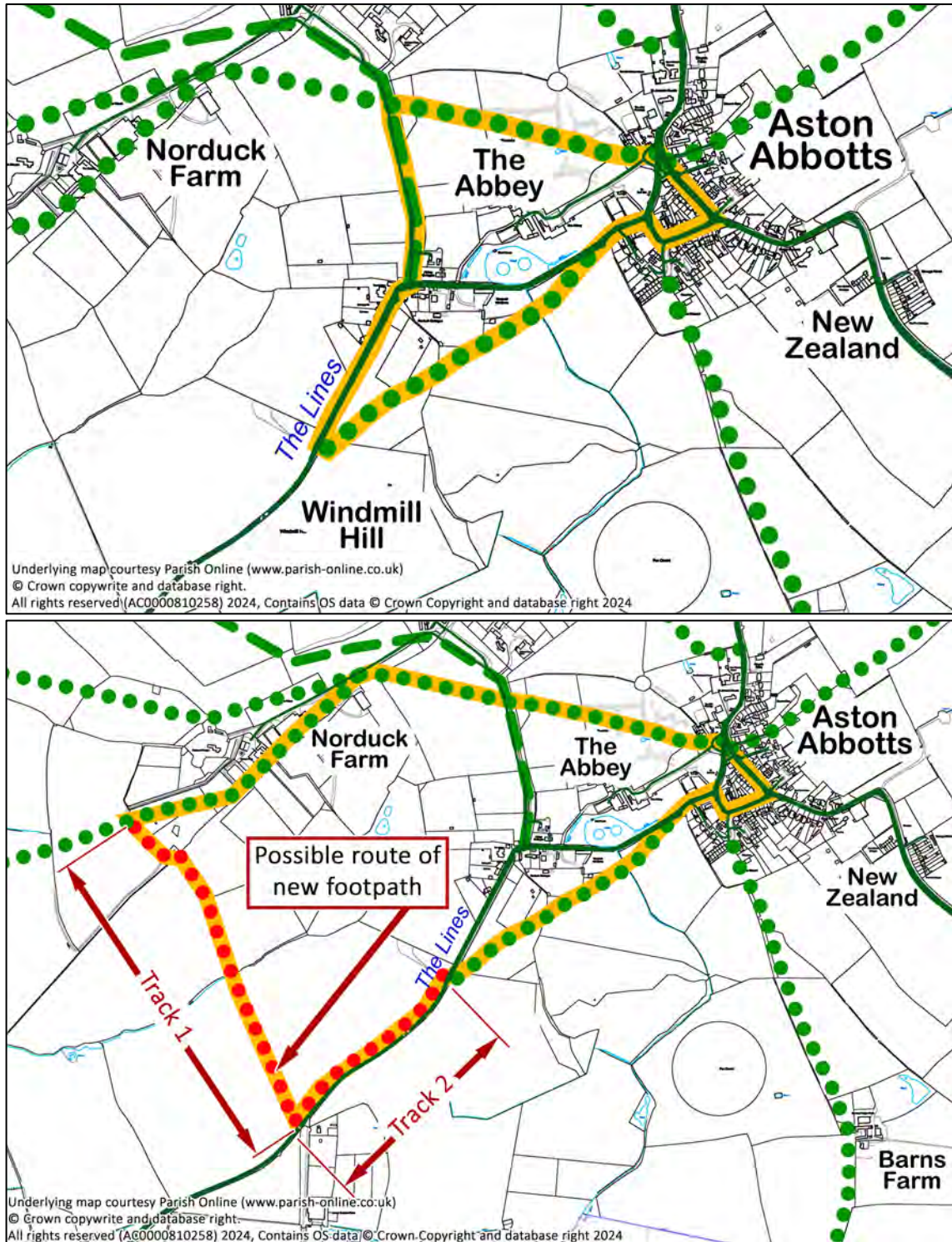


Figure 3 - Extended Circular Walk (1)

5.2. Scheme 2 - Extended Circular Village Walk (2)

This aspirational scheme is similar to the extended circular walk of Scheme 1 but traverses north of the field opposite where the existing footpath joins The Lines instead of running parallel to The Lines. This would produce a circular walk of approximately 3.5km and is shown in Figure 4.

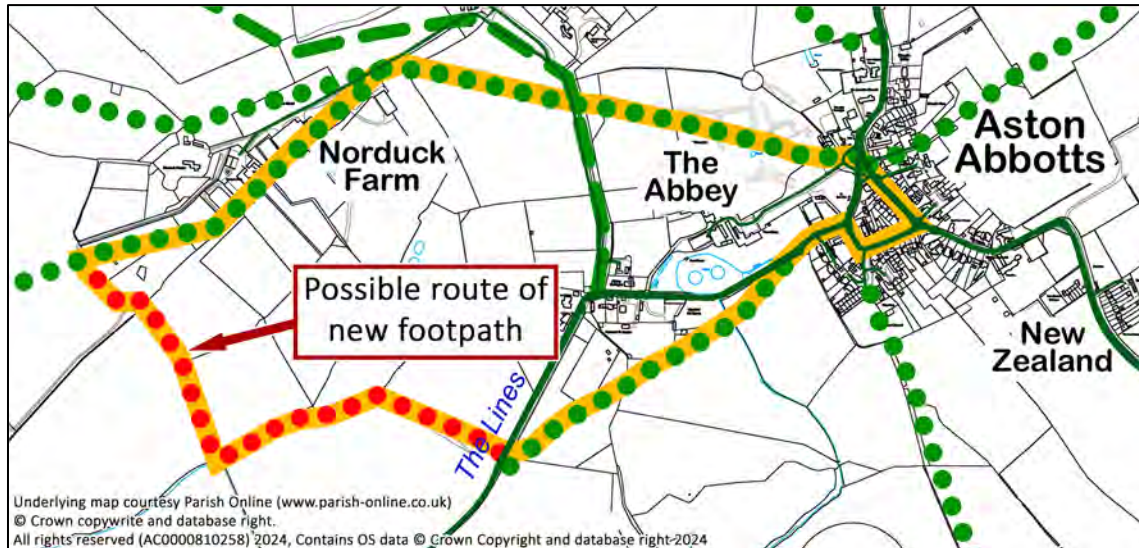


Figure 4 - Extended Circular Walk (2)

5.3. Scheme 3 - New Northern Circular Walk

Another potential route has been suggested which would result in a new circular walk to the north of the village providing a walk of approximately 6km.

This would require an additional footpath of approximately 175m long to the north of the area of Longmore as shown in Figure 5. This footpath would be in open countryside except for a section of approximately 350m along Cublington Road and Chapmans Lea, both of which are within the village boundary. The National Speed Limit Only applies to about 50m of the Cublington Road stretch.

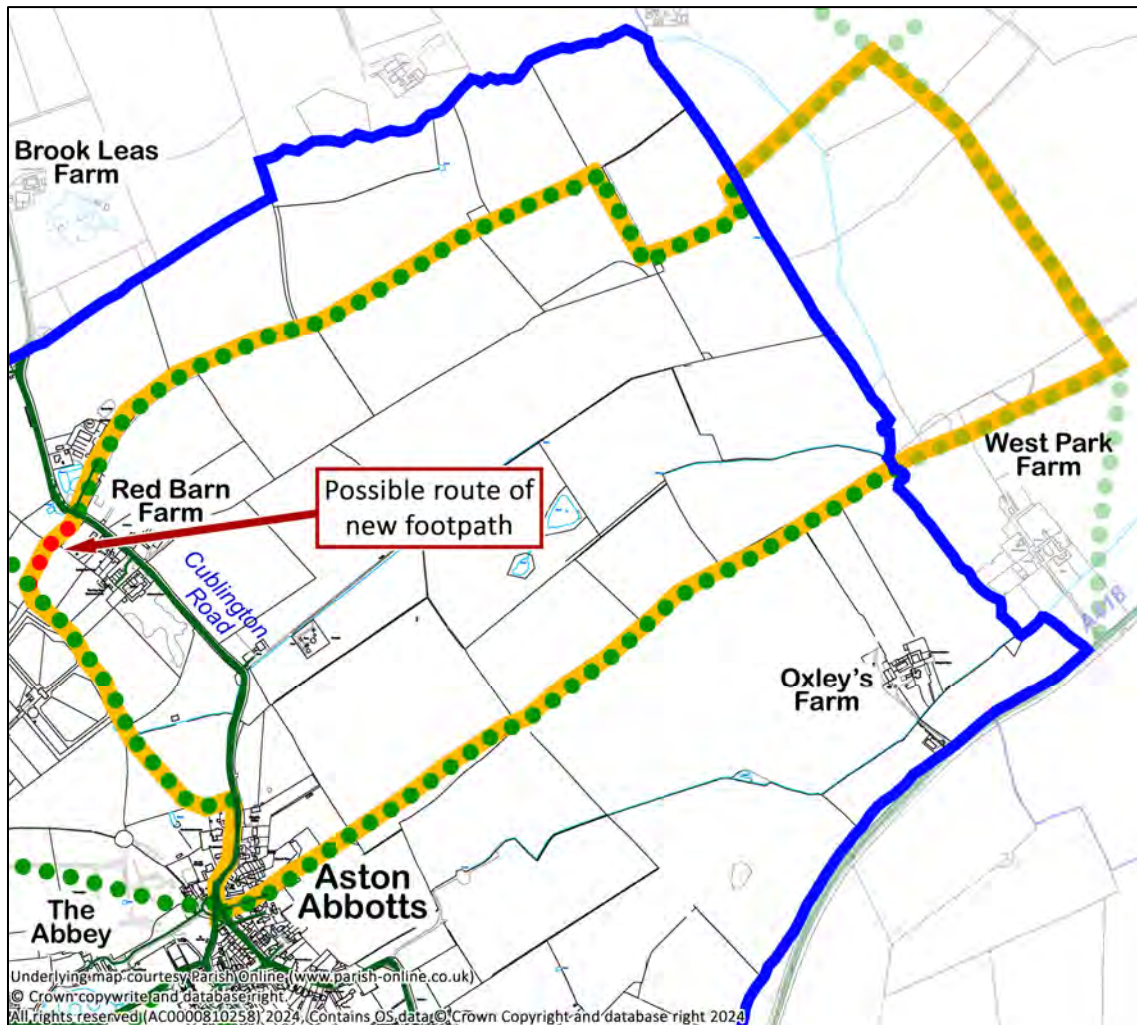


Figure 5 - New Northern Circular Walk

Appendix A – Questionnaire Responses and Comments

*Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns
(barring human error in the transcription).
No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.*

A.1. Questions related to footpaths and bridleways

The 2022 Questionnaire included the map shown in Figure 6 with labels marking each of the footpaths and bridleways.

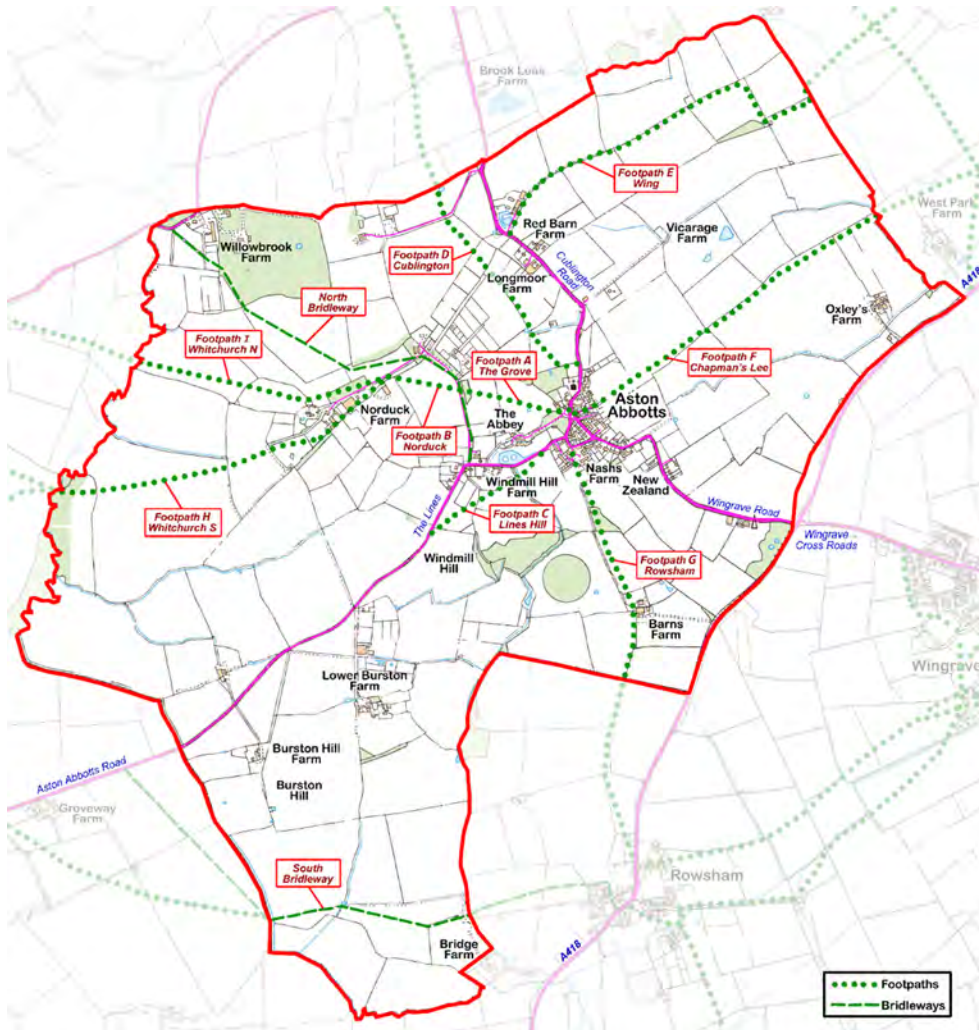


Figure 6 - Map included in the Questionnaire

Question 5.7 and 5.8 of the Questionnaire (see Figure 7 and Figure 8) provided the residents the opportunity to state which footpaths and bridleways they used the most.

5.7	How often do you use the footpaths? Please tick				
	<i>All public footpaths are identified on the map in Figure 1</i>				
Often in summer	Often in winter	Sometimes in summer	Sometimes in winter	Rarely	Never
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If so, which one(s) do you use the most and why?					

Figure 7 - Question 5.7 from the 2022 Questionnaire

5.8 How often do you use the bridleways? *Please tick*
The two bridleways are identified on the map in Figure 1

Often in summer <input type="checkbox"/>	Often in winter <input type="checkbox"/>	Sometimes in summer <input type="checkbox"/>	Sometimes in winter <input type="checkbox"/>	Rarely <input type="checkbox"/>	Never <input type="checkbox"/>
---	---	---	---	------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

If so, which one(s) do you use frequently and why?

Figure 8 - Question 5.8 from the 2022 Questionnaire

A.2. Footpaths Response

Figure 9 below shows the response the question 5.7 of the Questionnaire.

Q5.7 [i] How often do you use the footpaths?


Often in summer	63	43%
Often in winter	51	35%
Sometimes in summer	9	6%
Sometimes in winter	13	9%
Rarely	5	3%
Never	4	3%
No Response	2	[1%]

Figure 9 - Result of question related to footpaths

The following are the responses to the question “*which one(s) do you use the most and why?*”

Village circular walk and the fields at the end of Chapmans Lea. (note a footpath here has gone although shown on the OS map)
All
Use several from village
Footpaths B & C for short walks
Chapmans Lea - Dog walking (footpath F)
Abbey (footpath A)
Lines Hill (footpath C)
Footpath E - Wing
Yet to explore as new to the village
A, B, C, D, F, G
Good selection of directions for walking exercise and enjoyment of the surroundings
It is good to be able to walk out of the village in all directions. Very important for physical and mental wellbeing
Walking to Wingrave
Footpaths A, B, & C,
Footpaths A, C & village walk - exercising
The Abbey Field
All footpaths within the village (checking signage, styes etc

<p>Chapmans Lea -> Wing Old Masters -> Cublington Less often: Recreation Ground -> Rowsham Village Walk Across Grove -> Norduck Farm bridleway</p>
<p>Also often in spring & autumn? All the village footpaths equally</p>
<p>Pavements are very poor. Wheelchair users CANNOT use them</p>
<p>The walk to the farm (from AA along the back of The Abbey)</p>
<p>Paths within the village</p>
<p>Grove Norduck N. Bridleway Footpath Cublington Footpaths C E, F</p>
<p>Behind the church as it can be a circular route to Cublington. It is important to note we'd use more if they were circular walks that avoid the roads.</p>
<p>Chapmans Lea (F) and Red Barn Farm (E) as less muddier. D quite often to go to Unicorn. All the others, a few times a year, as there are often cows to avoid.</p>
<p>All as they offer uncluttered views of the countryside, peace and tranquillity away from all the hustle and bustle of towns which is why people move to villages and don't expect them to join with towns due to continuous building.</p>
<p>All known to use. We can walk them from home without the need to drive and park</p>
<p>When we are looking after someone's dog</p>
<p>Before I had mobility issues I used footpaths A,B,C,F. I have a dog and these footpaths provided lovely walks and views.</p>
<p>All of them. Esp. F, G, D. (to go to Pub in Cublington and farm shop in Rowsham) Footpath G is not well maintained past Barns farm and the dogs approach walkers. Chapmans Lea great circular walk. Lots of people use this one!</p>
<p>G, because it's quiet</p>
<p>A, C, and F - walking</p>
<p>We use all of them. Great shame there are no circular ones that are not to long. Often they are poorly kept and sometimes impassable. Styles are not in good order.</p>
<p>A, B, C, D, F. Easy access and circular</p>
<p>Use most of them because I like walking</p>
<p>Footpaths: A, B, C, D, E, I, H</p>
<p>All of them - we need more Dog walking and personal enjoyment</p>
<p>A, C, F, E, D Use A, C, F the most. Views and convenience</p>
<p>Lines Hill and The Grove are a good distance and safe if by myself. Cublington less often</p>
<p>Through the Abbey to get to the recreational ground, so we don't have to go on the road.</p>
<p>The village walk mostly, but all for recreational/exercise activities</p>
<p>Footpaths F, A, & C</p>

A, B, C, F, D.
G - when the rec is busy we just cut straight through. Woodland area: could definitely do with some maintenance. Path is always overgrown there and in summer the stinging nettles take over the gateways.
Footpath across field toward Weedon and also footpath to Cublington
Around Moat Lane and behind the manor (Abbey) – A Behind the Church to Cublington - D Through the Rec to Wingrave and Chapmans Lea – C, F, B, G
Village walk
Lines Hill - Abbey - circuit. Old Masters - Cublington. Aston Abbots - Hardwick. (A, B, C, D, F often and E rarely).
Abbey Fields
A, B, C, G, F, D Walking ? ? ?
Village walk over the Grove and Lines Hill

Daily exercise
Village walk
All - walking to Wingrave or around the village
D and F – if no cattle to contend with
Footpaths B & I as they are convenient when I am short of time.
1) The circular village walk 2) Path to Cublington 3) We could not use the path to Rowsham from the Recreation Ground as it was deep in mud (Footpath G)
A) The Grove - dog walking F) Chapmans Lea - dog walking C) Lines Hill - Scenic - dog walking D) Cublington - dog walking B) Norduct - scenic - dog walking G) Rowsham - dog walking I) Whitchurch - dog walking E) Wing - dog walking
Mainly footpath F - Chapmans Lea for exercise. Most of the others not usable because of overgrown, muddy or fields full of cows.
A, B, C
Footpaths are OK, as long as walkers keep to them and do not wander off especially dog walkers!!
Village circular walk - for exercise and only circular walk

A.3. Bridleways Response

Figure 10 below shows the response the question 5.8 of the Questionnaire.

Q5.8 [i] How often do you use the bridleways?		
Often in summer	27	25%
Often in winter	21	20%
Sometimes in summer	14	13%
Sometimes in winter	8	7%
Rarely	9	8%
Never	28	26%
No Response	8	[7%]

Figure 10 - Result of question related to bridleways

The following are the responses to the question “**which one(s) do you use the most and why?**”

Near Mason's Wood
All
North Bridleway (Never option also ticked but considered to mean never in winter)
North bridleway - recreational walking
It is the only one in the village to use
Bridleways North and South - horse riding.
Lines Hill
On foot - Norduck Farm/House
For walking, not on horse
Around Norduck Farm
As Above
It is important to note we would love to use them but they are dangerous to get to due to no circular routes and roads.
Both occasionally while out walking.
To Willowbrook Farm and Whitchurch
I frequently use the north bridleway as it starts in the village South bridleway I use sometimes if passing in the car to walk the dog.
North
They do not "join up" - Too much road work. Not enough. Drivers too fast
To Whitchurch Road – good long walk
North bridleway, dog walking
North for running and cycling
Walking toward Egg Farm crossing from Grove Fields
North bridleway to link walk A with Lines Hill
Walking ? ? ?
Daily exercise
Aston Abbotts to Bushmead Road - Circular
North bridleway – a good circular walk coming back via Cublington
N. Bridleway as most convenient to where I live. I do not use it for riding, only walking.
North Bridleway

North Bridleway - dog walking
Usually only North Bridleway

A.4. Comments related to circular walks

In response to various questions, many residents made comments related to additional circular walks. These are listed below:

Question 5.6

Footpaths are good but not equitable maintained by Bucks Council. Bridleways have been allowed to deteriorate in quality despite more local equestrian users. Is it feasible for the north and south bridleways to be linked to make a circular route by using a permit scheme with farms,
Need more circular routes
Paths are great but not great circular routes.

Question 5.7

Behind the church as it can be a circular route to Cublington. It is important to note we'd use more if they were circular walks that avoid the roads.
We use all of them.
Great shame there are no circular ones that are not too long.
Often they are poorly kept and sometimes impassable.
Styles are not in good order.
Village circular walk - for exercise and only circular walk

Question 7.1a

See Map.
Fave view is Lines Hill (path C). Shame there is not a circular walk to include this and avoid using the road. Great views from Chapmans Lea (footpath F) to historically significant Church in Wing

Question 7.2[i]

The Park. Church.
Footpath F Chapmans Lea is a great view to Wing and the best (and only) circular walk from the village under 5km.

Question 9.2[i]

Engage with the Aylesbury Council Plan to improve footpaths and cycle paths. Encourage bikes as a mode of transport by having safe off-road cycle paths through the country side Encourage farmers to allow areas across land (around the edges) for horse riding and footpaths with circular routes and minimal road usage If the red boundary line in Figure 1 could become an orbital footpath or, even better, a cycle path too, that would be excellent.
Linking the footpaths: - Footpath E with Footpath D (a short section to avoid having to use the road) – easy? - Footpath F to the allotment corner. Often used informally by dog walkers; landowners are opposed to this, but if properly negotiated, would be a nice amenity - more a long term aim.



Heritage Assets Evidence Report

Reference: 0182-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

This document provides a brief introduction to Aston Abbots and key features of its to conservation areas (Section 2). Section 3 follows on with a brief history of the village.

Within the village, there are seven listed buildings and, in the wider parish, there is a one other listed building and a scheduled monument. Details of these are provided in Sections 4 and 5.

In addition to the listed buildings, Aston Abbots has numerous Heritage Assets that are highly valued by the community. It was therefore important to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan documents these assets and seeks to preserve them for future generations by affording them the status of Non-Designated Heritage Asset.

The identification of identification of heritage assets was a topic in the 2022 Questionnaire.

As a result of the information gathered from the survey and subsequent information, an assessment was undertaken on eleven potential candidates. As a result of the assessment, one was rejected (Temperance Cottages) which resulted in the following ten heritage assets being selected for assigning the status of Non-Designated Heritage Asset:

1. Tomb of Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross in the churchyard
2. War Memorial in the churchyard
3. The Village Pump in Church Row
4. The Village Hall
5. Lime tree on the village green
6. Finger signpost on the village green
7. Methodist Chapel
8. Overstone Cottages (four terraces 8a through 8d)
9. Lines Hill Gates
10. Ordnance Survey Trig Pillar in the village orchard
11. Church Bells housed in the bell tower

Section 6 explains the methodology used to identify and assess these assets. The description, location and their significance are provided in Section 7.

2. Introduction to Aston Abbots and its Conservation Areas

Aston Abbots today is a far cry from the self-supporting agricultural community of its past. Although much of the surrounding land is still farmed, the growth of mechanised farming methods has left few people directly involved within the industry. A modern-day Astonian could still be a farmer or farm worker, but more likely might be a commuter.

Many of the farms still exist but others have long since been lost, with only their names remaining: Nash's Farm is now a small courtyard development of modern houses built in the 1990s. Home Farm is now a sympathetically restored farmhouse home, but separated from its original lands. Longmoor Farm is residential, with the old barns also having undergone residential conversion.

Over recent decades, there has also been a gradual reduction in village facilities like the bakery, Post Office and the conversion of one of the two pubs into residential properties.

The central part of the village is now largely a Conservation Area as illustrated in Figure 1. The Buckinghamshire Council's appraisal of the conservation area is provided in full in Appendix A.

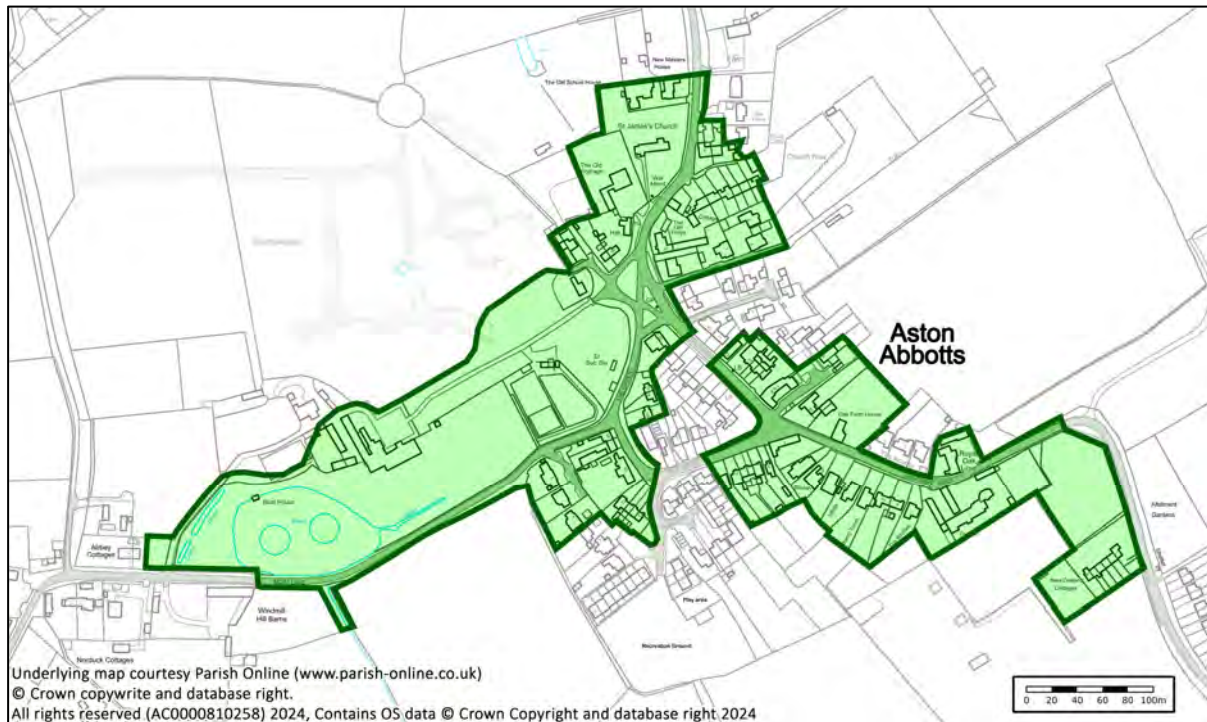


Figure 1 - Conservations Areas

3. History

Aston Abbotts, first recorded as Aston Abbats, was documented in the Domesday Book (1086, as shown on a plaque located on the Church Room). The village name Aston, or Eastun, is Anglo-Saxon for Eastern Estate, was listed as being within in the Saxon Cottesloe Hundred and it recorded 6 villagers, 12 smallholders and a slave as resident. Aston Abbotts an agricultural community was then recorded as part of a monastic manor of 10 Hides (1200 acres) which from 1163 belonged to the Demesnes of St Albans until the dissolution of the Abbeys by Henry V111. The lands were later sold by King Henry to John Lord Russell who later sold them on to Lord William Dormer. The lands later came into the procession a number of owners including Sir William Stanhope, Lord Chesterfield, Lord Overstone and Lady Wantage. Much of the land and the houses were sold to the sitting tenants in 1919 by Lady Wantage.

Located on the southwestern side of the current village is the farm known as Lower Burston; located here was another settlement. Initially an Iron Age settlement, the earthworks/remains of the village of Burston (aka Birdstane,) established by Norsemen are still visible. This village was abandoned in 1488 when the then landowner John Swanfield destroyed 8 ploughs, cleared 400 acres of land and evicted 60 people when he inherited the manor. The local medieval open fields and common land became enclosed as a result of the Enclosure Acts of the late 1790's. Lands were given individual field names and to this day in a few green pastures evidence of the medieval ridge and furrow system of cultivation can be seen i.e. in the area known as Lines Hill. (Further detail available in the publication Aston Abbotts 1000-2000).

Agriculture has been noted as the prime driver of income in Aston Abbotts up to more recent changes to farming methods. As a result, although much of the surrounding land is still farmed modern methods have left few people directly involved within the industry. Today a considerable amount of the local land is also used for equestrian purposes. For a period, lacemaking became a cottage industry for local women in the village and more widely across Buckinghamshire. The local lacemaking industry has also long gone and in recent times so have the village pubs, shop and Post Office.

The Parish has a varied architectural legacy and there remain buildings from several construction periods and styles.

In the centre of the village is a large manor house known as The Abbey, which is a private residence. The main grounds of The Abbey occupy more than ten acres of land to the east of the village green. A building has been on this site since before the Domesday Book.

The Abbey's most notable residents include Sir James Clark Ross and Czechoslovak President Dr Edward Benes. It was Sir James Clark Ross who discovered the North Magnetic Pole in 1831 and completed explorations and mapping of the Antarctic coastline. There remains and Antarctic ice shelf named after him. Within the grounds the 'Moat' (lake) contains two islands named after his expedition ships Erebus and Terror. In November 1940 the Morton Family moved out to allow President Dr Edward Benes to take up residence along with his bodyguards billeted in nearby Nissen huts. Here he conducted his government in exile during his struggle to regain control of his country from the occupying German forces. Winston Churchill was recorded as a visitor here. In 1942 Dr Benes donated a globe to the local school (9). He also gave money for a bus shelter for the local people of Aston Abbotts in gratitude for village hospitality. During the 2nd World War, the village was bombed on 21 September 1940, causing a fire and 8 craters.

There remains very close links with Czech Republic and Slovakian communities. Recently, representatives of the Czech Republic and Slovakian embassies unveiled a history board on the village green dedicated to the story of the Czechoslovak Community in Aston Abbots during The War. The story is presented in English, Czech and Slovak (Figure 2).

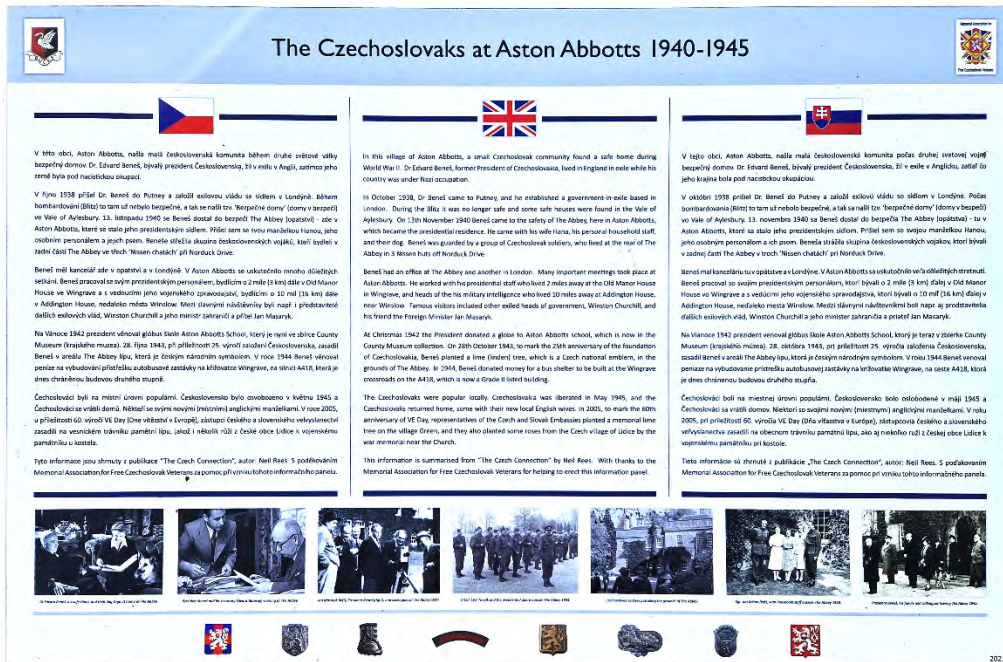


Figure 2 - History Board on the Village Green covering the Czechoslovak Story

The village green is also home to a second history board showing historic landmarks within Aston Abbots (Figure 3).



Figure 3 - History Board on the Village Green show Historic Landmarks

4. Listed Buildings

The most impressive of the eight listed buildings is The Abbey which is a large manor house. It is of late 18th century, altered early C19 and possibly with an earlier core.

A number of 17-18th Century iconic timber framed listed buildings including Church Farmhouse, The Old Cottage (1 The Green), Oak Farm House, Home Farm and the Royal Oak Pub.

The Old Cottage which is part 15C, was also the location of the village shop from 1932 (operating for 80 years). On the land opposite the shop the local Blacksmith was located. The Bull and Butcher operated as a public house and bakery (this building is now apartments). The Royal Oak is now closed following the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020, with no plans for it to reopen.

The Church of St James, does by reason of its scale and elevated setting, command the northern approach to the village. It is Grade 11 listed and dates back to 13th Century but was largely rebuilt by G.E. Street in 1865 although it retained the fifteenth century tower. It consists of a nave, chancel and oblong tower which houses a clock and 6 bells. One of the stained-glass windows is dedicated to Sir James and Ann Clark Ross; they are both buried within a tomb in the churchyard.

Alongside the Church and the adjacent Old Vicarage, stands a magnificent line of beech and sycamore trees.

Another listed building, called Lower Burston Farmhouse, is located about 1km southwest of the village.

In total, there are eight listed buildings, the location of which are shown in Figure 4 and Historic England listing details are provided in Appendix B.

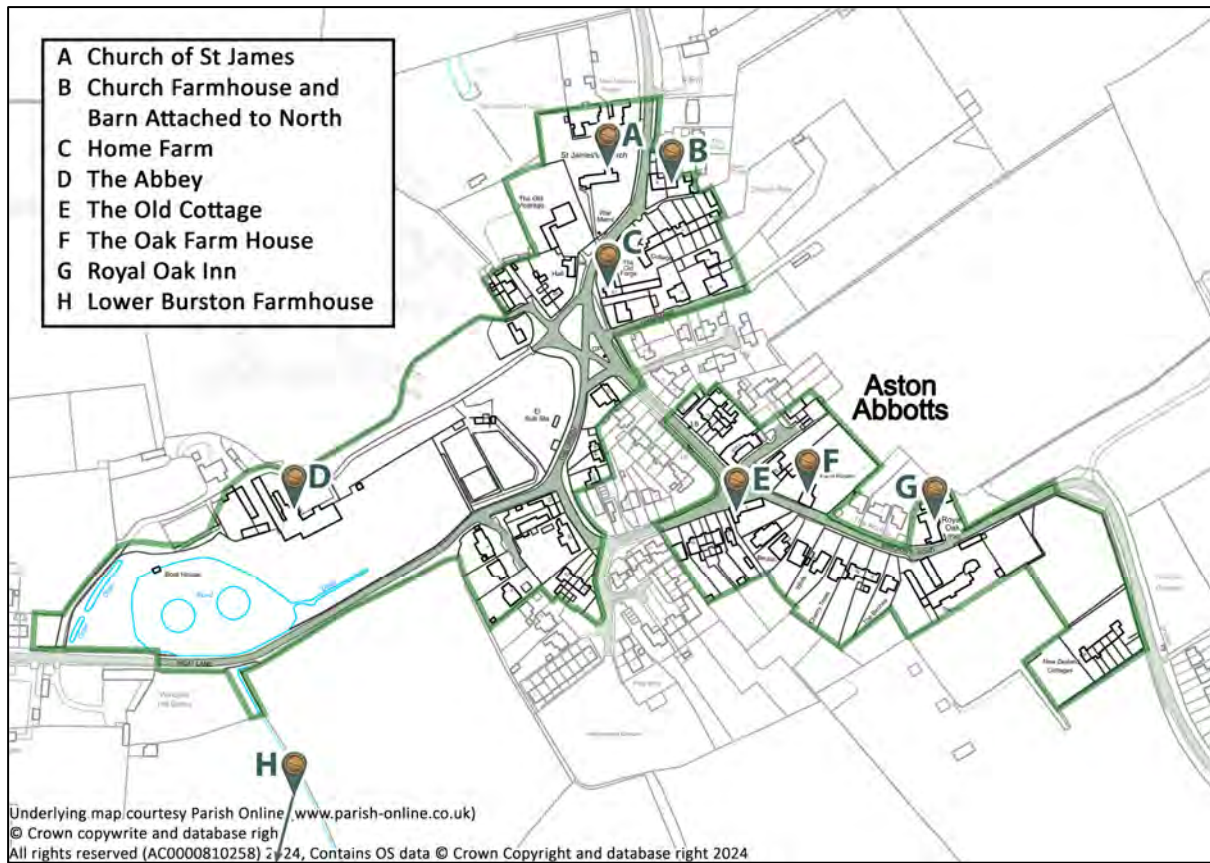


Figure 4 - Location of Listed Buildings

5. Scheduled Monument

Just to the east of Lower Burston Farm lies the medieval village of Burston which Historic England list as a Scheduled Monument (See Appendix C for details of the listing)



Figure 5 - Aerial View of the medieval village of Burston

6. Methodology to Assess Non-Designated Heritage Assets

6.1. Identification of candidate heritage assets

The Questionnaire circulated to residents in 2022 asked a specific question on how highly the residents valued the heritage of the village. This question provided the opportunity for the residents to identify specific features that they valued the most and a total of 14 features were identified which formed the basis for the candidate list. The relevant responses to the survey are provided in Appendix D.

Finally, and since the survey, a further 10 candidates have been put forward for designation.

An initial review of the 24 potential candidates was undertaken to determine if there should be assessed. Seven were already listed buildings so were excluded from the assessment.

For two of the features, the ridge & furrow fields and the churchyard were not considered appropriate for designation as heritage assets. The ridge and furrow fields are agricultural land, and the churchyard is to be protected by way of designating it as a local green space.

In relation to the churchyard, there were two specific features within the churchyard which were considered worthy of specific recognition. These are the War Memorial and the Tomb of Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross. It should be noted that there are two features within the Church of Saint James which are highly valued by the community.

There were also two features within the church which were identified, these were the bells and clock housed in the tower. It was considered that the church clock was part of the fabric of the church and the listed status of the church would provide the necessary preservation and safeguarding. Although the same could be said for the church bells, it was thought that they may have some specific historic significances so were including in the candidate list for assessment.

Finally, there were two features that had been identified as potential candidates which were the Erebus and Terror islands and the Yew tree planted by President Benes which are within the grounds of the Abbey. These two features are well documented and have historic significance however, they are within private grounds and not visible from public spaces. It was therefore considered that it was not appropriate to include them as candidate heritage assets.

The result of the initial review and the findings is shown in Table 1 on the next page. A total of twelve buildings or features were classified as candidates for assessment.

Table 1 - Initial Review Findings (candidates selected for assessment highlighted)

Asset	Source	Initial Review Findings
Abbey House and grounds	Questionnaire	Listed Building
Church Bells	Steering Group	Candidate
Church Clock	Steering Group	In listed building
Church Farm House	Questionnaire	Listed Building
Churchyard	Questionnaire	Local Green Space
Commemorative lime tree on the village green	Steering Group	Candidate
Erebus and Terror islands (in The Abbey grounds)	Steering Group	On private land
Finger signpost on the village green	Steering Group	Candidate
Lime tree planted by President Benes (in The Abbey grounds)	Steering Group	On private land
Lines Hill Gates	Showcase Event	Candidate
Lower Burston - site of medieval settlement	Questionnaire	Listed Building
Methodist Chapel	Questionnaire	Candidate
Oak Farm	Questionnaire	Listed Building
Ordnance Survey Trig Pillar in the Orchard	Steering Group	Candidate
Overstone Cottages	Questionnaire	Candidate
Pump in Church Row	Questionnaire	Candidate
Ridge C furrow fields	Questionnaire	Agricultural land
Royal Oak pub	Questionnaire	Listed Building
St James Church	Questionnaire	Listed Building
Temperance Cottages on The Green	Steering Group	Candidate
The Old Cottage	Questionnaire	Listed Building
Tomb of Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross	Steering Group	Candidate
Village Hall	Questionnaire	Candidate
War memorial	Questionnaire	Candidate

6.2. Criteria

When assessing the suitability of the assets, the following criteria was used:

- **Historical Significance:** This involves assessing the historical importance of buildings, structures, sites, or landscapes within the village. This could include their age, associations with significant events, or connections to historically important figures.
- **Architectural Merit:** Evaluation of the architectural quality and character of buildings and structures. This may include consideration of their design, materials, construction techniques, and aesthetic value.
- **Cultural Value:** Understanding the cultural significance of certain features to the local community, including any traditions, customs, or practices associated with them.
- **Community Importance:** Assessing the role that certain features play in fostering community identity and cohesion. This could involve considering their use for community gatherings, events, or as landmarks that contribute to a sense of place.

Section 7 provides a description for each of the assets and their assessment against the above criteria.

7. Assessment

This section describes the candidate heritage assets and summarises the result of the assessment. The assets are listed in the Table 2 and their locations are shown in Figure 6.

Table 2 - List of Candidates for assessment

Candidate	Report Subsection	Map Reference (see Figure 6)
Tomb of Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross	7.1	1
War memorial	7.2	2
Pump in Church Row	7.3	3
Village Hall	7.4	4
Commemorative lime tree on the village green	7.5	5
Finger signpost on the village green	7.6	6
Methodist Chapel	7.7	7
Overstone Cottages (four terraces)	7.8	8a - 8d
Ordnance Survey Trig Pillar in the Orchard	7.9	9
Lines Hill Gates	7.10	10
Church Bells	7.11	11
Temperance Cottages on The Green	7.12	12

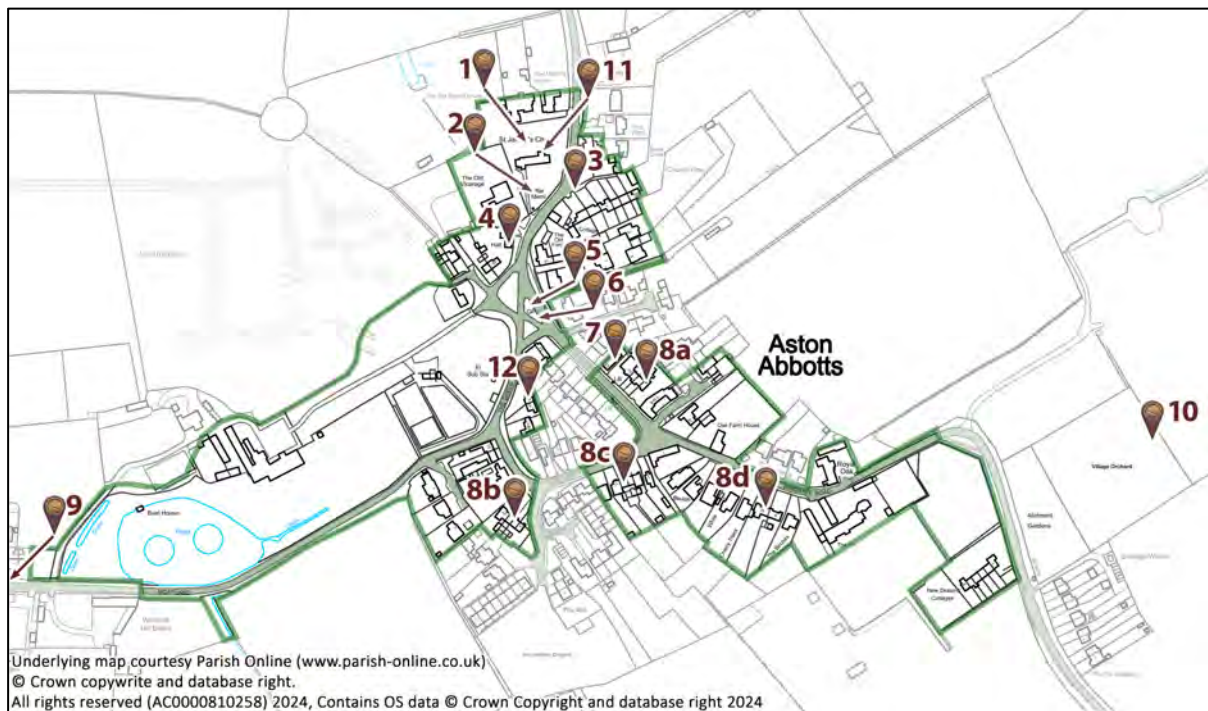


Figure 6 - Location of Candidate Non-Designated Heritage Assets

7.1. Tomb of Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross

The tomb of Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross and his wife Lady Ann Ross lies in the churchyard. Following his expeditions in both the Arctic and Antarctic Sir James Clark Ross settled in Aston Abbots in 1845 with his wife Anne. She died in 1857 and following a period of despondency he died in 1862. He was buried alongside his wife in the churchyard of St James the Great. This historic tomb can still be seen to the rear of the church.

The tomb of Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross and his wife Lady Ann Ross is historically significant to the village.



Figure 7 - Tomb of Rear Admiral Sir James Clark Ross

7.2. War Memorial Located in the Churchyard

The war memorial was erected in 1919 to record the names of eleven men who died during the First World War and later the one parishioner who died during the Second World War. It is a simple rough-hewn stone Latin Cross on a plinth and continues to be the site for annual remembrance with the laying of a poppy wreath. Providing a marker of historical and cultural significance is very important to the community.



Figure 8 - War Memorial Located in the Churchyard

7.3. The Village Pump

The Village Pump is located on Church Row and was restored in 1993. Many properties in Aston Abbots had their own wells and pumps and some still exist on private property. This example is one that remains on public land and provides a good example of what life was like before the introduction of mains water and is hence considered historically significant.



Figure 9 - Village Pump

7.4. The Village Hall

The Village Hall. Built in the late 19th century, the Village Hall (previously known as the Church Room) has long since been the primary function room for Aston Abbots. It is owned the church and is leased to the Aston Abbots Village Hall Trust which is a charitable trust.

The village Hall has a very high cultural value and is very important to the community.



Figure 10 - Village Hall

7.5. Lime Tree

Lime tree planted on the village green by Czech ambassador and the Slovak deputy ambassador in May 2005 as part of the 60th Anniversary of VE Day celebration and in recognition of the part that Aston Abbots played in hosting the exiled President of Czechoslovakia Dr Edward Benes during the Second World War.

The Lime Tree on the Village Green has considerable Historical Significance.



Figure 11 – Lime Tree on the Village Green

7.6. Finger Signpost on the Village Green

The finger signpost on the village green is a good example of a traditional cast-metal signpost. It is much valued by residents who would not want it replaced with a modern equivalent and is considered as having architectural merit, albeit on a small scale.

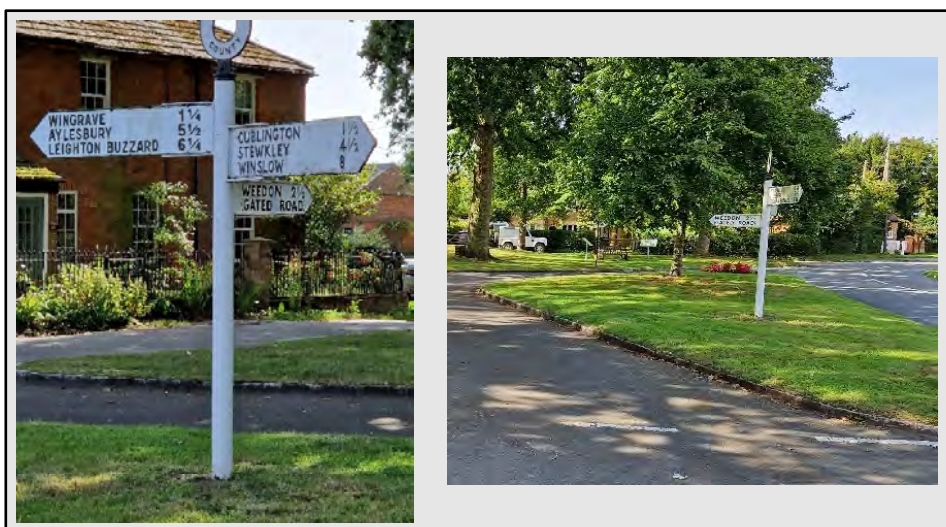


Figure 12 – Finger Signpost on the Village Green

7.7. Methodist Chapel

Primitive Methodist Chapel built in 1862 is located on The Green has been converted to residential use and is in private ownership.

The Primitive Methodist magazine for 1863 contains an account by S Turner Junior of the opening of a later chapel.

“A chaste, comfortable, and substantial sanctuary, has been erected in connection with our society in this place. It is, in the clear, 28 by 20 feet, 13 feet high, and lighted by 6 windows. The door, and the 2 front windows, are circular headed, with neat projecting arches of white bricks. The inside has a modern appearance, the pews and rostrum are stained, and the building is an improvement and ornament to the village.

The opening services were commenced on Sunday, Nov. 2nd, 1862, when the Bev. S. Turner preached morning and afternoon in the new chapel...”

(source: www.myprimitivemethodists.org.uk)

The Methodist Chapel is considered to have both historical significance and architectural merit.



Figure 13 – Methodist Chapel, The Green

7.8. Overstone Cottages

There are four Overstone Cottages (four terraces, 8a to 8d) which are in private ownership.

Samuel Lloyd, later Lord Overstone, was a self-made banker who owned over 30,000 acres in seven counties. He bought The Abbey in 1848 and he and his daughter, Lady Wantage, retained the property until the 1920.

Several blocks of 'Overstone' cottages were built (by Lord Overstone) just after the middle of the 19th century. These generally comprised a block of four cottages in one building, each including two main living rooms, two bedrooms, and a substantial garden plot (for growing vegetables).

Upon inheriting Lord Overstone's estate his daughter sold off much of the land and the houses to the sitting tenants in 1919, including the Overstone Cottages.

Given that there are four terraces of the Overstone Cottages, and they have both historical significance and architectural merit, it is deemed appropriate to single out these buildings from the numerous other architecturally interesting buildings in Aston Abbotts. In particular, they typify a key architectural feature of the many of the buildings in the village: the use of light-coloured bricks around windows and doors.



Figure 14 – Overstone Cottages

7.9. Ordnance Survey Trig Pillar.

This is an obsolete Trig Pillar that used to be located on Lines Hill. When the Village Orchard was established, there was an opportunity to relocate the Trig Pillar to a prime location in the orchard and has since become a local landmark and has cultural value.



Figure 15 – Ordnance Survey Trig Pillar in the Village Orchard

7.10. Lines Hill Gates

Only one gate remains out of the four that used to be in the road to Weedon which is at the point where The Lines becomes Moat Lane. It is recorded by a resident that, c1930's:

“All the gates in those days used to be shut, so if we saw a car or horse and cart coming along, we'd open the gate and he would give us a penny. Mind you, there was nothing like the traffic there is now – we probably only had thruppence a day.”

Nowadays, it is unlikely that drivers will find the gate shut (it is believed that the last time round 2005, when a local farmer was herding sheep).

Although there is only one gate remaining, they are still referred to as Lines Hill gates in the plural since the gate posts of a second gate still remain at the bottom of Lines Hill where the road becomes Aston Abbots Road.

The 'Lines Hill gates' remain a valued heritage feature for the residents.



Figure 16 – Gate at the end of Moat Lane



Figure 17 – Gateposts at the bottom of Lines Hill

7.11. Church Bells

The Bells, housed in the Church of St James Bell Tower, date from the 16th Century. By 1552 there were three bells in the Church and nowadays there are six, the most recent having been added in 1740. The treble bell, which is known as the Putnam Bell, bears the inscription “Given by Wim. H. Putnam of Hartford U.S.A. in memory of his ancestor John Putnam of Aston Abbots and Salem Mass. About 1640”. Members of the Putnam family from Massachusetts and Canada still visit the village to view this bell (the most recent visit took place in 2023).

The bells are rung regularly; as well as Sunday Church services they are often rung for special occasions, e.g. the opening of the village fete and weddings. The Late Queen Elizabeth’s Platinum Jubilee and her funeral and the Coronation of King Charles III are amongst the most recent special occasions when the bells have been rung.

Though these bells are integral to the fabric of the Church, designated as a grade II listed building, their distinctive history and age merit recognition as a separate heritage asset.

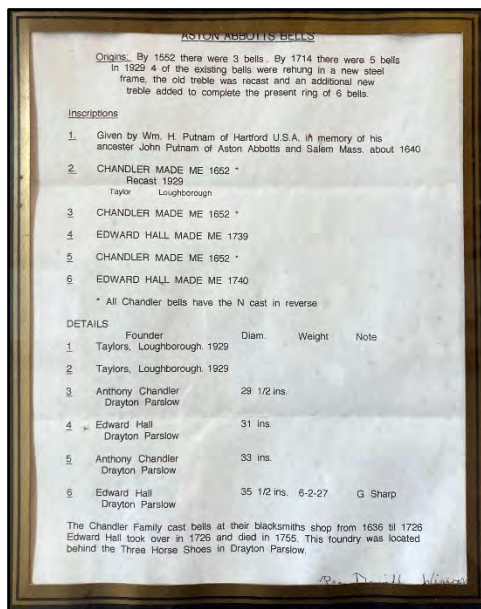


Figure 18 – Information board in the ringing chamber

7.12. Temperance Cottages

Temperance Cottages are a semidetached building with both properties being in private ownership. After due consideration, it was decided not to include this building as a Non-designate Heritage Asset. From its name, it may have had specific significance but, historically, there appears to be little documented. It would therefore be difficult to justify why this building should be included.

Appendix A Buckinghamshire Council's Conservation Area Appraisal

**The following Conservation Area Appraisal was obtained
from the Buckinghamshire Councils website at:**

<https://buckinghamshire-gov-uk.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/CA-Aston-Abbotts.pdf>

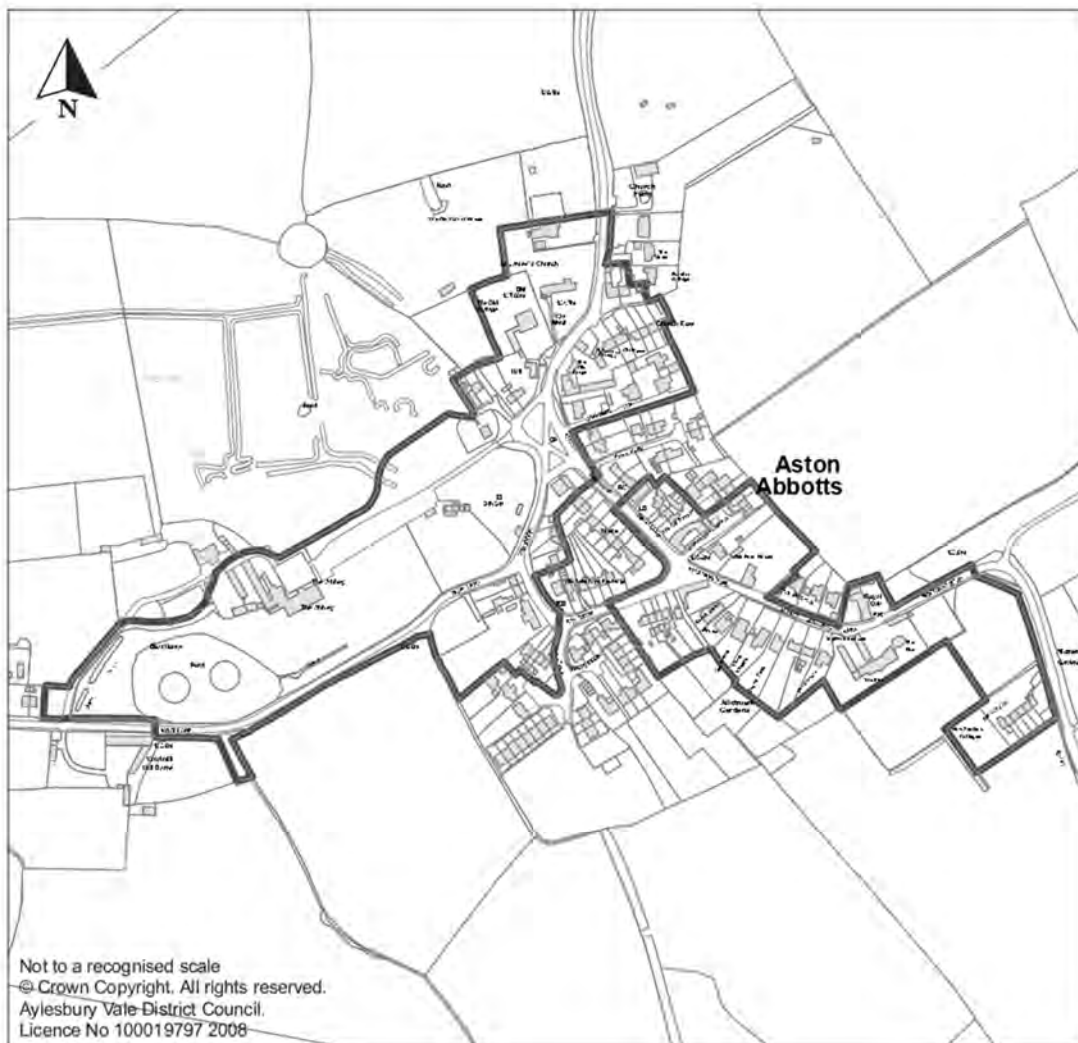
ASTON ABBOTTS CONSERVATION AREA

Designated 19th July 1989

Aston Abbots is situated on elevated ground half a mile west of the A418 Aylesbury to Leighton Buzzard trunk road, five miles north north west of Aylesbury. Originally dating from pre-Norman Conquest times, the present village is essentially Victorian in character and is a relatively good example of a nineteenth century “High Farming” settlement.

The village is broadly triangular in shape and centres upon the original Green, known simply as The Green, which is now infilled with housing and a smaller Green immediately north of The Green. The village is entered from one of three roads: Cublington Road, from the north; Moat Lane, from the south west; and Wingrave Road from the south east.

The northern entrance, along with the winding hedgerow lined Cublington Road, enters between the twin listed buildings of Church Farm and the Church of St. James. The tight enclosure afforded by the tall hedgerows in the lane gives way to iron railings in front of the Old School House and a one metre high, brick retaining wall around the elevated site of the Church.



The Church, (which is Grade II* listed), does by reason of its scale and elevated setting, command the northern approach to the village. Although retaining its fifteenth century tower, the remainder of the Church was rebuilt by G.E. Street in 1865. Alongside the Church and the adjacent Old Vicarage, stands a magnificent line of beech and sycamore trees.

Fine townscape views are obtained between the Church and the thatched, half timbered Church Farm, of a group of Victorian dwellings dated 1854, comprising The Old Forge and two terraces of former labourer's cottages known as The Haven, Cloisters and Church Row.

Turning south westerly from Cublington Road, the road opens out to reveal what remains open of The Green. It is here that some of the finest townscape views in the village are obtained of: the entrance to The Abbey, with its thatched gatehouse; the former Chapel, erected in 1861 but now converted into a pair of dwellings; a further block of Victorian cottages and Home Farm. This Green is enclosed by neat box hedges and contains a number of fine trees.

The bulk of the former green has been infilled with modern dwelling houses but despite this, its outer ring retains much of its essentially Victorian character. Three blocks of distinctive red brick terraces, each dated 1854, face inward across The Green, as do the similarly distinctive properties The Old House, The Methodist Chapel and The Bull and Butcher Public House. Perhaps the most striking of all properties fronting The Green is that at the junction of Wingrave Road, the fifteenth century thatched and timber framed Old Cottage, part of which contains the village shop.

The south east approach, along Wingrave Road is again characterized by wide grass verges and neat hedgerows. Having passed a small ribbon of modern dwelling houses on the right, ones vision is attracted to another terrace of Victorian cottages known collectively as New Zealand and its backdrop of magnificent sycamore and copper beech trees. The road then turns left to reveal The Royal Oak, a part thatched and timbered seventeenth century public house. Opposite The Royal Oak, behind a tall and imposing brick wall and two very fine fir trees, is The Firs with its stable yard and workers cottages. Swinging right towards The Green there is, on the left, another of the Victorian terraces built in 1854 and on the right is the partly thatched Oak Farm House.

The south western approach, along Moat Lane, affords fine commanding views south and south east over the Vale of Aylesbury towards the Chiltern escarpment. In similarity to both of the other approach roads into the village, Moat Lane is bounded on either side by hedgerows, with the exception of a small stretch on the southern side of Windmill Hill Farm where the enclosure is provided by a brick wall. The hedging along the southern side of the road tends to be lower and less dense than that on the northern side, which defines the southern boundary to the extensively landscaped and private ground of The Abbey (formerly known as Aston House). Originally the country seat of the Abbot of St Albans, only geometrically shaped earthworks indicate the site of the original buildings. The present house is a Grade II listed building built in the late eighteenth century and subsequently altered in the nineteenth century. During the second World War, it was the official residence of the exiled President of Czechoslovakia Dr Edward Benes.

Off the southern end of The Green is a short, cul-de-sac known as Bricstock which leads to the Recreational Ground, across which are fine views over the Vale of Aylesbury. A couple of modern dwellings and a terrace of old people's bungalows are sited at the end of this road.

February 2008

2

Appendix B Listed Buildings: Historic England Listings

B.1 Church of Saint James

Historic England Listing

Heritage Category: Listed Building
Grade: II*
List Entry Number: 1116023
Date first listed: 17-Oct-1966
List Entry Name: Church of St James

Description

Parish church. W. tower is late C15 - early C16, remainder rebuilt 1865-6 by G.E. Street. Rubble stone, the tower with roughly dressed blocks. Tiled roofs with decorative ridges and stone coped gables. Tower, nave, S. porch, chancel, vestry. Tower has square stair turret at S.E. corner, diagonal buttresses, restored battlemented parapet and worn plinth. Bell chamber has paired openings to W. and E., and single lights to N., and S. W. side has door and 3-light traceried window. All tower openings have 4-centred heads. Remainder is in Decorated style with traceried windows. Nave has 2 3-light windows to N. and 3 2-light windows to S. S. porch is steeply gabled with 2-centred arch. Chancel has one bay of 2-light windows and 3-light window to E., all with some re-set old masonry. Lowside window to S. has pair of cusped lancets. Interior: triple chamfered tower arch, simple chamfered chancel arch. Nave has C19 arch-braced collar and king-post roof. Restored C15 piscina and octagonal font. Chest dated 1695. Other fittings C19.

Web Page Links

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1116023>

British Listed Buildings

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101116023-church-of-st-james-aston-abbotts>

B.2 Church Farmhouse and Barn Attached to North

Historic England Listing

Heritage Category: Listed Building
Grade: II
List Entry Number: 1116024
Date first listed: 05-Jul-1984
List Entry Name: Church Farmhouse and Barn Attached to North

Description

House. C17, altered and extended. Timber frame with thin brick infill, whitewashed to N. Gable to street rebuilt in brick late C19 with cusped bargeboards. Thatched roof, hipped at far end over C19 extension. 2 intermediate chimneys, that to left rendered and with grouped shafts, single brick shaft to right. 2 storeys and attic, 3 original bays. Second bay much rebuilt to S. with C20 brick infill. Irregular leaded casements with C19 sash to centre of first floor. Board door between right-hand bays. Fire insurance plaque in centre bay. Lean-to to right. Gable to street has C20 paired leaded casement to right of C20 door, and barred horizontal sliding sash windows to first floor and attic. C19 single bay extension to left with similar casements. C18 2-

bay barn to far left along street is of blackened rubble stone, brick and weatherboard with thatch roof.

Web Page Links

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1116024>

British Listed Buildings

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101116024-church-farmhouse-and-barn-attached-to-north-aston-abbotts>

B.3 Home Farm, No. 61 Including Farmhouse and Outbuildings Attached To Rear

Historic England Listing

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1088107

Date first listed: 30-Jul-2002

List Entry Name: Home Farm, No. 61 Including Farmhouse and Outbuildings Attached to Rear

Description

House with attached cottage and outbuildings/stabling to rear. C18 and early-C19, with later alterations. Brick farmhouse with wood sash windows and tile M-shaped roof with brick stacks. Attached timber-framed and brick cottage, and brick outbuildings/stabling to rear both with tile roof. PLAN: House of 2 parallel ranges, that to front extends an additional bay with integral loft, and long range of outbuildings/stabling extends eastward from south end.

EXTERIOR: WEST elevation of Farmhouse, 2-storeys and 2 parts: a range of 3 window bays flanked with endstacks to right, and additional bay to left incorporating loft. To ground floor, a pair of sashes with sidelights flanking central entrance of 4-panel door with rectangular fanlight within architrave. Entrance porch with wood pointed-arch roof above wrought-iron trellis. Three 6-over-6 sash windows to first floor of house range. In loft bay to left, ground floor blind window with keyblock and 4-pane sash below first floor blind window. NORTH elevation of 2 gables, that to right advanced with loft bay and incorporating Flemish bond brickwork with burned headers and segmental arch headed window; that to left with central stack in gable. EAST elevation comprises rear of the 2 parallel ranges. First floor loft door to loft bay in the main range, and several openings to rear range: from right to left a door, 4-panel segmental arch headed leaded-light window, 6-over-6 sash at ground floor, and 3-light and 2-light leaded windows with segmental arch heads at first floor. The cottage, outbuilding and stabling range extends eastward from this elevation. SOUTH elevation with adjacent gables, each with brick stacks and raised brick wall to valley. Gable range to right with 4 windows, 2 multi-pane casements beneath segmental arch to first floor above similar, that to left replaced in C20. To east of farmhouse range, the cottage, outbuilding and stabling extend in line. Cottage with 3-light leaded casement at first floor, C20 door and pair of 3-light segmental arch headed casements at ground floor. Outbuilding with 1 door to centre of range and mostly Flemish bond with burned headers to lower part. Continuous wall to eastern end with no openings and later outshut. NORTH elevation of cottage, outbuilding and stabling range with multiple openings. To cottage, 3-light leaded window to first floor and C20 door below in blocked wide segmental arch. Ridge

stack marks division with outbuilding. Burned brick horizontal banding throughout elevation, arranged more closely near the top of the wall. Door with striped segmental arch head. Stable door below take-in door to centre of range, flanked by pairs of multi-pane sliding sashes. Ventilation holes in brickwork arranged in diamond pattern, one section now interrupted by a later window. North wall at east end probably re-built later-C19 with 3 openings each under segmental arches: single light window, wide entrance and 6-pane window. East end with steep gable and loft door.

INTERIOR: Farmhouse entrance to wide hall with clay tile floor and straight stair to rear with stick balusters and turned newel springing from foliate base. To right and left, front rooms with 3-panel shutters and architraves to sash windows and wide 4-panel doors. That to right with open segmental arch headed brick fireplace flanked by arched niches, that to left with cast-iron fireplace with oxblood tiles and built-in cupboards. 4-panel doors to right and left rear rooms that to left with wide open brick fireplace and opening to farmyard, that to right opening to the rear range. To first floor, stick balusters continue to landing. 4 bedrooms each with wood fireplace with iron grates, some earlier C19; sash windows and 4-panel doors. Extended bay to north with first floor loft of 2 bays with staggered and tenoned purlin roof with ridge board. Perpendicular range extends eastward with an C18 timber-framed domestic building with plank doors and plank panelling enclosing the stair at first floor, and wood and cast-iron fireplaces to ground and first floor rooms. Outbuilding and stabling range altered at ground floor for kennels, 3 heavy queen-post trusses with tenoned purlins, then 2 later queen post trusses with ridge board.

Web Page Links

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1088107>

British Listed Buildings

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101088107-home-farm-no-61-including-farmhouse-and-outbuildings-attached-to-rear-aston-abbotts>

B.4 The Abbey

Historic England Listing

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1116025

Date first listed: 17-Oct-1966

List Entry Name: The Abbey

Description

Large house. Late C18, altered early C19, possibly with an earlier core. Render, hipped slate roofs, brick chimneys. Parapet, first floor band course, irregular lengths of upper band courses and sill courses 2 storeys, S. front of 11 bays. 3 central bays are slightly projecting with dentilled base to parapet, barred sash windows to first floor, and round-headed similar sashes in slight arched recesses to ground floor. Impost band between arches. Similar arched windows in bay to right of central section and between outer left-hand bays 2 bays to left of centre have barred sashes flanking French doors, all under moulded pediment. Remainder has barred sashes, the outer pairs of bays slightly projecting and lower. N. front is irregular with front door in central

canted projection, and service wing projecting to right. Late C19 block at N. end of service wing has shaped gable with diaper brick patterns and roundel.

Web Page Links

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1116025>

British Listed Buildings

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101116025-the-abbey-aston-abbotts>

B.5 1 The Green (The Old Cottage)

Historic England Listing

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1320159

Date first listed: 05-Jul-1984

List Entry Name: 1 The Green

Description

House and shop. C17-early C18. Timber frame with whitewashed brick infill, one panel herringbone. Thatched roof, hipped to right; 2 intermediate brick chimneys. One storey and attic, 6 bays Bays 2, 3 and 4 originally lower, now with raised eaves 3 bays to left have irregular barred wooden windows to ground floor, that in second bay with 9 x 3 small panes. C20 door to left of third bay. Bay 4 is blank. 2 bays to right have C20 3-light shop windows and central C20 door. Attic windows to rear Rear mostly rebuilt in whitewashed brick C18-C19, with slight gabled projection to right.

Web Page Links

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1320159>

British Listed Buildings

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101320159-1-the-green-aston-abbotts>

B.6 Oak Farm House

Historic England Listing

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1320160

Date first listed: 05-Jul-1984

List Entry Name: OAK FARM HOUSE

Description

House. Original L-plan building is probably C17-C18, with mid C19 extensions to rear angle and to far gable. Red brick to front, right gable rendered, possibly over timber frame. Thatched roof, brick chimney to right, C17-early C18 brick chimney to side of rear wing. 1½ storeys, 2 bays.

Leaded casements, 3-light in thatch and to ground floor of right bay, 4-light to ground floor left. Ground floor and upper right-hand windows have segmental heads, those to left have older diamond glazing. Central flush-panelled door with segmental head. Mid C19 bay to left is of chequer brick with dentil eaves and tiled roof, and has 2 storeys.

Web Page Links

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1320160>

British Listed Buildings

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101320160-oak-farm-house-aston-abbotts>

B.7 The Royal Oak Inn

Historic England Listing

A Grade II Listed Building

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1116027

Date first listed: 25-Sep-1951

List Entry Name: The Royal Oak Inn

Description

Public house. C16-C17. Timber frame with curved braces, whitewashed brick and plaster infill, and blackened brick plinth. Thatch roof, half-hipped to street. Brick chimneys to right and between left-hand bays. 1½ storeys, the first floor jettied over rebuilt ground floor at street gable end. 3 bays. Irregular barred wooden casements, C20 door in left bay. Half-timbered porch with lean-to tiled roof to right. C18-C19 brick cross wing to far end has tiled roof, 2 storeys and C19 3-light wooden casements. C18 range beyond is of red and vitreous brick with moulded band course and thatched roof.

Web Page Links

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1116027>

British Listed Buildings

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101116027-the-royal-oak-inn-aston-abbotts>

B.8 Lower Burston Farmhouse

Historic England Listing

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1116026

Date first listed: 25-Sep-1951

List Entry Name: Lower Burston Farmhouse

Description

House. Early-mid C19, incorporating some medieval masonry and building material of former C16-C17 house. Left half and lower part of right half are of re-used thin brick with some stone in plinth. Upper right-hand bays rebuilt in brick late C19. Tiled roof, 2 brick chimneys. 2 storeys and attic, 5 bays. S. side has re-used 5-light window with moulded stone mullions, now painted, to ground floor of fourth bay. Other windows are paired or 3-light barred wooden casements with segmental heads, that to centre bay a staircase window with a single light to upper right. Attic has skylight and 3-light casement in dormer. Wing at right-angles to rear has carved stone angel over door to N. and C20 window to W. in moulded stone jambs. Further fragments of carved and moulded medieval manonry in courtyard wall to N. Interior has heavily moulded C16 door frame. House adjacent to site of deserted medieval village of Lower Burston.

Web Page Links

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1116026>

British Listed Buildings

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101116026-lower-burston-farmhouse-aston-abbotts>

Appendix C Scheduled Monument: Historic England Listing

C.1 The medieval village of Burston

Historic England Listing

Heritage Category: Scheduled Monument

List Entry Number: 1017778

Date first listed: 17-May-1967

Reasons for Designation

Medieval rural settlements in England were marked by great regional diversity in form, size and type, and the protection of their archaeological remains needs to take these differences into account. To do this, England has been divided into three broad Provinces on the basis of each area's distinctive mixture of nucleated and dispersed settlements. These can be further divided into sub-Provinces and local regions, possessing characteristics which have gradually evolved during the past 1500 years or more. The South Midlands local region is large, and capable of further subdivision. Strongly banded from south west to north east, it comprises a broad succession of clay vales and limestone or marlstone ridges, complicated by local drifts which create many subtle variations in terrain. The region is in general dominated by nucleated villages of medieval origin, with isolated farmsteads, mostly of post-medieval date, set in the spaces between them. Depopulated village sites are common, and moated sites are present on the claylands.

The site of the medieval village of Burston is clearly defined by an area of earthworks in which evidence for the nature of the settlement is very well preserved. The tofts will contain buried evidence for houses and other structures, accompanied by a range of features such as boundaries, refuse pits and drainage channels, all related to the life of the settlement. Artefacts found in association with these features will provide insights into the date and duration of occupation, the lifestyle of the inhabitants and the economy of the settlement. Environmental evidence may also be recovered, illustrating the appearance of the landscape in which the settlement was established and providing further information about its agricultural regime.

Many modern villages in the local region have medieval origins, although in most cases later development has obscured much of the archaeological evidence for earlier settlement. Depopulated examples, such as Burston, provide valuable opportunities to study the nature of these earlier communities and, in areas such as the Vale of Aylesbury where the abandoned villages are comparatively common, opportunities to examine and compare the reasons for their failure.

The subsequent development of the Manor of Burston reflects this change which, in common with a number of settlements in the local region, resulted from the growing economic advantages of sheep rearing over arable production in the later medieval period. Although the 17th century manor house itself has been almost completely rebuilt, archaeological evidence for its setting will be preserved in the area of the formal gardens to the south together with significant details concerning their original appearance. The deer park together with the gardens, reflects the affluence and social standing of the of the later owners. Although the outline of the park is perpetuated by modern field boundaries, visible evidence is now limited to a small but important element of the park - the boundary which separated the deer from the area of formal gardens.

Details

The monument includes the buried and visible remains of the medieval village of Burston, and adjacent evidence for formal gardens related to the early post-medieval manor which superseded the settlement.

The site of the village of Burston lies within the Vale of Aylesbury, to the south of the ridge of Windmill Hill and the minor road between the modern villages of Weedon and Aston Abbots. The settlement earthworks are contained within a single pasture field of approximately 9ha which is located on a gentle slope between Lower Burston Farm and a small tributary of the Thistle Brook, some 350m to the east. The central feature of the settlement is the main street, a broad hollow way which traverses the pasture from south to north west. The area to the west of the hollow way is divided into irregular enclosures by a number of shallow ditches and banks, and the site of at least one former building is marked by a pronounced mound near the street frontage. The earthworks to the east and north east of the hollow way are more complex, and are mainly related to a second hollow way which branches away from the first near the centre of the field and continues in a north easterly direction towards the field boundary. A series of five rectangular tofts (enclosures containing evidence of former buildings) are arranged along the eastern side of this route, ranging between 20m and 50m in width and similarly defined by shallow banks and ditches. The tofts extend eastwards for approximately 70m, terminating at a broad scarp which descends towards a narrow strip of flood meadow flanking the brook. Low platforms and other minor undulations at the western ends of these enclosures indicate the probable locations of buildings, whereas the eastern portions of the enclosures are relatively level, suggesting use as paddocks or yards.

Further platforms and smaller enclosures remain visible to either side of the junction of the two streets and especially to the north west, within a triangular area defined by a third, less pronounced, hollow way which connects the other two routes. A mound situated within the junction of the northern hollow way with the main street may indicate the location of a preaching cross.

A substantial bank extends eastwards from the southern end of the tofts to form a dam across the line of the brook. This is thought to have regulated the inundation of the flood meadow adjacent to the settlement.

As an outlying hamlet of Aston Abbots, Burston did not possess a separate parish church. Nevertheless, in 1086 the settlement received a separate entry in the Domesday Book, and ownership and land values dating from the reign of Edward the Confessor were recorded at this time. In 1086 the settlement possessed four ploughlands with meadow, and supported 12 principal inhabitants with their families. By the time of Burston's demise in 1488 the settlement had evidently expanded, since eight ploughs were made useless and 60 people were evicted when a freeholder, John Swafield, converted the whole of the manor and village lands to sheep pasture.

The manor prospered after the rapid depopulation of the village. A branch of the Lee family came into possession in 1516 and in the early 17th century Sir Henry Lee built or rebuilt the manor house and acquired a royal license to empark the grounds. The manor house (now Lower Burston Farm) was rebuilt in the 18th and 19th centuries, reusing much of the earlier brick, and is not included in the scheduling. The deer park, which covered some 65ha and included the area of the former village (in the north west corner) is clearly shown on a map of the Manor of

Burston dating from c.1800. The earthworks of the pale have since disappeared, although the original outline of the park can be traced in the current field boundaries surrounding the farm.

The field to the south of Lower Burston Farm is termed 'Kitchen Mead' on the map of the manor and it contains numerous earthworks which are thought to indicate the pattern of a formal garden associated with the 17th century manor. On the rising slope facing the house, a rectangular enclosure measuring some 120m by 60m is defined by a broad and shallow ditch. The northern boundary of the enclosure (at the foot of the slope) is marked by a much larger ditch which extends further east and west and is flanked over part of its length by a bank and smaller ditch to the north. Within the enclosure a number of low banks partly span the longer, east-west axis and there is some evidence of former terraces. The earthworks are considered to indicate a symmetrical arrangement of planted areas surrounded by a drainage system and walkways, designed to be visible from the house and to compliment its setting. The area around the enclosure contains a number of slight undulations which may reflect less formal cultivation, and is itself surrounded to the south and west by a low bank lying just inside the present boundary of the pasture. This feature, evidently denuded but still some 6m in width, is believed to represent an internal division within the deer park - a necessary barrier between the gardens and the deer.

The shallow brick-lined pond near the north eastern corner of the field, all fences, gates and electricity poles are excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath these items is included.

Web Page Link

Historic England

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1017778?section=official-list-entry>

Appendix D Questionnaire Responses and Comments

*Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns
(barring human error in the transcription).
No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.*

D.1 Question related to the Heritage Assets

Question 7.1 of the Questionnaire which provided the residents the opportunity to show their favourite views from a public viewpoint is shown below:

8.1	How do you feel about our historical past being preserved for future generations? <i>Please tick</i>		
Very important <input type="checkbox"/>	Important <input type="checkbox"/>	Fairly important <input type="checkbox"/>	Not important <input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any important historic features or buildings you wish to see protected?' If so, please describe them and mark them on the maps in Figures 1 <u>or</u> 2 if you wish.			

D.2 Response

5. The response the question 8.1 is shown below:

Q8.1 [i] How do you feel about our historical past being preserved?

<i>Very important</i>	63	77%
<i>Important</i>	11	13%
<i>Fairly Important</i>	8	10%
<i>Not important</i>		
<i>No Response</i>	2	[2%]

The following are the responses to the question “***Please Describe Important Historic Features or Buildings.***”

Note: History doesn't need preserving, nothing can "take" it. Those interested can Google and find it so easily now.
Church and Village Hall Royal Oak pub Abbey House and grounds
1) Lower Burston - site of medieval settlement 2) Royal Oak Pub 3) The Abbey 4) All buildings in the current conservation area 5) The Church 6) The Green. (all the above marked on Fig 1)
I think too much emphasis is put on the "Czech connection" and not enough on the rest of the village heritage and history such as the history of the Abbey, and medieval history and farming history.
- The Abbey - View over the Vale - Burston - Church - Pub Royal Oak

The Church Royal Oak View across Line Hill
Church Various old houses in village e.g Church Farm House/Barn/Cottage; The Royal Oak 1 The Green Oak Farm & the Victorian Houses in the Conservation Area. The Green itself. Common Land but being encroached on. Also old houses around it.
The Church The Pub (although it's to late and not viable without expansion)
It's such a shame that the Rothschilds cottages have been allowed to be updated, They should have been protected. Too late now?
The Church, Village Hall and The Abbey
The whole area in the Churchyard. Village Hall. Village Green
Church All existing should be retained and not spoilt/lost by any development.
Village Hall Church Ridge and furrow fields War memorial The Green Fields to the rear of Ross Road
The Church The Royal Oak Pub The Abbey, Moat and Islands
Church and Village Hall Abbey and Grounds Well in Church Row
The Royal Oak The old Shop The Village Hall Oak Farmhouse Home Farm Church Farmhouse Pump in Church Row St James Church The Green (with trees)
Village pump – Church Row Village Hall Church Thatched cottages
Royal Oak Pub
St James Church Royal Oak The Abbey Thatched buildings Conservation Area Overstone Cottages

The Church The Abbey Village Hall
The old ridge and furrow strip farming, obvious on Lines Hill, must be preserved.
The thatched buildings (Osbornes, the pub)
The Royal Oak Pub The Community Hall
The Church The Water Pump The Green The Abbey
Village Church Royal Oak Pub Village Hall Osbornes Shop
James Ross burial site in the church. Abbey as an occupied, private house. Royal Oak. Chapel.
Being an almost unspoiled and attractive village, I feel strongly that all buildings pre-1900's should be protected.
Medieval strip farming and house platforms on Lines Hill and remains of Burston village



Housing and Settlement Boundary Evidence Report

Reference: 0188-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

At the time of producing the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan, there is no new housing allocation to the Parish. However, it is recognised that, in the near term, there will be opportunities arising for ‘windfall’ development (i.e. not allocated in the Local Plan) within the Parish

It is for this reason that the Parish Council has sought the opinion of the local community and have commissioned the publication of Design Guide to ensure the character and heritage of the Parish is maintained, especially in relation to the village centre.

The opinion of the local community was sought by means of a parish wide Survey¹ that was undertaken in 2022. This report provides a summary of the responses (Section 2) and provides an overview of the Design Guide in Section 3.

The general conclusion of the work undertaken in the development of the Neighbourhood Plan is that there was a greater proportion of the community that would want to restrict new developments to less than 10 properties over the next 20 years. Although there was not an outright condemnation against that number being between 10 and 20 properties, there was absolutely no appetite for building more than 20 properties.

As far as the types of properties, the type with the highest approval rating was medium size homes (2-3 beds) with the second preferred choice being affordable housing.

There was absolutely no doubt that most of the community would insist on new housing being built sustainably.

As far as location of any future housing, the overall desire would be for it to be within the bounds of the village.

¹ The full survey results are presented in the Evidence Report ref 0048-DAT

2. Housing and Facilities

Aston Abbotts is an attractive village comprising a mixture of house types of various types and ages. It has a great deal of historic character which is protected by the Conservation Area which covers a large part of the settlement. The Conservation Area represents the original settlement and more recent post-war development has occurred around The Green and on the outskirts of the village.

There are few facilities within the village with no shop, healthcare or education services and residents must travel to reach all main services via the rural road network.

There are constraints on the village such as the historic character and hilltop landscape setting which means that most types of built development have the potential to have an adverse impact on its character. Therefore, only small-scale development would be in keeping with this character. 'Small scale' needs to be judged to be in the context of the existing number of dwellings.

It is acknowledged that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) promotes sustainable development and encourages consolidation of smaller rural settlements where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities. In terms of the Vale of Aylesbury Plan 2013-2033 (VALP), Aston Abbotts is identified as a 'small village' which are described as '*smaller, less sustainable villages which have relatively poor access to services and facilities. It is expected that some small-scale development could be accommodated at smaller villages without causing unreasonable harm. This level of development is also likely to help maintain existing communities. Sites at smaller villages will come forward either through neighbourhood plans or by individual 'windfall' planning applications, no site allocations are made at smaller villages.*'

3. Settlement Boundary

Opportunities for new small scale housing development may arise in the village throughout the plan period. To ensure new housing development is in keeping with the village, it is considered that a settlement boundary preventing extending the village outwards would ensure protection of the surrounding countryside.

The Settlement Boundary for the village has been defined which separates the village from the surrounding countryside. This has been drawn up carefully, acknowledging existing land uses and boundaries on the ground. For example, gardens are clearly a settlement related use and have been included within the boundary. Paddocks which are agricultural have been excluded.

The Settlement Boundary is shown in Figure 1. It should be noted that the Settlement Boundary does not coincide with the Conservation Area boundary which was drawn up by AVDC and its purpose was to include features of historic value.

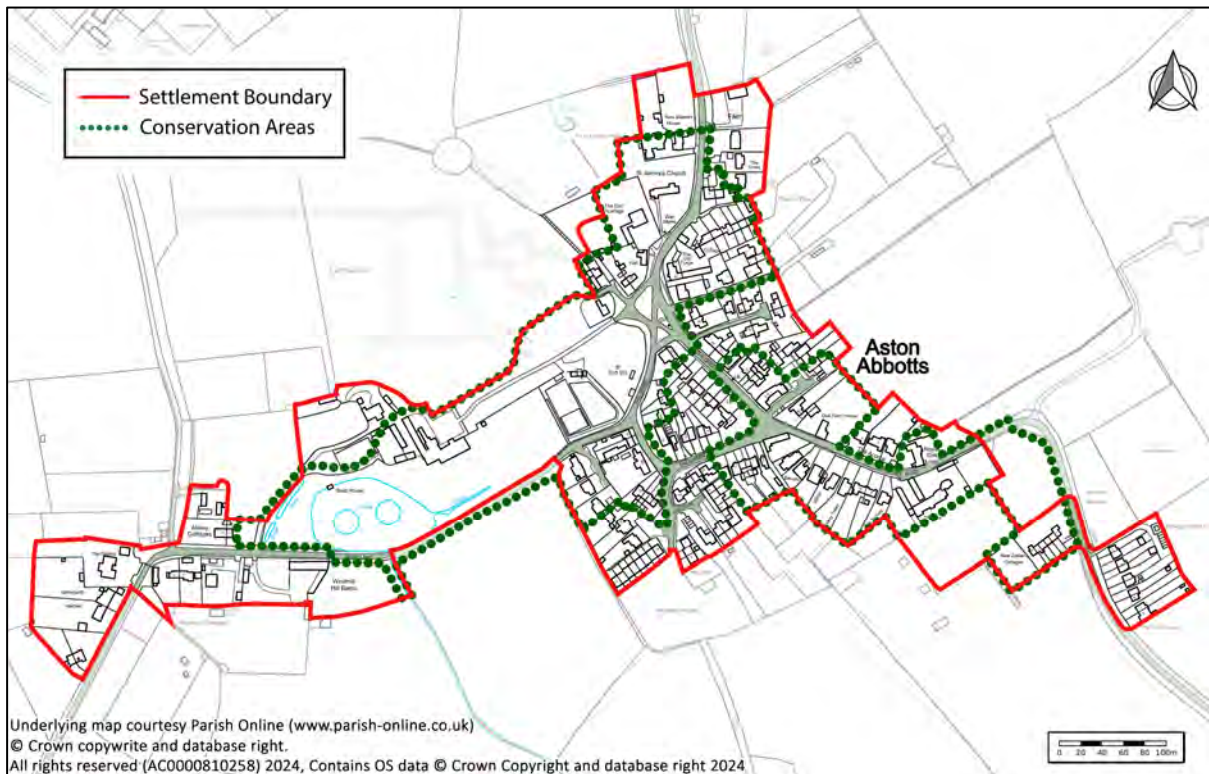


Figure 1 - Settlement Boundary and Conservation Area

4. Design Guide and Character Areas

Through the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Programme led by Locality, AECOM were commissioned to provide design support to the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. This design support resulted in the production of a parish-wide design guide².



Figure 2 – Front cover of the Design Guide

This design guide aims to guide future development in the parish, of any scale (house extensions or conversions, infill development and/or larger developments). It is informed and shaped by the local character of Aston Abbotts and promotes design that is sensitive to its context.

AECOM liaised extensively with the Steering Group and, following a site visit and information provided by the Steering Group, seven character areas were defined. These character areas have specific architectural characteristics that are considered essential in maintaining.

Figure 3 shows the location of the character areas in relation to the Settlement Boundary and a brief description of each character is provided later in this Section.

It should be noted that there is a small settlement about 1km north from the centre of the village which is outside the Settlement Boundary. This is known as Longmore and has been allocated its own character area in the Design Guide.

For the other character areas, they are all confined within the Settlement Boundary except for where a character area is adjacent to a Local Green Space (LGS). In these cases, the adjacent LGS has been included within the character area since the adjacent LGS is a significant contributor to the area's character.

² Document ref: Aston Abbotts Design Guide Final Report v2 November 2023

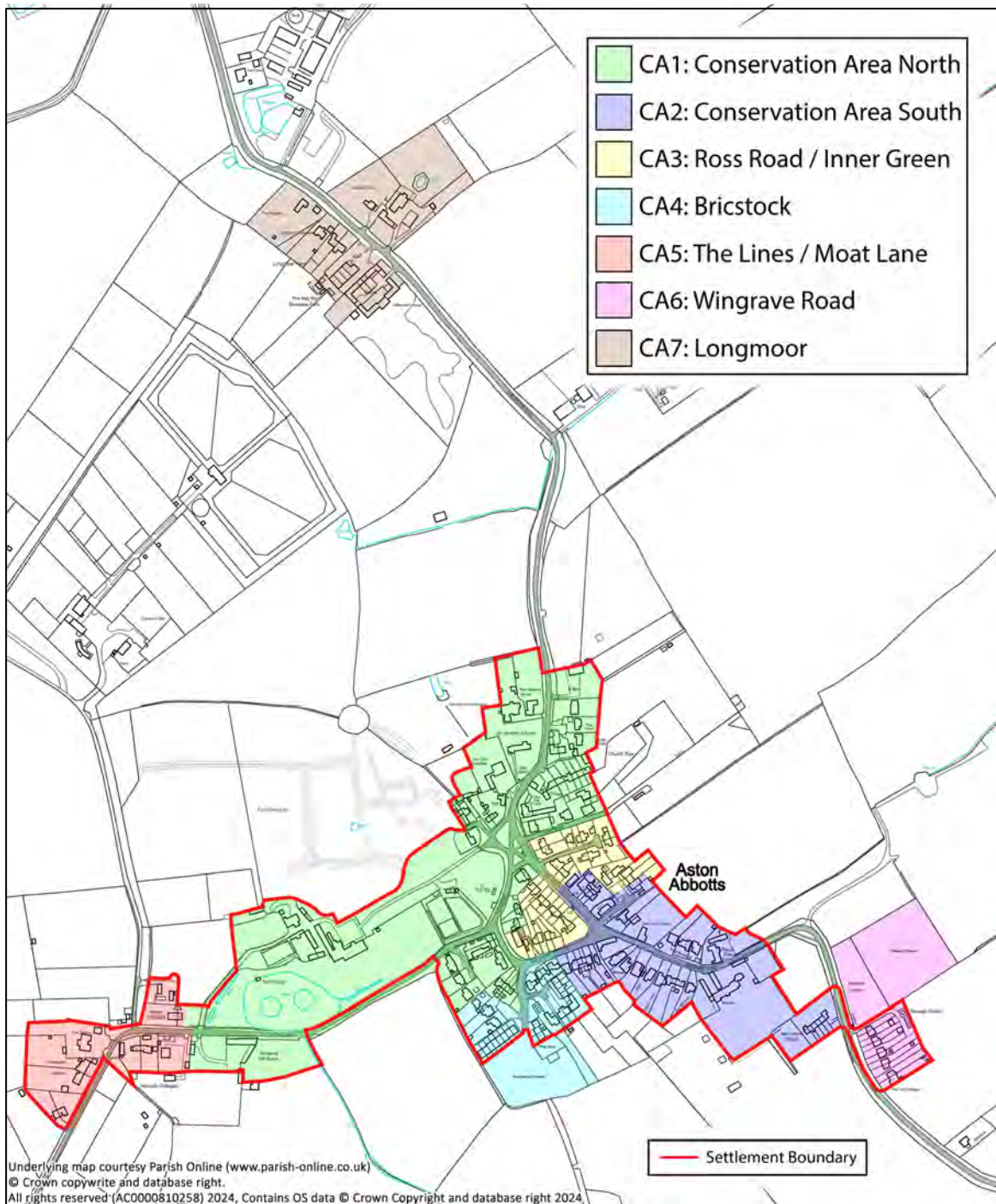


Figure 3 – Design Guide Character Areas

4.1. Conservation Area North

This area encompasses a significant portion of the village, spanning from Church Farm at its northern boundary, southwards to include The Abbey, and ending at Windmill Hill Barns along its southern boundary. The area features the village green which consists of three sizable grass islands adjacent to The Abbey’s entrance gates. While many of the views towards significant buildings should be protected, the oldest building in this area is the Church of St James which was originally built in the 15th century. The streetscape is dominated by vegetation, such as

trees and hedges which soften the feel of the built environment. The layout of plots and buildings in the area has developed organically over the years and the buildings are 1 or 2 storeys, typically red brick or cream render.

4.2. Conservation Area South

This area is situated between The Green and Wingrave Road. The Conservation Area runs from the converted Methodist Chapel on The Green and continues along Wingrave Road to New Zealand Cottages on the southern boundary. The area is filled with characterful historic buildings such as the Royal Oak Pub and Oak Farm House which are focal points of the community's history. The pattern of development is linear with properties typically facing onto the road with a generous setback. The front gardens soften the feel of the built environment. Buildings are 1-2 storeys, usually red brick or cream render, there is much decorative brickwork and some thatched properties.

4.3. The Ross Road and Inner Green

This area is in the centre of the village and is made up of several infill developments that have been added between the north and south parts of the Conservation Area. While they have a slightly different feel to the older parts of the village, several key local characteristics are retained in these newer developments. A lot of the development within the character area is in the form of short cul-de-sacs. Examples of these include Chapmans Lea and Ross Road. The Green is populated by bungalows which front onto the road. Although many properties within the character area have generous setbacks to allow space for front gardens and on-plot car parking, vehicle clutter is common and restricts the roads to a single lane. Again, the street scene is dominated by vegetation including verges, trees and hedgerows.

4.4. Bricstock

This area is located in the southwest of the village and is characterised by a number of small incremental housing developments including Nash's Farm. The road 'Bricstock' runs from the southwest corner of The Green to the village recreation ground which includes playing fields and a child's play park. On the edge of the recreation grounds is a viewing area with a bench providing panoramic views across the countryside towards Aylesbury. The Nash's Farm houses front into a parking court area while the 1970's bungalows, on the edge of the village, front directly onto the recreation grounds with parking contained on the road behind the buildings.

4.5. The Lines

This area is on the western edge of Aston Abbots, where Moat Lane runs into The Lines, there is a scattering of residential buildings. Houses in this part of the village are on higher topography than the rest of the settlement and, therefore, have stunning views towards the Buckinghamshire countryside. The building density of this character area is very low with large gaps between development. This allows for views towards green space from the street, providing a more rural feel to the area. Buildings often face onto the street and are typically 2 storeys in height which allows the trees and other vegetation to dominate the landscape in a rural part of the village. The Lines is a gated road with the gate situated on the corner where it meets Moat Lane. It is lined with grass verges and tall hedgerows. With the exception of Abbey Cottages, the buildings on the far western stretch of Moat Lane are more recent, being a mix of red brick semi-detached and detached houses.

4.6. Wingrave Road

This area is situated to the south of the village is a group of 10 semi-detached houses originally built in the 1950s. These properties are on the edge of the settlement and have countryside facing views to the rear. The buildings are all red brick, 2 storeys, semi-detached and have the same setback from the street. This creates a very uniform roofline and allows the trees and hedgerows on the other side of Wingrave Road to dominate the skyline in the character area. Also located within the character area is the village allotments and the orchard.

4.7. Longmoor

This area situated half a kilometre north of the village is Longmoor which is made up of a scattering of houses, barns and an industrial building. The area feels disconnected from the rest of Aston Abbots, however it does have bus stops that link it to the village as well as to Leighton Buzzard and Aylesbury. Development has occurred over time on either side of Cublington Road. Properties are typically forward facing onto the street, however they have generous setbacks with tall hedges defining the boundary which creates an element of privacy. Building heights range from 2 storeys to 1 storey on the edge of the built environment which softens the boundary between the Aston Abbots and the surrounding countryside.

5. 2022 Survey Results

The 2022 Parish survey asked the question:

- Do you agree that, over the next 20 years, there will be a need for more housing?"

Then, on the prerequisite of "When new homes have to be built..", it followed on with the following questions:

- How many homes do you think would be appropriate?
- Which type do you think would be most suitable?
- Do you agree that they must be built sustainably?
- Where do you think they should be located?

The responses to these five questions are summarised in the following subsections. Each of the questions gave the householder to opportunity to make additional comments and these are also provided below.

Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns (barring human error in the transcription). No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.

5.1. Do you agree that, over the next 20 years, there will be a need for more housing?

A total of 84 households responded to the survey out of approximately 180 within the Parish. Only 4 households gave no response or responded "Not sure or don't know". Out of those that expressed an opinion, 50% stated either "Strongly Agree" or "Agree". A further 10% stated "Neither agree or disagree".

Do you agree that there will be a need for more housing?

Strongly agree	10	12%
Agree	31	38%
Neither agree nor disagree	8	10%
Disagree	13	16%
Strongly disagree	18	22%
Not sure or don't know	2	2%
No Response	2	[2%]

5.2. How many homes do you think would be appropriate?

The survey asked the households to provide their view on how many new homes would be appropriate within the bands of "Less than 10", "10 to 20", "21 to 30", "31 to 50" and "Over 50".

Nearly half of those that responded stated that they believed less than 10 was appropriate. About one in three believed that the number should be between 10 and 20:

How many homes do you think would be appropriate?

Less than 10	41	49%
10 to 20	31	37%
21 to 30	8	10%
31 to 50	1	1%
Over 50	2	2%
No Response	1	[1%]

5.3. Which type do you think would be most suitable?

The survey provided the following options as types of homes from which to state their preferences:

- Affordable homes
- Housing association homes
- Retirement/sheltered homes
- Bungalows
- Small homes (1 bed)
- Medium size homes (2-3 beds)
- Larger homes (4+ beds)
- Flats

The summary of the responses to these options is shown in the table below. This table uses the terminology “**For**” to be the combined “*Strongly in favour*” or “*In favour*” responses and “**Against**” to be the combined “*Strongly opposed to*” or “*Opposed to*” responses.

Property Type	For	Against	Observations
Affordable homes	55%	27%	Reasonably high approval rating
Housing association homes	26%	53%	Largely disapproval to these types of homes
Retirement/sheltered homes	35%	29%	Reasonably balanced with 35% stating “ <i>Don’t mind</i> ” with similar weighting between approve and disapprove.
Bungalows	42%	18%	The response was reasonably balanced with 40% stating “ <i>Don’t mind</i> ” while the remainder leant towards approval
Small homes (1 bed)	31%	25%	The response was very balanced with 43% stating “ <i>Don’t mind</i> ” with similar weighting between approve and disapprove.
Medium size homes (2-3 beds)	64%	10%	This type of home has the highest approval rating
Larger homes (4+ beds)	29%	44%	The responses leant heavily towards disapproval towards larger homes.
Flats	7%	71%	An overwhelming disapproval to the building of flats

The full tables showing the responses against each type of home is provided in Appendix A. The tables show the detailed breakdown including the number of nil responses.

The household were also asked to identify other types of homes not listed and state approval or disapproval. The response is shown below:

- Agricultural homes (Opposed to)
- Build to rent (Opposed to)
- Council houses (Strongly opposed to)
- Halfway homes (Strongly opposed to)
- Homes with off-road parking proportional to no. of bedrooms (Strongly in favour)
- Park Home/Mobile Home (Strongly opposed to)
- Quality Build (Strongly in favour)

The following additional comments were received:

- Building smaller bungalows would encourage those in larger family detached house to step down in size in retirement freeing up family homes in the village.
- Association homes should have Acceptable Behaviour Contracts to ensure respect of property etc

5.4. Do you agree that they must be built sustainably?

This question included the following statement to assist homeowners in responding to the question:

“Sustainable building requires the use of renewable and recyclable materials when building new homes, as well as reducing energy consumption and waste. It must also ensure the building remains resource-efficient throughout its lifecycle. This is likely to incur higher initial costs which may affect the affordability of the housing.”

The response to the question is shown below which demonstrates that there is a very high approval rating for building sustainable housing with 86% either “Strongly in favour” or “In favour”

When new homes are built, do you agree they must be built sustainably?

Strongly agree	50	60%
Agree	22	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	9	11%
Disagree		
Strongly disagree	3	4%
Not sure or don't know		

5.5. Where do you think they should be located?

The households were asked to select from the following options for the location of any future development.

- Only within the village
- Only greenfield sites
- Both in the and greenfield sites
- Other

The response to this question showed that the majority of those that responded were in favour of confining new developments within the bounds of the village:

When new homes are built, where do you think they should be located?

Only within the village	44	54%
Only greenfield sites	9	11%
Both in village and greenfield sites	20	24%
Other*	9	11%
No Response	2	[2%]

Those that responded “Other” provided the following suggestions:

- Brownfield site
- Brownfield sites before greenfield/agriculture
- Infill sites
- No new homes
- None
- Only on edge of village
- Urban fringe
- Within the village or potential brownfield sites

The following additional comments were received:

- Avoid greenfield sites as too much is being lost around Aylesbury.
- Wingrave road, Cublington road
- The change of use from agriculture to "public amenity" to "residential" use needs to be monitored to prevent over development of homes by people with no desire to live "in the country".
- "Within the village" should not necessarily mean only land close to the centre of the village. There are houses on the outskirts of the village where development could reasonably take place (i.e. infilling).
- Also agree with building which enables farmers to live on their land and help them to diversify.
- Waste land behind New Zealand Cottages.
- I think it sensible to identify area for where new cul-de-sacs could be developed and to encourage conversions and diversity. The land opposite The Abbey or Wingrave Road or Norduck would seem appropriate.
- Smaller development and of. property type Sustainable build.
- Bungalow in keeping with village properties to preserve the uniqueness of this village and not cause it to become a part of any of the towns bordering Aston Abbots or indeed part of Wing. Avoid any risk of creating a "housing corridor".
- They need to be built on locations where there is room to build off road parking. Too many vehicles are parked on the road.
- Towards the A418, to avoid increase in traffic through the village. (Roads are narrow and parked cars already cause congestion).
- N/A to me. Opposed to new buildings.
- Built on using infill sites so the boundary of the village is not enlarged.
- Any locations will need good road access and parking. My main concern is the impact on existing resident re parking and increased traffic flow.
- New Zealand/allotment corner
- Please do not use this survey to justify new building.
- Providing road traffic is not increased as road through the village is too busy already. Do not ruin the countryside!
- Area around Red Barn Farm / Vicarage Farm.
- No new builds in Aston Abbots.
- I do not believe there is much need for more homes, there are no shops. The village is a nice environment but does not have the infrastructure to support this. Far, far better options.
- Against in-fill. Spoils the village concept.
- Royal Oak.
- Green field sites should not divert or enclose existing footpaths.
- Would prefer the village to grow slightly rather than the housing become more dense.

Appendix A Survey Response to Type of New Homes

A.1 Tables showing response to type of new homes

Affordable homes

Strongly in favour	20	26%
In favour	23	29%
Don't mind	14	18%
Opposed to	9	12%
Strongly opposed to	12	15%
No Response	6	[7%]

Housing association homes

Strongly in favour	8	11%
In favour	11	15%
Don't mind	16	22%
Opposed to	17	23%
Strongly opposed to	22	30%
No Response	10	[12%]

Retirement/sheltered homes

Strongly in favour	7	9%
In favour	19	26%
Don't mind	26	35%
Opposed to	15	20%
Strongly opposed to	7	9%
No Response	10	[12%]

Bungalows

Strongly in favour	11	15%
In favour	20	27%
Don't mind	29	40%
Opposed to	10	14%
Strongly opposed to	3	4%
No Response	11	[13%]

Small homes (1 bed)

Strongly in favour	7	10%
In favour	15	21%
Don't mind	30	43%
Opposed to	15	21%
Strongly opposed to	3	4%
No Response	14	[17%]

Medium size homes (2-3 beds)

Strongly in favour	12	15%
In favour	39	49%
Don't mind	20	25%
Opposed to	4	5%
Strongly opposed to	4	5%

Larger homes (4+ beds)

Strongly in favour	7	10%
In favour	14	19%
Don't mind	20	27%
Opposed to	19	26%
Strongly opposed to	13	18%
No Response	11	[13%]

Flats

Strongly in favour	2	3%
In favour	3	4%
Don't mind	15	22%
Opposed to	18	26%
Strongly opposed to	31	45%
No Response	15	[18%]



Parish Issues, Aspirations and Parish Council Actions Evidence Report

Reference: 0206-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

This report documents the comments made by the residents in response to the 2022 parish-wide survey which raised issues or made suggestions (or aspirations). These comments were assessed as described in Section 2 and the findings are presented in Sections 3 and 4.

The following subsections summarise the main issues and aspirations and provide actions where appropriate.

1.1. Aspirations

1.1.1. Recreation Ground Play Area

While the residents have not explicitly raised issues with the play area equipment, the Parish Council views the deterioration of the existing equipment as a potential health and safety risk and is taking measures to address the issue.

Action: The Parish Council to complete the programme to replace the play area equipment.

1.1.2. Heavy Goods Vehicles – Freight Strategy

As discussed in the *Traffic Calming, Heavy Vehicles and Parking evidence report*, there is frustration within the community that little is being done to find a long-term solution to HGVs driving between the A41 and the A413 through Aston Abbotts and the surrounding villages. This frustration is heightened by the exclusion of Aston Abbotts within a Freight Zone like that implemented for Ivinghoe and surrounding villages. It should, therefore, be a long-term aspiration that Freight Zone, encompassing Aston Abbotts, is implemented.

Action: The Parish Council will lobby Buckinghamshire Council for Aston Abbotts to be included in a Freight Zone whenever the opportunity arises.

1.1.3. Adult Exercise Equipment

The installation of adult exercise equipment, sympathetically integrated into the recreation ground, is widely recognised as a valuable asset for enhancing community well-being. Numerous residents have expressed a desire for such a facility. Presently, efforts of the Parish Council are focused on replacing the aging children's play equipment, with limited funding available in the near-term budget for additional amenities. However, it remains an intent to initiate a project for adult exercise equipment when feasible.

Action: The Parish Council to continue to explore funding opportunities and assess community support for the installation of an adult exercise facility.

1.1.4. Additional Circular Walks

Many residents highlighted a strong desire for additional circular walks that avoid roads as much as possible. It is recognised that new footpaths would place additional burdens and responsibilities on the landowners and would only proceed with their willing consent. Costs would be incurred (e.g. signage, gates, fencing and stiles), with the initial outlay having to be borne by the parish. Any future expansion of the footpaths can therefore only be investigated if

a budget is made available and with the consent of the residents for parish funds to be spent on such a venture.

For this to progress, it would be necessary to undertake a detailed feasibility study, in partnership with landowners, to produce budgeted proposals and explore external sources of funds. A full consultation process would then be required with landowners and other stakeholders. Given the current funding status, it is unlikely that any proposed plans for additional circular walks will be considered in the near future.

Action: It is considered that this should be community-led. If there is sufficient enthusiasm then a community group should be formed to undertake the necessary feasibility studies, in partnership with landowners, and put forward budgeted proposals to the Parish Council. The Parish Council may support any proposals and endeavour, wherever possible, to identify appropriate funding sources.

1.2. Issues

1.2.1. Heavy Goods Vehicles – Traffic Calming

As discussed in the *Traffic Calming, Heavy Vehicles and Parking evidence report*, serious concerns relating to heavy goods vehicles and traffic through the village is frequently raised by residents through many channels with calls for traffic calming measures to be implemented. These concerns are raised either directly with the Parish council or through the public forums such as the Chronicle and the AA Email Postbox. It came as no surprise that this sentiment was echoed by many comments made in response to the 2022 survey. The Neighbourhood Plan, unfortunately, can have little influence over this since the responsibility for roads and traffic lies with Buckinghamshire Council.

Action: The Parish Council to continue to raise the issues with Buckinghamshire Council to explore all avenues in attempts to find affordable solutions for traffic calming.

1.2.2. Recreation Ground Accessibility

A concern about accessibility for the recreation ground has been raised.

Action: The Parish Council will ensure accessibility will be considered in the requirements for the new play area equipment.

1.2.3. Housing

The community consensus leans towards restricting future housing development to within the village boundary, with most members expressing a preference for no more than twenty additional properties.

Action: The Parish Council to expedite completion of the Neighbourhood Plan.

2. Methodology

This document evaluates the feedback from the 2022 parish-wide survey¹, in which residents were invited to share comments or suggestions on various topics. The assessment identifies necessary actions were appropriate.

It is important to note that this document does not assess all comments from the survey. Certain topics have been addressed in other evidence reports, in which the associated comments are covered. Where issues or aspirations have been identified in the other evidence reports, the findings are summarised in Section 3 of this report. The following table shows the topics from the survey which are covered by other evidence reports and the subsections in this report where the findings are summarised.

Survey Topic Ref	Survey Topic	Evidence Report	Subsection (this report) where findings are summarised
2.5	Housing	Housing and Settlement Boundary	3.1
5.7 & 5.8	Infrastructure - Footpaths and Bridleways	Footpaths and Bridleways	3.2
7.1	Environment - countryside, favourite views	Protected Views	3.3
7.2	Environment – green spaces	Local Green Spaces	3.4
8.1	History - Important Historic Features or Buildings	Heritage Assets	3.5

The following list shows the survey topics that are not covered by other evidence reports and, hence, are assessed in this document:

- Economy (Survey topic ref 3.5)
- Communication (Survey topic ref 4.4)
- Infrastructure - Facilities (Survey topic ref 5.3)
- Infrastructure - Recreation (Survey topic ref 5.6)
- History and Ecology – Suggestions to support historical heritage, ecology, and local wildlife (Survey topic ref 8.3)
- Other – Renewable energy (Survey topic ref 9.1)
- Other – Any other comments (Survey topic ref 9.2)

To undertake the assessment, each comment was tagged with a category. For some of the categories, a subcategory was added to further assist the assessment. In some instances, the subcategory ‘Issue’ was used to identify where a resident was raising a concern or issue.

Section 4 discusses each of the main categories and summarises the findings. All the comments that were categorised as ‘Issue’ are discussed separately in Section 5.

¹ The full survey results are presented in the Evidence Report ref 0048-DAT

The categories used in the assessment are shown in the table below along with the number of comments within each category and the subsection within this report where the findings are presented:

Category	Number of comments	Subsection Reference
Facilities	27	4.1
Recreation ground	26	4.2
Renewable energy	21	4.3
Transport	21	4.4
Footpaths/Bridleways	12	4.5
Parish Council	12	4.6
Highways	9	4.7
Wildlife	8	4.8
Accessibility	7	4.9
Social	6	4.10
Broadband	6	4.11
Communication	6	4.12
Business	6	4.13
Green spaces	5	4.14
Other	4	4.16
Housing	3	4.15

The comments are listed in full in Appendix B which shows the category and, where used, the subcategory that has been assigned to the comment. The comments are grouped by the topics they related to in the questionnaire.

To aid referencing, the list comments is also presented in Appendix C where they have been ordered by category.

Before getting into detail, the author would like to draw the readers’ attention to one comment that was singled out but does not need to feature in the rest of the assessment. The comment was:

Love the questionnaire! But will it be listened to!

A suitable category would be ‘Thank you’, and the response is ‘Yes, it is being listened to, and great effort has been expended to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan reflects the views of the community’.

The findings of the analysis against each of the categories are discussed in the Sections 4.1 thru 4.16.

3. Findings from Other Evidence Reports

3.1. Housing

The findings related to Housing are discussed in the Housing and Settlement Boundary evidence report and are summarised below.

A greater proportion of the community would want to restrict new developments to less than 10 properties over the next 20 years. Although there was not an outright condemnation against that number being between 10 and 20 properties, there was absolutely no appetite for building more than 20 properties.

As far as location of any future housing, the overall desire would be for it to be within the bounds of the village.

3.2. Infrastructure - Footpaths and Bridleways

The findings related to footpaths and bridleways are discussed in the Footpaths and Bridleways evidence report and are summarised below.

Four out of five households that responded to the survey stated that they often use the footpaths and bridleways. The most popular route being the village circular walk.

No common issue was evidence from the comments received although many residents highlighted a strong desire for additional circular walks that avoid roads as much as possible. This is discussed in detail in the Footpaths and Bridleways evidence report with the findings summarised as an aspiration in Section 1.1.3 of this report.

3.3. Environment - Countryside, Favourite Views

The findings related to favourite views are discussed in the Protected Views evidence report which identified 8 countryside protected views. The overall consensus of the comments from the survey was that the surround countryside is of considerable value to the community.

The Protected Views evidence report also identified 5 village protected views that are contribute considerably to the character of the village.

No issues or aspirations were identified in relation to protected views.

3.4. Environment – Green Spaces

The findings related to green spaces are discussed in the Local Green Spaces evidence report which identified 5 Local Green Spaces. No issues or aspirations were identified in relation to protected views.

3.5. History - Important Historic Features or Buildings

The findings related to important historic features or buildings are discussed in the Heritage Assets evidence report which identified 11 Non-Designated Heritage Assets. No issues or aspirations were identified in relation to these assets.

4. Findings from this Report

4.1. Facilities

The comments in this category are where the respondents identified the need for additional facilities. This were grouped into the following subcategories:

Sub cat	Count
Pub	17
Shop	4
Health	3
Restaurant/Café	2
Post office	1

It comes as no surprise that the facility that most residents miss is a pub following the closure of the Royal Oak in 2020.

For context, The Royal Oak Pub was designated as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) in December 2019, a status that remained valid for 5 years. In early 2019, the pub was listed for sale, prompting a small group of villagers to explore the requirements of a Community Right to Bid. However, they soon realised the enormity of the task and the substantial financial commitment which would be needed to proceed with a bid. Furthermore, it became apparent that even if an offer were made, the owners were not obliged to accept it. Consequently, the group decided against proceeding with a bid. After some months, The Royal Oak was taken off the market.

Unfortunately, the pub closed in November 2020, and the owners opted not to reopen following the pandemic. While there has been some discussion of a community-led initiative, nothing concrete has materialised. As of the time of writing, the country is grappling with a post-pandemic recovery and a cost-of-living crisis, which presents a deterrent to such ventures. However, there remains hope for the emergence of such a venture in the near future.

Upon the expiration of the ACV designation, the Parish Council determined that reapplying for designation was not in the community's best interest. Should anyone be interested in purchasing or renting the pub, they may approach the owners directly without the need for a Community Right to Bid. Additionally, registering The Royal Oak as an ACV could potentially dissuade interested parties if the pub were to return to the open market, hence the decision not to renew its designation.

The second most requested facility was a shop and one request for a post office. However, it is unlikely that this would be commercially viable in the parish given that most residents are mobile and there is a very good convenience store and post office in Wingrave.

The health facilities requested were for a doctors surgery and pharmacy which is outside the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan.

4.2. Recreation ground

The comments in this category were grouped into the following subcategories:

Sub cat	Count
Sports facilities	9
Exercise equipment	5
Play area	5
Benches	3
Issue	3
Other	1

It is evident that many residents seek better sports equipment, including adult exercise equipment. To gauge the level of support for the installation of adult exercise equipment, a standalone survey was undertaken in December 2023. The survey was published in The Chronicle and posted on the Email Postbox. The results are provided in Appendix A.

Fourteen residents responded with a view, out of which nine were in favour. Given the low number of responses and, at the time of writing, there is a project underway to replace the deteriorating children's play area equipment, the Parish Council concluded not to install adult exercise equipment. If the community can rally sufficient support and demonstrate a greater desire for adult exercise equipment, then representations should be made to the Parish Council and the decision can be revisited. The installation of adult exercise equipment has therefore included it as an aspiration. And it is hoped that future funding and support is obtained.

Five comments were related to the play area with some mentioning the need to update. Although not specifically raised as an issue by the residents, the Parish Council consider that the deterioration of the equipment could soon introduce health and safety risks and, therefore, are in the process of replacing the equipment.

Three respondents requested more benches and/or picnic tables. Since the survey, the bench at the far corner overlooking the Vale of Aylesbury has been replaced.

The three issues raised are covered in Section 5.6.

4.3. Renewable energy

The renewable energy comments were subcategorised as shown in the table below.

Sub cat	Count
Domestic	9
Opposed	4
Solar	3
Wind	3
Solar/Wind	2

In response to specific questions about wind and solar power, 66% of the respondents expressed their agreement with supporting wind power, while 88% affirmed their support for solar power as shown in Figure 1.

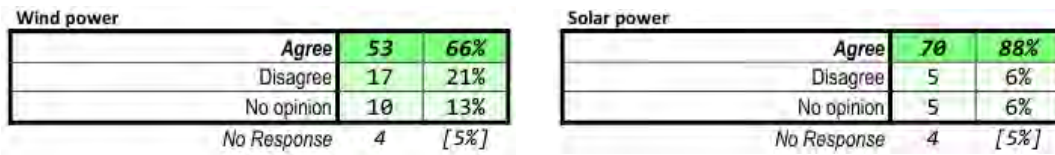


Figure 1 - Response to 'If we were to encourage alternative energy, which would you support?'

However, a nuanced perspective emerges from the comments provided by respondents. Among those who commented, about a half indicated their support for domestic renewable energy (e.g. solar panels on homes). Therefore, it cannot be definitively concluded that most respondents unequivocally endorse the establishment of wind or solar farms. The one observation that can be made in relation to acceptability of wind/solar farms is that only 4 out of the 21 respondents who made a comment expressed opposition.

4.4. Transport

The breakdown of comments related to transport is shown below:

Sub cat	Count
Traffic calming	19
Electric vehicles	1
Issue	1

The comments related to traffic calming are discussed in the *Traffic Calming, Heavy Vehicles and Parking* evidence report, the findings of which are summarised as the aspirations and issues sections of this report (Sections 1.1.2 and 1.2.1).

The comment related to electric vehicles was the desire for EV charging points.

The issue raised concerned road safety and is discussed in Section 5.7.

4.5. Footpaths/Bridleways

Comments raised on Footpaths/Bridleways are discussed in the *Footpaths and Bridleways* evidence report and the findings summarised in Section 3.2 of this report.

4.6. Parish Council

Comments that were categorised as 'Parish Council' cover miscellaneous topics that fall within the remit of the Parish Council. The breakdown of these is shown below:

Sub cat	Count
Issue	10
Other	2

The ten issues are covered in Section 5.5.

The ‘Other’ subcategory covered two topics, the comments for which are shown below along with a response.

Respondents Comment	Response
Suggestion that 4-6 cameras are installed around the village to catch fly tippers, littering vans, and general crime.	This would be a costly exercise and will need to be undertaken in consultation with the police. Unless there is a sharp increase in crime within the parish, it is not considered affordable or appropriate.
A view that Aston Abbotts, along with its neighbouring villages should be considered, as a whole, in any local planning considerations since they all benefit from quiet roads, footpaths and bridleways passing through beautiful unspoiled countryside.	Whilst there is shared countryside between the villages, the village centres themselves have unique characteristics. Hence the need for neighbourhood plans tailored specifically to the villages’ characteristics. In relation to the surrounding countryside, the individual plans, although developed in isolation, will share common approaches to developing policies.

4.7. Highways

The breakdown of comments related to highways is shown below:

Sub cat	Count
Issue	5
Cycle paths	3
Other	1

The five issues are covered in Section 5.4.

Development of cycle paths was raised in three comments which have been interpreted to mean cross-country cycle paths rather than cycle lanes. Unfortunately, this is outside the remit of the Parish Council and the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan.

4.8. Wildlife

The breakdown of comments related to wildlife is shown below:

Sub cat	Count
Habitats	3
Other	3
Wildflower meadow	2

There are suggestions to increase wildlife habitats which could include owl or swallow boxes. This is a worthy aim but is largely the responsibility of landowners or property owners. It’s not something that the Neighbourhood Plan can specifically cover but it is something for which the community itself could campaign.

This aligns with the other comments which include the formation of a wildlife/conservation group which could undertake such campaigns. This, however, is outside the remit of the Parish Council and it is up to the community, via the various channels of communications, to publicise and initiate.

4.9. Accessibility

All seven comments from respondents concerning accessibility were raising issues which are covered in Section 5.1.

4.10. Social

Half of the six comments categorised as ‘Social’ related a licenced social club. It’s worth noting that, since the survey, a pop-up pub has been held a few times and the success of these will determine if there is a need and enthusiasm to continue with them.

4.11. Broadband

Six comments expressed concern on the speed of broadband. However, this is a commercial matter with the various broadband providers and is not something the Neighbourhood Plan can address.

4.12. Communication

Five of the six comments categorised under ‘communication’ were raising issues which are covered in Section 5.2.

4.13. Business

The only specific concerns in relation to business was the resistance to large business establishing themselves in the parish but some increase in small business in business units such as a Longmore would be acceptable. There was the overriding concern of increased traffic and heavy goods vehicles associated with growth of businesses in the parish. The issue of heavy goods vehicles is covered by the *Traffic Calming, Heavy Vehicles and Parking* evidence report.

4.14. Green spaces

Three of the five comments for Green Spaces were flag as issues and are covered in Section 5.3.

The remaining two comments highlighted the importance of the village orchard and the other made the suggestion of establishing a wood along some of the footpaths. These are both outside the remit of the Parish Council and the responsibility sits with the landowners. For information, the village orchard is on land owned by the Church.

4.15. Housing

Two of the three comments on housing wanted to ensure that any future developments in the village must be sympathetic to the surrounding buildings and character of the village. This is the purpose of the *Aston Abbotts Design Guide* which has been developed to accompany the Neighbourhood Plan.

4.16. Other

The 'Other' category of comments covers four topics that are outside the scope of the Neighbourhood plan. They are:

- Survey teenagers in the village to see what they would benefit from on the rec
- Enhancement of local links, other villages for recreational activities, sporting facilities, etc.
- A village history group might be an idea to collate and keep archive items.
- Consider twinning AA with another village.

5. 2022 Survey Issues Raised

This section addresses concerns raised by respondents and are discussing in the following subsections by category.

Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns (barring human error in the transcription). No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.

5.1. Accessibility

ID ²	Comment	Response
70	People with mobility issues cannot use the recreation ground as it is too uneven and footpaths are a disgrace. The village needs to be mobility friendly.	The point about accessibility for the recreation ground is noted. However, considering both the financial constraints and the desire to preserve the natural appearance of the field, there are no plans to install paths to aid accessibility. It should be noted that the work currently being undertaken on replacing the deteriorating play area equipment will consider accessibility within the requirement.
162	The recreation ground is also unsuitable for mobility aids.	
92	More mobility friendly areas. The recreation ground is not accessible for those with mobility aids.	
171	No facilities for disabled children.	If, 'footpaths' refers to 'pavements' then please see the Section 5.4, Highways
88	To ensure the footpaths are accessible with ease	Access to public footpaths (rights of way over farmland) is the responsibility of the landowners but the Parish Council do regularly monitor the footpaths and will raise any issues identified with the landowners.
161	The footpaths in the village are cracked and broken and unsuitable for those with mobility problems, especially those using walkers.	In this context, 'footpaths' is interpreted as 'pavements'. Please see the Section 5.4, Highways
163	When planning permission is granted all new homes should be built with parking facilities off road. The village is more like a car park with so many vehicles parking on footpaths.	The issue with on-street parking in the village centre is highlighted in the <i>Traffic Calming, Heavy Vehicles, Parking</i> evidence report. To prevent the level of parking increasing in the future, the Aston Abbotts Design Guide developed as part of the Neighbourhood Plan specifically states that new housing development must be accompanied by suitable and adequate off-street parking.

² An index number has been allocated to aid cross-referencing which has been added sequentially to the comments in the order they are listed in Appendix A.

5.2. Communication

ID	Comment	Response
23	We're just outside the village but within the parish. Next-door receive the Chronicle but we don't, so we are unaware of upcoming events.	The person making this comment must contact the editor of The Chronicle so that this can be addressed.
26	More regular updates on websites (village and Parish Council). Church does not always publicise service times e.g. Easter service time / invitation only appeared on the "postie" on Good Friday in Village.	The AA Website is maintained by a single resident in the village who lends their time voluntarily to maintain the website. The intent of the website is to be a reference source for information about Aston Abbotts. It holds reference information that residents will find interesting (for example, it holds an archive of all The Chronicles that have been published) but it is also used by people outside the parish because they have some historical connection or because they are planning to move here. The site is not intended to be a dynamic source of news or information on current events - that is the role of the Aston Abbotts Facebook page.
29	Website could be updated more regularly, especially in regards village events.	
33	The Aston Abbotts website is out of date and needs updating. The website is only helpful if it is kept updated.	
30	I struggle with it so I do not use AA Postbox etc. The Chronicle is helpful and keeps me up to date.	It is recognised that not everybody will have access to emails or are uncomfortable in using it and the internet in general. We are lucky that there are dedicated volunteers who produce an informative publication which is posted through the door every month.

5.3. Green spaces

ID	Comment	Response
110	Stop cutting down trees and bushes, we are losing so many wild birds because of this.	Unfortunately, the Neighbourhood Plan and the Parish Council can have little influence on the preservation of trees, but it must be noted that, within the conservation areas, tree work must only be undertaken with planning permission through Buckinghamshire Council.
114	*Important Issue* - there should be a register of protected trees within the parish. We need to prevent trees being cut down simple to facilitate development. Trees form an essential view point of this village	
174	See comment on register of all trees in the village to ensure that are protected	

5.4. Highways

ID	Comment	Response
42	Improvements to pavements and footpaths (Need more regardless..)	The maintenance of pavements is the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council. The Parish Council continues to make firm representations to Buckinghamshire Council at every meeting and every other opportunity. It should be noted that any problems related to roads of pavements should be made directly to Buckinghamshire Council using FixMy Street at https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/ If residents have not got access to the internet then they can report problems to the Parish Council who will do it on their behalf.
46	Pavement (Need more regardless..)	
47	Pavements within village (Need more regardless..)	
147	I would like to see an improvement to footpaths in the village	
170	Better pavements - I have to go on the road with a double buggy as pavement to narrow in some places. It is not a friendly environment for taking children in buggies for a walk.	

5.5. Parish Council

ID	Comment	Response
51	The need for more Street Lights	Additional streetlighting comes at a cost which will cause considerable burden on the parish's finances. The need to replace existing lighting with LEDs is being investigated to reduce long term costs and the costs associated with the replacement will take priority over additional lighting. If there is a clear pedestrian safety concern in relation to a specific stretch of road then it should be raised with the council. However, any decision related to additional lighting will also have to consider the impact of light pollution.
75	Request residents to take care of areas outside their properties - too many hedges are overgrown and reduce pavement and road width.	If a resident encounters an overgrown hedgerow, they should inform the Parish Council who will write to the landowner.
38	Dog poo bins (Need more regardless..)	Since the survey, the Parish Council has invested in a new dog bin on the village green.

ID	Comment	Response
107	Danger of littering the village with information boards but need to think how these are maintained and what they will look like in x years from installation (? tatty and ugly)	<p>A considerable amount of thought went into the decision to install two history boards on the village green. The Parish Council considered that not all residents appreciate the presence of display boards but, in the Parish Council's balanced view, there was a justification for the two boards. Our parish boasts rich heritage, stemming not only from its former residents and architectural landmarks but also from its pivotal role in accommodating the Czechoslovak President during the war.</p> <p>Many residents enjoy a walk around the village when entertaining visiting friends and relatives, and the history boards serve as an excellent point of interest along the way.</p> <p>Given the picturesque countryside within our parish, it's important not to dissuade hikers from enjoying it. In fact, the village green often serves as a gathering spot for hiking groups, and the history boards add a focal point.</p>
108	Too many signs and history board would make the village look too cluttered	
111	The board on the green is an eyesore and in the wrong place. Should be more discreet.	
115	To many signs may spoilt a peaceful visual aspect	
117	More history/info-signs/boards create a more suburban appearance in a small village and encourage more visitors/cars which are not appreciated! More info can be put out on the various village networks. The Czech board and info sheets in the church are all that is necessary.	
146	Living in this part of Aston Abbots, or as we call it the "Hamlet of Longmoor" has left us feeling like the poor cousins as little if any money is spent here from the parish coffers.	<p>The Parish Council understands the concern raised by the residents of Longmore. In preparing the Neighbourhood Plan Longmore has been defined as a specific character area within the Design Guide to influence any future development.</p> <p>The Parish Council is always keen to make representations to Buckinghamshire Council on behalf of the residents of Longmore in relation to infrastructure such as highways.</p>
150	Support with dealing with fly tipping	This is largely outside the control of the Parish Council and is the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council

5.6. Recreation ground

ID	Comment	Response
77	The play area is very underused and the recent expenditure for an aerial runway that is rarely used is excessive. These funds would have been better spent elsewhere in the village. £8,000 on a play area piece of equipment?	In relation to spend on the play area, the Parish Council consider that the play area is a very important and essential asset to the village. It helps with the health and wellbeing of young families in the village, and it is often used by visiting families of residents. Due to the deterioration of the existing play equipment a project is underway to replace it. The point about the aerial runway is noted but it is a great source of enjoyment for many young people and is seen as an important asset.
85	- Better maintenance of hedge/grass cutting/trees to make the area look more cared for	The Parish Council monitors this closely and is in constant contact with the contractors if it is noticed that maintenance is required.
94	People overlooking the rec complain about players on rec.	Unfortunately, there is little the Parish Council can do in relation to this although users of the recreation ground should always consider the impact of noise on the neighbouring residents. And users should note that recreation ground should only be used during daylight hours unless it is an event that has been approved by the Council.

5.7. Transport

ID	Comment	Response
145	No safety signs in Cublington road for pedestrians in the road (no footpath) and horse riders. This should be a priority.	Since the survey, two horse warning signs have been installed on Cublington Road, one on the village side of the bend at Vicarage Farm and the other near Red Barn Farm.

**Appendix A – Response to Dec 2023 Survey for Outside Adult
Exercise Equipment**

This table below shows the response to a survey undertaken by the Parish Council in December 2023 via The Chronicle and the Email Postbox.

Would you like to see a few pieces of Outdoor Adult Gym equipment	Have you used Outdoor Adult Gym equipment before	If outdoor Adult Gym Equipment was available to you would you use it	When would you be most likely to use such equipment	Please indicate which, if any, of these you would use	Notes
Yes	Yes.	Weekly	Daytime & w/e	Health walker, Slalom, Squat	
Yes	Yes.	Yes	Varies	Pull up bar	Currently drives to Aylesbury to use
Yes	Yes	Yes	Daytime	Any	
Yes	Yes	Yes	Anytime	Any	
Yes	Didn't state	Yes	Anytime	Any	Not always able to drive so local equipment would be good
Yes	Yes	Yes	Evenings & w/e	Any	Very positive, Buckingham Park has an outdoor gym well used
Yes	No	Yes	Daytime	Health walker, Slalom, pull down	NB Tennis Courts would be a good addition
Yes	Yes	Yes	Often	Rower. Slalom.	
Depends on quality	Yes.	Probably not	Very occasionally	Rower. Pull Down. Bike	
No	No	No	No	N/A	Plenty of gyms around. Not good use of precept
No	No	No	No	N/A	
No	Yes	No	Never	N/A	
No	-	-	-	-	Playground is for children - upgrade their equipment
No	No	No	Never	N/A	Feels the equipment would not be utilised
No view	No	Probably not	No	N/A	

**Appendix B – Residents Comments from 2022 Survey
(ordered by survey section)**

B.1 Scope

This Appendix contains the responses to the 2022 parish wide survey where the residents were asked to provide comments or suggestions on the different topics. Each of the comments have been tagged with a category and subcategory to aid analysis and assist in producing a summary of the recommendations and any issues.

This Appendix groups the comments by the sections to which they relate in the questionnaire which are:

- Economy (Questionnaire Section 3.5)
- Communication (Questionnaire Section 4.4)
- Infrastructure - Facilities (Questionnaire Section 5.3)
- Infrastructure - Recreation (Questionnaire Section 5.6)
- History and Ecology – Suggestions to support historical heritage, ecology, and local wildlife (Questionnaire Section 8.3)
- Other – Renewable energy (Questionnaire Section 9.1)
- Other – Any other comments (Questionnaire Section 9.2)

To aid reference to specific comments whilst reading the body of this report, the comments in this appendix are also provided in Appendix B which presents them grouped by category.

A sequential ID has been added to each comment to aid cross-referencing.

Notes:

- ***Any comment that could specifically identify the contributor or make specific reference to other residents have been redacted.***
- ***All comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns (barring human error in the transcription). No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.***

B.2 Economy

Please add other suggestions for improving our economy (Questionnaire Section 3.5)

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
1	Decent fibre broadband to the property	Broadband	
2	Pub	Facilities	Pub
3	Shop	Facilities	Shop
4	Small restaurant	Facilities	Restaurant/Café
5	Outlets for local produce (farm shop/local stock shelves at Wingrave Stores). Self-service milk machine at Red Barn Farm or other local dairy farms.	Facilities	Shop
6	A licensed village club with charitable status using the Community Hall.	Social	Social club
7	Encouraging more young people by having more affordable housing would create affordable employees for local business and reduce communising.	Housing	Other
8	Enhancement and utilisation of agricultural business - Yes.	Business	
9	Enhancement and utilisation of other businesses in area for attracting visitors to the area i.e. horses, stabling; short stay vacationing/holiday stay.	Business	
10	Alpaca Farm	Business	
11	Enhancement of hiking /bridleways	Footpaths/Bridleways	
12	We have no objection to businesses being run from home but are concerned that agreeing to more "business units" in the parish will "industrialise" the area in increase traffic.	Transport	Traffic calming
13	Providing these were of a retail nature (pub,	Facilities	Pub
14	shop	Facilities	Shop
15	café...)	Facilities	Restaurant/Café
16	Do not want any large businesses. Only light businesses, nothing that will generate more heavy traffic e.g. lorries through the village.	Business	

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
17	Much better internet speed (fibre)	Broadband	
18	Faster Internet	Broadband	
19	It is dependent how many houses are to be built here	NA	
20	Whilst we disagree to this in the centre of the village – we would accept any further business units around Longmoor.	Business	
21	The economy would improve from having more facilities in the village. In particular the reinstatement of the local pub. I am aware that the village used to have 2 pubs, village shop, bakery and Post Office - all these have gone which is a significant economic loss.	Facilities	Pub
22	Better internet connection that is more reliable	Broadband	

B.3 Communication

If you don't think you're getting sufficient local news or information, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help (Questionnaire Section 4.4)

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
23	We're just outside the village but within the parish. Next-door receive the Chronicle but we don't, so we are unaware of upcoming events.	Communication	Issue
24	Facebook & Chronical are great!	NA	
25	Join the dots merge - aa.co.uk /Facebook and the Chronicle to create a digital first option, with optional print edition. Even PDF Newsletter is a no brainer.	Communication	Other
26	More regular updates on websites (village and Parish Council). Church does not always publicise service times e.g. Easter service time / invitation only appeared on the "postie" on Good Friday in Village.	Communication	Issue
27	Pub has closed but that was a community hub	Facilities	Pub
28	[REDACTED]	NA	
29	Website could be updated more regularly, especially in regards village events.	Communication	Issue
30	I struggle with it so I do not use AA Postbox etc. The Chronicle is helpful and keeps me up to date.	Communication	Issue
31	A focal meeting place i.e. pub would be very useful for social interaction	Facilities	Pub
32	Bring back the village shop!	Facilities	Shop
33	The Aston Abbotts website is out of date and needs updating. The website is only helpful if it is kept updated.	Communication	Issue
34	One has to buy Bucks publications.	NA	

B.4 Infrastructure - Facilities

Other Things for Development (Questionnaire Sections 5.3a)

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
35	Activity for 10-16 year olds (Need more with new homes..)	NA	
36	Bridleways (Need more regardless..)	Footpaths/Bridleways	
37	Cycle paths (Need more regardless..)	Highways	Cycle paths
38	Dog poo bins (Need more regardless..)	Parish Council	Issue
39	Footpaths (Need more regardless..)	Footpaths/Bridleways	
40	GP Surgery (Need more regardless..)	Facilities	Health
41	Improved/controlled traffic flow by non-local traffic/inappropriate size/speed (Need more regardless..)	Transport	Traffic calming
42	Improvements to pavements and footpaths (Need more regardless..)	Highways	Issue
43	Library bus (Need more regardless..)	Social	Other
44	Licenced social club (Need more regardless..)	Social	Social club
45	Outdoor exercise (Need more regardless..)	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
46	Pavement (Need more regardless..)	Highways	Issue
47	Pavements within village (Need more regardless..)	Highways	Issue
48	Pub (Need more regardless..) [x13]	Facilities	Pub
49	Pub/Restaurant (Need more regardless..) [x2]	Facilities	Pub
50	Renewable energy (Need more regardless..)	Renewable energy	Solar/Wind
51	Street Lights (Need more regardless..)	Parish Council	Issue
52	Tennis courts (Need more regardless..)	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
53	Traffic calming (Need more regardless..)	Transport	Traffic calming

If you would like to see more action to develop facilities within the parish, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help (Questionnaire Sections 5.3b)

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
54	Many pubs (ours being closed) are community run and often include a shop for basic provisions. It's a shame we are not able to do this with the royal oak	Facilities	Pub
55	Sports facilities? Community tennis court where residents could pay membership	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
56	Let's build solar to pay the parish electricity bills for decades.	Renewable energy	Solar
57	We need to address large lorries & trucks driving at speed through the village [REDACTED]	Transport	Traffic calming
58	Recreation Ground - better facilities to encourage use by families.. E.g:	Recreation ground	Play area
59	- Better football nets	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
60	- Cricket pitch demarked	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
61	- Boules (Pétanque) area	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
62	- More benches,	Recreation ground	Benches
63	Licensed Social Club using Community Hall	Social	Social club
64	Open the Pub	Facilities	Pub
65	Cycle paths off the road to enable access to the towns and villages safely. We need farmers to open land to more bridlepaths, & footpaths for the same reason. At present car transport is the safest way but damages the environment.	Highways	Cycle paths
66	A doctor's surgery	Facilities	Health
67	Dispensing Chemist.	Facilities	Health
68	Post Office	Facilities	Post office
69	Better outdoor exercise equipment/areas, especially for adults	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
70	People with mobility issues cannot use the recreation ground as it is too uneven and footpaths are a disgrace. The village needs to be mobility friendly.	Accessibility	Issue

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
71	Electric vehicle charging points	Transport	Electric vehicles
72	Pub needed, serving good food, kid friendly	Facilities	Pub
73	A pub brings the community together and is an important "hub" of the village. Sad loss that the Royal Oak is not currently open.	Facilities	Pub
74	There needs to be some way of engaging the whole community on a more regular basis. Currently there is the café which is not suitable for people who work as it is in the morning.	Social	Other
75	Parish Council to do more to request residents to take care of areas outside their properties - too many hedges are overgrown and reduce pavement and road width.	Parish Council	Issue
76	STOP rat run to Aylesbury via the village!! Make it 20 MPH through – enforced! While Cublington Road has been closed to traffic has made for a quieter time.	Transport	Traffic calming

B.5 Infrastructure - Recreation

If you would like to see more action to improve the play and recreational facilities, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help (Questionnaire Section 5.6)

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
77	The play area is very underused and the recent expenditure for an aerial runway that is rarely used is excessive. These funds would have been better spent elsewhere in the village. £8,000 on a play area piece of equipment?	Recreation ground	Issue
78	More sports facilities	Recreation ground	Sports Facilities
79	More varied equipment - park has been the same for a while Upgrading?	Recreation ground	Play area
80	Footpaths are good but not equitable maintained by Bucks Council.	Footpaths/Bridleways	
81	Bridleways have been allowed to deteriorate in quality despite more local equestrian users. Is it feasible for the north and south bridleways to be linked to make a circular route by using a permit scheme with farms,	Footpaths/Bridleways	
82	Need more circular routes Paths are great but not great circular routes.	Footpaths/Bridleways	
83	Maybe survey teenagers in the village to see what they would benefit from on the rec	Other	
84	Update/re-vamp children's play area: - More equipment for younger children.	Recreation ground	Play area
85	- Better maintenance of hedge/grass cutting/trees to make the area look more cared for	Recreation ground	Issue
86	Consideration of building a new village hall on the rec. Consider building a new village Hall on Rec.	Recreation ground	Other
87	A BMX Track	Recreation ground	Sports Facilities
88	To ensure the footpaths are accessible with ease	Accessibility	Issue
89	Enhancement of local links, other villages for recreational activities, sporting facilities etc. Cublington/Wingrave/Weedon for PH's. Don't always require some in all villages when some in close proximity.	Other	

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
90	A marked-out football pitch and nets	Recreation ground	Sports Facilities
91	Many rec grounds have exercise equipment for adults to help battling obesity. Some provision should be made in the village. At the moment you have to drive to use exercise equipment.	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
92	More mobility friendly areas. The recreation ground is not accessible for those with mobility aids.	Accessibility	Issue
93	More needs to be done to encourage health and fitness.	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
94	People overlooking the rec complain about players on rec.	Recreation ground	Issue
95	Ability to walk on paths or agricultural land [REDACTED]	Footpaths/Bridleways	
96	Replace the bench in the corner of the rec, it is in much need of some care.	Recreation ground	Benches
97	Perhaps the children's play area could have some more things to play on.	Recreation ground	Play area
98	Play area needs updating,	Recreation ground	Play area
99	and more adult based equipment on the rec ground i.e. exercise machines	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
100	benches etc for picnics.	Recreation ground	Benches

B.6 History and Ecology

If you want more action to support our historical heritage, ecology, and local wildlife, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help (Questionnaire Section 8.3)

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
101	Maintain green space along footpaths so that we can be close to nature	Footpaths/Bridleways	
102	More eco initiatives/conservation areas, owl boxes, bird and wild life housing.	Wildlife	Habitats
103	wild meadow space flower areas,	Wildlife	Wildflower meadow
104	- It would be good to see a wildlife conservation area established in the parish, and a wildlife/conservation group formed.	Wildlife	Other
105	- Continued maintenance of the Village Orchard including a plan for its future and its preservation (maybe with funding).	Green spaces	Other
106	- Education: Eg walks and talks about balance of our wildlife and the effect of having "to many" of one species in a small area (eg, magpies, rooks, raptors, badgers and foxes). How management of the landscape can improve the outcome for some of our more declining wildlife (song birds, lapwings, hares etc)	Wildlife	Other
107	Danger of littering the village with information boards but need to think how these are maintained and what they will look like in x years from installation (? tatty and ugly)	Parish Council	Issue
108	Too many signs and history board would make the village look too cluttered	Parish Council	Issue
109	A green area that is accessible would be really nice. Especially with a pond and information signs about wildlife. Especially of this could be developed to link the footpaths and provide housing too.	Wildlife	Other
110	Stop cutting down trees and bushes, we are losing so many wild birds because of this.	Green spaces	Issue
111	The board on the green is an eyesore and in the wrong place. Should be more discreet.	Parish Council	Issue
112	A small wood - possibly in the Grove or along the footpath D between Longmoor and Old School	Green spaces	Other
113	Build new structures where Swallows can nest - have lost most of barns now.	Wildlife	Habitats

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
114	*Important Issue* - there should be a register of protected trees within the parish. We need to prevent trees being cut down simple to facilitate development [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Trees form an essential view point of this village	Green spaces	Issue
115	To many signs may spoil a peaceful visual aspect	Parish Council	Issue
116	A village history group might be an idea to collate and keep archive items.	Other	
117	More history/info-signs/boards create a more suburban appearance in a small village and encourage more visitors/cars which are not appreciated! More info can be put out on the various village networks. The Czech board and info sheets in the church are all that is necessary.	Parish Council	Issue
118	If people are interested enough there are already adequate sources of information.	NA	
119	Leave verges to grow and only cut down at the end of the season.	Highways	Other
120	[REDACTED]	NA	
121	Things to encourage more wildlife	Wildlife	Habitats
122	such as wildflower meadows	Wildlife	Wildflower meadow

B.7 Other – Renewable energy

If you would like to see more action to encourage alternative energy, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help (Questionnaire Section 9.1)

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
123	Yes! No brainer to save the village a fortune for decades and save the world.	Renewable energy	Solar/Wind
124	We need to move to green energy. May be the villagers would contribute if the benefits saved them money. E.G What would it take to power the village from solar). All 185 dwellings' electricity?	Renewable energy	Solar
125	Solar panels should be encouraged on all new buildings.	Renewable energy	Domestic
126	Solar "arrays" should not be too large, and situated away from local views. Also not interfere with arable farming, as food production is becoming increasingly important on a local basis	Renewable energy	Opposed
127	Out local transformers are maxed out. We are an elevated position so I'd love to see a wind turbine connected to reduce our energy bills and carbon footprint. We should also consider battey storage to reduce load on our maxed out grid. This is absolutely essential for any new housing as our grid is maxed out so we need to produce local green power.	Renewable energy	Wind
128	Heat source pumps in bigger properties	Renewable energy	Domestic
129	I agree in principle with alternative energy. I do not support wind farms or solar farms.	Renewable energy	Opposed
130	The turbines or panels should be restricted individual homes.	Renewable energy	Domestic
131	Government grants for domestic installations	Renewable energy	Domestic
132	We could live with several windmills around the village providing all our electricity.	Renewable energy	Wind
133	Combine that with solar panels and battery storage for total sustainability.	Renewable energy	Solar
134	I would not want to look at a giant wind turbine	Renewable energy	Opposed
135	It is absolutely crazy covering agricultural land with solar panels when all the great warehouses have none on their roof. E.g. Bicester	Renewable energy	Opposed
136	Help with solar panels on roofs	Renewable energy	Domestic


ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
137	Villages should have own wind turbine.	Renewable energy	Wind
138	All new builds should be roofed with solar panels	Renewable energy	Domestic
139	- All new housing to be built to passive house standards as a minimum. - Functional support for solar panels, solar heating and air/ground source heat pumps etc.	Renewable energy	Domestic
140	- Reduction in traffic by restricting use of cars and HGVs; by financial measures if necessary.	Transport	Traffic calming
141	Grants for solar panels	Renewable energy	Domestic
142	Village Action Group to explore possibility of sustainable energy for the benefit of the village e.g. windmill on Lines Hill.	Renewable energy	Domestic
143	[REDACTED]	NA	

B.8 Other – Any other comments

Please add anything else you think has not been covered and that you think should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan (Questionnaire Section 9.2)

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
144	Cublington Road has very fast traffic which is unsafe due to the number of horse riders, cyclists and walkers. Drop the speed limit to 40mph and the village to 20mph.	Transport	Traffic calming
145	No safety signs in Cublington road for pedestrians in the road (no footpath) and horse riders. This should be a priority.	Transport	Issue
146	Living in this part of Aston Abbotts, or as we call it the "Hamlet of Longmoor" has left us feeling like the poor cousins as little if any money is spent here from the parish coffers.	Parish Council	Issue
147	I would like to see an improvement to footpaths in the village	Highways	Issue
148	and traffic calming measures	Transport	Traffic calming
149	1) Upgrade in sports facilities	Recreation ground	Sports Facilities
150	2) Support with dealing with fly tipping	Parish Council	Issue
151	3) Improved fibre broadband. We currently have had to figure out an alternative to be able to run business from home during COVID	Broadband	
152	Traffic calming if it falls within this remit Making our roads safer for pedestrians - young and old alike	Transport	Traffic calming
153	The infrastructure and nature of the parish is being damaged by the disproportionate amount and size of traffic which are not delivering/visiting locally. The village is being used as a high speed cut through from the A418 to the A413 without entering/leaving Aylesbury. The noise generated by high "revving" cars and motorbikes is distressing, constant and invasive. The continuous drone of oversized HGV engines trying to save time and the damage caused to infrastructure when two oversized vehicles try to pass is unacceptable in my view but is condoned by Bucks CC complacency to place enforcement/traffic regulations as part of their freight strategy.	Transport	Traffic calming

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
154	1. Forget about speed limit stuff, those who speed ignore it anyway, and its not like kids are dropping like flies. 2. HGV traffic: - More signs, light the signs - Narrow entrance to "cut through" road to Lines Hill (opposite Humphries Close)	Transport	Traffic calming
155	Parish security: It would be good to plan how we could get 4-6 cameras installed around the village so we can catch fly tippers, littering vans, and general crime. They don't cost much but could save money long term (maybe companies may sponsor for example)	Parish Council	Other
156	1) Traffic management. AA has become a "rat-run" and a diversion route during the rush hour, and a route for the A418 and A413. I think this issue should be addressed by the NP 2) This also leads to road safety issues for all vulnerable users such as cyclists, wheelchair users, children, prams and horse riders etc.	Transport	Traffic calming
157	3) Planning. Design statements to apply to new builds and extensions to existing properties. To ensure we are not building eyesores which do not fit in to the character of the village and is rural aspects.	Housing	Design Codes
158	- Reduction in HGV lorries coming through the village and using it as a rat-run to avoid A418 and ot the A roads, - Traffic calming measures - Discourage Council from diverting traffic though Aston Abbotts when roadworks are being carried out	Transport	Traffic calming
159	Re-open the pub to bring community back together	Facilities	Pub

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
160	<p>Engage with the Aylesbury Council Plan to improve footpaths and cycle paths. Encourage bikes as a mode of transport by having safe off-road cycle paths through the country side Encourage farmers to allow areas across land (around the edges) for horse riding and footpaths with circular routes and minimal road usage If the red boundary line in Figure 1 could become an orbital footpath or, even better, a cycle path too, that would be excellent.</p>	Footpaths/Bridleways Highways	Cycle paths
161	 <p>The footpaths in the village are cracked and broken and unsuitable for those with mobility problems, especially those using walkers.</p>	Accessibility	Issue
162	The recreation ground is also unsuitable for mobility aids.	Accessibility	Issue
163	When planning permission is granted all new homes should be built with parking facilities off road. The village is more like a car park with so many vehicles parking on footpaths.	Accessibility	Issue
164	- A list of local businesses that we can support (eg, pubs, café, shops). A plan to grow these and have more.	Business	
165	- The footpath to Wingrave and A418 Wingrave Road is too narrow for buggies and adjacent to fast flowing traffic. It is poorly lit. It is the only walk to a shop/school and needs to be more accessible.	Footpaths/Bridleways	

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
166	1) Can we have some finality on the future of the pub? It's an eyesore and should be a community asset.	Facilities	Pub
167	2) Consider twinning AA with another village.	Other	
168	3) There's some beautiful countryside here – let's not ruin it. But more walking routes would be welcomed.	Footpaths/Bridleways	
169	1) Like most villages with small roads, there needs to be some way of tackling the size and amount of the lorries that come through the village, at time at an alarming speed. 2) Some type of speed calming through the village.	Transport	Traffic calming
170	3) Better pavements - I have to go on the road with a double buggy as pavement too narrow in some places. It is not a friendly environment for taking children in buggies for a walk.	Highways	Issue
171	4) No facilities for disabled children.	Accessibility	Issue
172	I believe a pub would be beneficial to our community. Whether this is a traditional pub or a regular 'pop up pub' at the village hall for example.	Facilities	Pub
173	Linking the footpaths: - Footpath E with Footpath D (a short section to avoid having to use the road) – easy? - Footpath F to the allotment corner. Often used informally by dog walkers; landowners are opposed to this, but if properly negotiated, would be a nice amenity - more a long term aim.	Footpaths/Bridleways	
174	See comment on register of all trees in the village to ensure that are protected	Green spaces	Issue
175	Traffic too fast through the village	Transport	Traffic calming
176	Community run pub?	Facilities	Pub
177	More activities / social events for the children in the village	Social	Other

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
178	<p>I would very much like a pop-up pub in the community hall. Something which is held on a regular basis for people to meet up / socialise. The closure of the Royal Oak is a huge loss. We have many families who have moved to the village because it had a pub.</p> <p>We need something to replace this that appeals to all ages not just to older retired people. As a single parent with a young child, it can feel quite isolating in Aston Abbotts. I feel it needs something to bring the community together more.</p>	Facilities	Pub
179	<p>Pie in the sky, but I guess this is what the survey is about: A multipurpose pub - not just snacks and drinks, but coffee and afternoon tea, basic shopping needs for milk and bread, collection point for deliveries for those out at work. There are a number of quite lonely and isolated people in the village. The Coffee Morning in the village hall taps into this, but a drop in multi-function site, run by village volunteers with one manager would be socially very useful.</p>	Facilities	Pub
180	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	Transport	Traffic calming
181	<p>It is a happy “coincidence” that the villages of Aston Abbotts, Weedon, Hardwick and Cublington have managed to remain largely unspoiled by aggressive development. They are linked by quiet roads, footpaths and bridleways passing through beautiful unspoiled countryside. As such they constitute a great leisure facility to the area: particularly to rapidly growing Aylesbury. They should, I believe, therefore be considered as a whole in any local planning considerations.</p>	Parish Council	Other
182	<p>- Action needs to be taken to stop roads through the village being used as the ‘Aylesbury By-Pass’, by both cars, vans and lorries of all sizes.</p>	Transport	Traffic calming
183	<p>'- High speed broadband needs to be provided to ALL properties not just those that ‘open reach’ decide should have it.</p>	Broadband	
184	<p>*Traffic* - the increase in traffic through the village</p>	Transport	Traffic calming

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
185	House design should follow housing nearby. ie, brickwork, colour & pattern, dormer windows	Housing	Design Codes
186	Measures to restrict heavy goods vehicles passing through the village.	Transport	Traffic calming
187	Love the questionnaire! But will it be listened to!	Thank you	Yes it will

**Appendix C – Residents Comments from 2022 Survey
(ordered by category)**

C.1 Scope

This Appendix contains the responses to the to the 2022 parish wide survey where the residents were asked to provided comments or suggestions on the different topics. Each of the comments have been tagged with a category and subcategory to aid analysis and assist in producing a summary of the recommendations and issues.

This Appendix groups the comments by the category to which they have been assigned which are:


- Accessibility
- Broadband
- Business
- Communication
- Facilities
- Footpaths/Bridleways
- Green spaces
- Highways
- Other
- Parish Council
- Recreation ground
- Renewable energy
- Social
- Transport
- Wildlife

Refer to Appendix A which presents the comments grouped by the sections in the survey.

Notes:

- ***Any comment that could specifically identify the contributor or make specific reference to other residents have been redacted.***
- ***All comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns (barring human error in the transcription). No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.***

C.2 Accessibility

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
70	People with mobility issues cannot use the recreation ground as it is too uneven and footpaths are a disgrace. The village needs to be mobility friendly.	Accessibility	Issue
88	To ensure the footpaths are accessible with ease	Accessibility	Issue
92	More mobility friendly areas. The recreation ground is not accessible for those with mobility aids.	Accessibility	Issue
161	 <p>The footpaths in the village are cracked and broken and unsuitable for those with mobility problems, especially those using walkers.</p>	Accessibility	Issue
162	The recreation ground is also unsuitable for mobility aids.	Accessibility	Issue
163	When planning permission is granted all new homes should be built with parking facilities off road. The village is more like a car park with so many vehicles parking on footpaths.	Accessibility	Issue
171	4) No facilities for disabled children.	Accessibility	Issue

C.3 Broadband

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
1	Decent fibre broadband to the property	Broadband	
17	Much better internet speed (fibre)	Broadband	
18	Faster Internet	Broadband	
22	Better internet connection that is more reliable	Broadband	
151	3) Improved fibre broadband. We currently have had to figure out an alternative to be able to run business from home during COVID	Broadband	
183	'- High speed broadband needs to be provided to ALL properties not just those that 'open reach' decide should have it.	Broadband	

C.4 Business

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
8	Enhancement and utilisation of agricultural business - Yes.	Business	
9	Enhancement and utilisation of other businesses in area for attracting visitors to the area i.e. horses, stabling; short stay vacationing/holiday stay.	Business	
10	Alpaca Farm	Business	
16	Do not want any large businesses. Only light businesses, nothing that will generate more heavy traffic e.g. lorries through the village.	Business	
20	Whilst we disagree to this in the centre of the village – we would accept any further business units around Longmoor.	Business	
164	- A list of local businesses that we can support (eg, pubs, café, shops). A plan to grow these and have more.	Business	

C.5 Communication

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
23	We're just outside the village but within the parish. Next-door receive the Chronicle but we don't, so we are unaware of upcoming events.	Communication	Issue
25	Join the dots merge - aa.co.uk /Facebook and the Chronicle to create a digital first option, with optional print edition. Even PDF Newsletter is a no brainer.	Communication	Other
26	More regular updates on websites (village and Parish Council). Church does not always publicise service times e.g. Easter service time / invitation only appeared on the "postie" on Good Friday in Village.	Communication	Issue
29	Website could be updated more regularly, especially in regards village events.	Communication	Issue
30	I struggle with it so I do not use AA Postbox etc. The Chronicle is helpful and keeps me up to date.	Communication	Issue
33	The Aston Abbotts website is out of date and needs updating. The website is only helpful if it is kept updated.	Communication	Issue

C.6 Facilities

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
2	Pub	Facilities	Pub
3	Shop	Facilities	Shop
4	Small restaurant	Facilities	Restaurant/Café
5	Outlets for local produce (farm shop/local stock shelves at Wingrave Stores). Self-service milk machine at Red Barn Farm or other local dairy farms.	Facilities	Shop
13	Providing these were of a retail nature (pub,	Facilities	Pub
14	shop	Facilities	Shop
15	café...)	Facilities	Restaurant/Café
21	The economy would improve from having more facilities in the village. In particular the reinstatement of the local pub. I am aware that the village used to have 2 pubs, village shop, bakery and Post Office - all these have gone which is a significant economic loss.	Facilities	Pub
27	Pub has closed but that was a community hub	Facilities	Pub
31	A focal meeting place i.e. pub would be very useful for social interaction	Facilities	Pub
32	Bring back the village shop!	Facilities	Shop
40	GP Surgery (Need more regardless..)	Facilities	Health
48	Pub (Need more regardless..) [x13]	Facilities	Pub
49	Pub/Restaurant (Need more regardless..) [x2]	Facilities	Pub
54	Many pubs (ours being closed) are community run and often include a shop for basic provisions. It's a shame we are not able to do this with the royal oak	Facilities	Pub
64	Open the Pub	Facilities	Pub
66	A doctor's surgery	Facilities	Health
67	Dispensing Chemist.	Facilities	Health
68	Post Office	Facilities	Post office

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
72	Pub needed, serving good food, kid friendly	Facilities	Pub
73	A pub brings the community together and is an important "hub" of the village. Sad loss that the Royal Oak is not currently open.	Facilities	Pub
159	Re-open the pub to bring community back together	Facilities	Pub
166	1) Can we have some finality on the future of the pub? It's an eyesore and should be a community asset.	Facilities	Pub
172	I believe a pub would be beneficial to our community. Whether this is a traditional pub or a regular 'pop up pub' at the village hall for example.	Facilities	Pub
176	Community run pub?	Facilities	Pub
178	<p>I would very much like a pop-up pub in the community hall. Something which is held on a regular basis for people to meet up / socialise. The closure of the Royal Oak is a huge loss. We have many families who have moved to the village because it had a pub.</p> <p>We need something to replace this that appeals to all ages not just to older retired people. As a single parent with a young child, it can feel quite isolating in Aston Abbotts. I feel it needs something to bring the community together more.</p>	Facilities	Pub
179	<p>Pie in the sky, but I guess this is what the survey is about:</p> <p>A multipurpose pub - not just snacks and drinks, but coffee and afternoon tea, basic shopping needs for milk and bread, collection point for deliveries for those out at work. There are a number of quite lonely and isolated people in the village. The Coffee Morning in the village hall taps into this, but a drop in multi-function site, run by village volunteers with one manager would be socially very useful.</p>	Facilities	Pub

C.7 Footpaths/Bridleways

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
11	Enhancement of hiking /bridleways	Footpaths/Bridleways	
36	Bridleways (Need more regardless..)	Footpaths/Bridleways	
39	Footpaths (Need more regardless..)	Footpaths/Bridleways	
80	Footpaths are good but not equitable maintained by Bucks Council.	Footpaths/Bridleways	
81	Bridleways have been allowed to deteriorate in quality despite more local equestrian users. Is it feasible for the north and south bridleways to be linked to make a circular route by using a permit scheme with farms,	Footpaths/Bridleways	
82	Need more circular routes Paths are great but not great circular routes.	Footpaths/Bridleways	
95	Ability to walk on paths or agricultural land XXXXXXXXXX	Footpaths/Bridleways	
101	Maintain green space along footpaths so that we can be close to nature	Footpaths/Bridleways	
160	Engage with the Aylesbury Council Plan to improve footpaths and cycle paths. Encourage bikes as a mode of transport by having safe off-road cycle paths through the country side Encourage farmers to allow areas across land (around the edges) for horse riding and footpaths with circular routes and minimal road usage If the red boundary line in Figure 1 could become an orbital footpath or, even better, a cycle path too, that would be excellent.	Footpaths/Bridleways	
165	- The footpath to Wingrave and A418 Wingrave Road is too narrow for buggies and adjacent to fast flowing traffic. It is poorly lit. It is the only walk to a shop/school and needs to be more accessible.	Footpaths/Bridleways	

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
168	3) There's some beautiful countryside here – let's not ruin it. But more walking routes would be welcomed.	Footpaths/Bridleways	
173	Linking the footpaths: - Footpath E with Footpath D (a short section to avoid having to use the road) – easy? - Footpath F to the allotment corner. Often used informally by dog walkers; landowners are opposed to this, but if properly negotiated, would be a nice amenity - more a long term aim.	Footpaths/Bridleways	

C.8 Green spaces

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
105	- Continued maintenance of the Village Orchard including a plan for its future and its preservation (maybe with funding).	Green spaces	Other
110	Stop cutting down trees and bushes, we are losing so many wild birds because of this.	Green spaces	Issue
112	A small wood - possibly in the Grove or along the footpath D between Longmoor and Old School	Green spaces	Other
114	*Important Issue* - there should be a register of protected trees within the parish. We need to prevent trees being cut down simple to facilitate development [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Trees form an essential view point of this village	Green spaces	Issue
174	See comment on register of all trees in the village to ensure that are protected	Green spaces	Issue

C.9 Highways

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
37	Cycle paths (Need more regardless..)	Highways	Cycle paths
42	Improvements to pavements and footpaths (Need more regardless..)	Highways	Issue
46	Pavement (Need more regardless..)	Highways	Issue
47	Pavements within village (Need more regardless..)	Highways	Issue
65	Cycle paths off the road to enable access to the towns and villages safely. We need farmers to open land to more bridlepaths, & footpaths for the same reason. At present car transport is the safest way but damages the environment.	Highways	Cycle paths
119	Leave verges to grow and only cut down at the end of the season.	Highways	Other
147	I would like to see an improvement to footpaths in the village	Highways	Issue
160	Engage with the Aylesbury Council Plan to improve footpaths and cycle paths. Encourage bikes as a mode of transport by having safe off-road cycle paths through the country side Encourage farmers to allow areas across land (around the edges) for horse riding and footpaths with circular routes and minimal road usage If the red boundary line in Figure 1 could become an orbital footpath or, even better, a cycle path too, that would be excellent.	Highways	Cycle paths
170	3) Better pavements - I have to go on the road with a double buggy as pavement too narrow in some places. It is not a friendly environment for taking children in buggies for a walk.	Highways	Issue

C.10 Housing

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
7	Encouraging more young people by having more affordable housing would create affordable employees for local business and reduce communising.	Housing	Other
157	3) Planning. Design statements to apply to new builds and extensions to existing properties. To ensure we are not building eyesores which do not fit in to the character of the village and is rural aspects.	Housing	Design Codes
185	House design should follow housing nearby. ie, brickwork, colour & pattern, dormer windows	Housing	Design Codes

C.11 Other

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
83	Maybe survey teenagers in the village to see what they would benefit from on the rec	Other	
89	Enhancement of local links, other villages for recreational activities, sporting facilities etc. Cublington/Wingrave/Weedon for PH's. Don't always require some in all villages when some in close proximity.	Other	
116	A village history group might be an idea to collate and keep archive items.	Other	
167	2) Consider twinning AA with another village.	Other	

C.12 Parish Council

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
38	Dog pooh bins (Need more regardless..)	Parish Council	Issue
51	Street Lights (Need more regardless..)	Parish Council	Issue
75	Parish Council to do more to request residents to take care of areas outside their properties - too many hedges are overgrown and reduce pavement and road width.	Parish Council	Issue
107	Danger of littering the village with information boards but need to think how these are maintained and what they will look like in x years from installation (? tatty and ugly)	Parish Council	Issue
108	Too many signs and history board would make the village look too cluttered	Parish Council	Issue
111	The board on the green is an eyesore and in the wrong place. Should be more discreet.	Parish Council	Issue
115	To many signs may spoilt a peaceful visual aspect	Parish Council	Issue
117	More history/info-signs/boards create a more suburban appearance in a small village and encourage more visitors/cars which are not appreciated! More info can be put out on the various village networks. The Czech board and info sheets in the church are all that is necessary.	Parish Council	Issue
146	Living in this part of Aston Abbotts, or as we call it the "Hamlet of Longmoor" has left us feeling like the poor cousins as little if any money is spent here from the parish coffers.	Parish Council	Issue
150	2) Support with dealing with fly tipping	Parish Council	Issue
155	Parish security: It would be good to plan how we could get 4-6 cameras installed around the village so we can catch fly tippers, littering vans, and general crime. They don't cost much but could save money long term (maybe companies may sponsor for example)	Parish Council	Other

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
181	It is a happy “coincidence” that the villages of Aston Abbots, Weedon, Hardwick and Cublington have managed to remain largely unspoiled by aggressive development. They are linked by quiet roads, footpaths and bridleways passing through beautiful unspoiled countryside. As such they constitute a great leisure facility to the area: particularly to rapidly growing Aylesbury. They should, I believe, therefore be considered as a whole in any local planning considerations.	Parish Council	Other

C.13 Recreation ground

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
45	Outdoor exercise (Need more regardless..)	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
52	Tennis courts (Need more regardless..)	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
55	Sports facilities? Community tennis court where residents could pay membership	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
58	Recreation Ground - better facilities to encourage use by families.. E.g:	Recreation ground	Play area
59	- Better football nets	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
60	- Cricket pitch demarked	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
61	- Boules (Pétanque) area	Recreation ground	Sports facilities
62	- More benches,	Recreation ground	Benches
69	Better outdoor exercise equipment/areas, especially for adults	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
77	The play area is very underused and the recent expenditure for an aerial runway that is rarely used is excessive. These funds would have been better spent elsewhere in the village. £8,000 on a play area piece of equipment?	Recreation ground	Issue
78	More sports facilities	Recreation ground	Sports Facilities
79	More varied equipment - park has been the same for a while Upgrading?	Recreation ground	Play area
84	Update/re-vamp children's play area: - More equipment for younger children.	Recreation ground	Play area
85	- Better maintenance of hedge/grass cutting/trees to make the area look more cared for	Recreation ground	Issue
86	Consideration of building a new village hall on the rec. Consider building a new village Hall on Rec.	Recreation ground	Other
87	A BMX Track	Recreation ground	Sports Facilities
90	A marked-out football pitch and nets	Recreation ground	Sports Facilities

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
91	Many rec grounds have exercise equipment for adults to help battling obesity. Some provision should be made in the village. At the moment you have to drive to use exercise equipment.	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
93	More needs to be done to encourage health and fitness.	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
94	People overlooking the rec complain about players on rec.	Recreation ground	Issue
96	Replace the bench in the corner of the rec, it is in much need of some care.	Recreation ground	Benches
97	Perhaps the children's play area could have some more things to play on.	Recreation ground	Play area
98	Play area needs updating,	Recreation ground	Play area
99	and more adult based equipment on the rec ground i.e. exercise machines	Recreation ground	Exercise equipment
100	benches etc for picnics.	Recreation ground	Benches
149	1) Upgrade in sports facilities	Recreation ground	Sports Facilities

C.14 Renewable energy

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
50	Renewable energy (Need more regardless..)	Renewable energy	Solar/Wind
56	Let's build solar to pay the parish electricity bills for decades.	Renewable energy	Solar
123	Yes! No brainer to save the village a fortune for decades and save the world.	Renewable energy	Solar/Wind
124	We need to move to green energy. May be the villagers would contribute if the benefits saved them money. E.G What would it take to power the village from solar). All 185 dwellings' electricity?	Renewable energy	Solar
125	Solar panels should be encouraged on all new buildings.	Renewable energy	Domestic
126	Solar "arrays" should not be too large, and situated away from local views. Also not interfere with arable farming, as food production is becoming increasingly important on a local basis	Renewable energy	Opposed
127	Out local transformers are maxed out. We are an elevated position so I'd love to see a wind turbine connected to reduce our energy bills and carbon footprint. We should also consider battey storage to reduce load on our maxed out grid. This is absolutely essential for any new housing as our grid is maxed out so we need to produce local green power.	Renewable energy	Wind
128	Heat source pumps in bigger properties	Renewable energy	Domestic
129	I agree in principle with alternative energy. I do not support wind farms or solar farms.	Renewable energy	Opposed
130	The turbines or panels should be restricted individual homes.	Renewable energy	Domestic
131	Government grants for domestic installations	Renewable energy	Domestic
132	We could live with several windmills around the village providing all our electricity.	Renewable energy	Wind
133	Combine that with solar panels and battery storage for total sustainability.	Renewable energy	Solar
134	I would not want to look at a giant wind turbine	Renewable energy	Opposed
135	It is absolutely crazy covering agricultural land with solar panels when all the great warehouses have none on their roof. E.g. Bicester	Renewable energy	Opposed
136	Help with solar panels on roofs	Renewable energy	Domestic

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
137	Villages should have own wind turbine.	Renewable energy	Wind
138	All new builds should be roofed with solar panels	Renewable energy	Domestic
139	- All new housing to be built to passive house standards as a minimum. - Functional support for solar panels, solar heating and air/ground source heat pumps etc.	Renewable energy	Domestic
141	Grants for solar panels	Renewable energy	Domestic
142	Village Action Group to explore possibility of sustainable energy for the benefit of the village e.g. windmill on Lines Hill.	Renewable energy	Domestic

C.15 Social

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
6	A licensed village club with charitable status using the Community Hall.	Social	Social club
43	Library bus (Need more regardless..)	Social	Other
44	Licensed social club (Need more regardless..)	Social	Social club
63	Licensed Social Club using Community Hall	Social	Social club
74	There needs to be some way of engaging the whole community on a more regular basis. Currently there is the café which is not suitable for people who work as it is in the morning.	Social	Other
177	More activities / social events for the children in the village	Social	Other

C.16 Transport

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
12	We have no objection to businesses being run from home but are concerned that agreeing to more "business units" in the parish will "industrialise" the area in increase traffic.	Transport	Traffic calming
41	Improved/controlled traffic flow by non-local traffic/inappropriate size/speed (Need more regardless..)	Transport	Traffic calming
53	Traffic calming (Need more regardless..)	Transport	Traffic calming
57	We need to address large lorries & trucks driving at speed through the village [REDACTED]	Transport	Traffic calming
71	Electric vehicle charging points	Transport	Electric vehicles
76	STOP rat run to Aylesbury via the village!! Make it 20 MPH through – enforced! While Cublington Road has been closed to traffic has made for a quieter time.	Transport	Traffic calming
140	- Reduction in traffic by restricting use of cars and HGVs; by financial measures if necessary.	Transport	Traffic calming
144	Cublington Road has very fast traffic which is unsafe due to the number of horse riders, cyclists and walkers. Drop the speed limit to 40mph and the village to 20mph.	Transport	Traffic calming
145	No safety signs in Cublington road for pedestrians in the road (no footpath) and horse riders. This should be a priority.	Transport	Issue
148	and traffic calming measures	Transport	Traffic calming
152	Traffic calming if it falls within this remit Making our roads safer for pedestrians - young and old alike	Transport	Traffic calming

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
153	The infrastructure and nature of the parish is being damaged by the disproportionate amount and size of traffic which are not delivering/visiting locally. The village is being used as a high speed cut through from the A418 to the A413 without entering/leaving Aylesbury. The noise generated by high "revving" cars and motorbikes is distressing, constant and invasive. The continuous drone of oversized HGV engines trying to save time and the damage caused to infrastructure when two oversized vehicles try to pass is unacceptable in my view but is condoned by Bucks CC complacency to place enforcement/traffic regulations as part of their freight strategy.	Transport	Traffic calming
154	1. Forget about speed limit stuff, those who speed ignore it anyway, and its not like kids are dropping like flies. 2. HGV traffic: - More signs, light the signs - Narrow entrance to "cut through" road to Lines Hill (opposite Humphries Close)	Transport	Traffic calming
156	1) Traffic management. AA has become a "rat-run" and a diversion route during the rush hour, and a route for the A418 and A413. I think this issue should be addressed by the NP 2) This also leads to road safety issues for all vulnerable users such as cyclists, wheelchair users, children, prams and horse riders etc.	Transport	Traffic calming
158	- Reduction in HGV lorries coming through the village and using it as a rat-run to avoid A418 and ot the A roads, - Traffic calming measures - Discourage Council from diverting traffic though Aston Abbotts when roadworks are being carried out	Transport	Traffic calming
169	1) Like most villages with small roads, there needs to be some way of tackling the size and amount of the lorries that come through the village, at time at an alarming speed. 2) Some type of speed calming through the village.	Transport	Traffic calming
175	Traffic too fast through the village	Transport	Traffic calming

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
180	[REDACTED]	Transport	Traffic calming
182	- Action needs to be taken to stop roads through the village being used as the 'Aylesbury By-Pass', by both cars, vans and lorries of all sizes.	Transport	Traffic calming
184	*Traffic* - the increase in traffic through the village	Transport	Traffic calming
186	Measures to restrict heavy goods vehicles passing through the village.	Transport	Traffic calming

C.17 Wildlife

ID	Comment	Cat	Sub Cat
102	More eco initiatives/conservation areas, owl boxes, bird and wild life housing.	Wildlife	Habitats
103	wild meadow space flower areas,	Wildlife	Wildflower meadow
104	- It would be good to see a wildlife conservation area established in the parish, and a wildlife/conservation group formed.	Wildlife	Other
106	- Education: Eg walks and talks about balance of our wildlife and the effect of having "to many" of one species in a small area (eg, magpies, rooks, raptors, badgers and foxes). How management of the landscape can improve the outcome for some of our more declining wildlife (song birds, lapwings, hares etc)	Wildlife	Other
109	A green area that is accessible would be really nice. Especially with a pond and information signs about wildlife. Especially of this could be developed to link the footpaths and provide housing too.	Wildlife	Other
113	Build new structures where Swallows can nest - have lost most of barns now.	Wildlife	Habitats
121	Things to encourage more wildlife	Wildlife	Habitats
122	such as wildflower meadows	Wildlife	Wildflower meadow



Local Business Evidence Report

Reference: 0187-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
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This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

This document contains information on the businesses and employment for the Parish. It presents information from three sources:

- Data sourced from Companies House and Endole¹ via web based searches
- Local knowledge
- Summary of information from the 2022 Parish Survey
- Information from the 2021 census

From these sources of information, it is apparent that the businesses operating within the Parish, as well as those employing residents, are notably diverse, with no single type of business standing out. Particularly intriguing is that fact that agriculture is only a very small portion of the local businesses.

Aston Abbotts parish has limited employment opportunities with 78% of working people working elsewhere, including Aylesbury and London. 19% of households who responded to the questionnaire said that they ran a business from home and there are a relatively large number of companies that list a property in Aston Abbotts as the company address. 230 residents were economically active during the 2021 census, with half of these being professionals or holding senior posts. Only 3 people fell into the agriculture, energy and water employment category.

There are a numerous of agricultural and horse related businesses operating from farms within the Parish. Many of these are not recorded at Companies House and some have been identified from local knowledge.

There are a small number of business clusters following conversions of agricultural buildings, the largest of which is the Hay Barn Business Park on Cublington Road. In response to the survey, 50% of respondents were opposed to development of more business units whilst only 18% were in favour.

¹ Endole is a UK-based company that provides business intelligence solutions, including company information sourced from Companies House

2. Business Profiles, Companies House

Web based searches of Companies House and Endole have identified 42 active companies operating in the Parish and five companies that are registered as dormant. This list should not be considered exhaustive, as there may be numerous other companies not captured by the searches. For example, there is one company that is actively promoting itself on the internet, but no record can be found in Companies House.

The full list of these companies is provided in Appendix B with Section B.1 providing the list of active companies and B.2 providing the list of dormant companies.

For the businesses that are recorded as being active, the types of businesses are very diverse. The following table shows the classification recorded for the types of business that the companies perform. Note that some companies may perform more than one business classification.

Type of Business	Number of companies
Agents involved in the sale of a variety of goods	1
Agents specialised in the sale of other particular products	1
Book publishing	1
Bookkeeping activities	1
Cargo handling for land transport activities of division 49	1
Computer consultancy activities	3
Construction of domestic buildings	2
Financial management	1
Fund management activities	1
General cleaning of buildings	1
Homecare Provider	1
Joinery installation	1
Landscape service activities	1
Letting and operating of own or leased real estate (other than Housing Association real estate and conference and exhibition services) n.e.c.	2
Management consultancy activities (other than financial management)	7
Manufacture of motor vehicles	2
Mixed farming	2
Operation of sports facilities	1
Other amusement and recreation activities	1
Other construction installation	1
Other education n.e.c.	1
Other financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding, (not including security dealing on own account and factoring) n.e.c.	2
Other human health activities	1
Other human resources provision	1

Type of Business	Number of companies
Other personal service activities n.e.c.	1
Other photographic activities (not including portrait and other specialist photography and film processing) n.e.c.	1
Other residential care activities	1
Other retail sale not in stores, stalls or markets	1
Other specialist photography (not including portrait photography)	1
Other sports activities (not including activities of racehorse owners) n.e.c.	1
Portrait photographic activities	1
Public relations and communication activities	1
Residents property management	2
Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet	1
Sale of new cars and light motor vehicles	1
Scaffold erection	1
Sports and recreation education	1
Tax consultancy	1
Tour operator activities	1
Wholesale of clothing and footwear	1
Wholesale trade of motor vehicle parts and accessories	2
To be provided	1

The types of business that are most prolific are *Management consultancy activities (other than financial management)* (seven companies) followed by *Computer consultancy activities* (three companies)

3. Local Knowledge

There are numerous businesses in the parish which are not recorded at Companies House. Many of these are agricultural and horse related businesses operating from farms. From local knowledge, the following have been noted:

- Moat Lane Stud Livery
- Abbotts View Farm (Moat Lane) including:
 - Abbotts View Alpacas
 - Abbotts View Farm Cattery
 - Abbotts View Livery
- Willowbrook Farm Livery and feed merchant (Bushmead Road)
- Dinton Farm (Norduck Farm), Moat Lane
- Red Barn Farm (dairy farm)
- Farrow and Paw Dog Grooming (The old cow shed, Cublington Road)

4. 2022 Survey Results

The 2022 Questionnaire included a section on economy. It asked the following questions:

- For members of the household that are employed, where do they work?
- Do any members of the household run a business from home?
- Do any members of the household own/rent business premises in the Parish?
- Would you be in favour of the development of more Business Units within the Parish?

The responses are provided in Appendix A, the key findings of which are summarised in Section 1 of this document.

The community were also asked to provide any suggestions for improving our economy. The complete list of comments is provided in Section A.6 of the Appendix. There were only 15 responses that included comments four of which mentioned the need for more facilities (eg, pub and shop). There were also four responses that stated the need for improved broadband.

5. 2021 Census

The 2021 Census² provided information on Economics and Employment and produced statistics on the following topics:

- Economic activity
- Occupation
- Industry

The summary of census results is shown in the following subsections.

Please be aware that this data has the following associated note:

“In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas and counts perturbed by small amounts. Small counts at the lowest geographies will be most affected.”

This dataset includes only parishes with a population of at least 50 usual residents and at least 20 households. Data for parishes below these thresholds are shown as missing.”

5.1. Economic activity

Economically active	231
Economically active: In employment (including full-time students)	226
Economically active: Unemployed (including full-time students)	5
Economically inactive	129
Total	360

5.2. Occupation

1. Managers, directors and senior officials	51
2. Professional occupations	57
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	18
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	21
5. Skilled trades occupations	33
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	12
7. Sales and customer service occupations	10
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	10
9. Elementary occupations	15
Total: All usual residents aged 16 years and over in employment the week before the census	227

² The census results are summarised in the Evidence Report ref 0171-DAT

5.3. Industry

A, B, D, E Agriculture, energy and water	3
C Manufacturing	21
F Construction	15
G, I Distribution, hotels and restaurants	42
H, J Transport and communication	19
K, L, M, N Financial, real estate, professional and administrative activities	58
O, P, Q Public administration, education and health	53
R, S, T, U Other	15
Total	226

Appendix A 2022 Survey Results

*Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns
(barring human error in the transcription).
No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.*

A.1. Scope

The 2022 Questionnaire³ included a section on economy. It asked the following questions:

- For members of the household that are employed, where do they work?
- Do any members of the household run a business from home?
- Do any members of the household own/rent business premises in the Parish?
- Would you be in favour of the development of more Business Units within the Parish?

The community were also asked to provide any suggestions for improving our economy.

The responses to these questions are summarised in the following subsections.

A.2. For members of the household that are employed, where do they work?

The response to this question is shown below:

For members of the household that are employed, where do they work?

Aston Abbotts	16	22%
Aylesbury	10	14%
Leighton Buzzard	2	3%
Milton Keynes	2	3%
Luton or Dunstable	3	4%
London	9	12%
Other*	31	42%

From this, it can be seen that a quarter of households that responded had at least one person who works in Aston Abbotts.

The following shows the locations recorded as “Others”:

- Aston Abbotts and Milton Keynes
- Aylesbury & Thame
- Aylesbury, Leighton Buzzard and Milton Keynes
- Berkhamstead [x3]
- Bicester
- Both London & Home
- Buckingham
- Bucks Area
- Haddenham/Thame
- Hemel Hempstead [x4]
- Hertfordshire areas
- Local area
- Not defined
- Part London, Part Home [x2]
- Part time in both Aston Abbotts and London
- Princess Risborough
- Rickmansworth
- Tring
- Tring/Berkhamstead
- Various
- Watford
- Wing
- Wingrave
- Working from home [x2]

It has not been possible to do further analysis on the responses that stated others since the questionnaire was based on households. It was not possible to determine if households who responded with more than one location represented one of more people in the household.

³ The full survey results are presented in the Evidence Report ref 0048-DAT

A.3. Do any members of the household run a business from home?

The response showed that one in five of the households that responded had one or more people who run a business from home:

Yes	15	19%
No	65	81%
No Response	4	[5%]

If households responded Yes to this question, they were also asked to state the nature of the of the business(es).

Similar to the assessment of the type of businesses presented in Section 2, the response to this question also showed a very diverse range of business as shown in the table below and the list of “Others”:

Accommodation services	2	11%
Agriculture	1	5%
Catering		
Construction/Landscaping		
Education	2	11%
Health and well-being		
Financial and/or Insurance	2	11%
Information/ Communication		
Retail	1	5%
Other*	11	58%

Other:

- Agriculture and Tourism
- Events
- Gardening
- Marketing [x2]
- Photography [x2]
- Secretarial audio typing
- Service Industry
- Transport
- Travel

A.4. Do any members of the household own/rent business premises in the Parish?

If members of the community responded Yes to this question, they were also asked to state if they considered that their business would be staying in the parish for the next 10 years. They were also asked to state the nature of the business.

Only two households responded that members of the household own/rent business premises in the Parish and that they saw their businesses staying in Aston Abbotts in the next 10 years.

Does anyone in household own/rent business premises in the parish?

Yes	2	3%
No	77	97%
No Response	5	[6%]

Do they see the business(es) staying in the parish for the next 10 years?

Yes	2	67%
No	1	33%
No Response	81	[96%]

The questionnaire also asked the household to state the nature of the business which revealed the following:

If yes, please state nature of the business(es)

Accommodation services		
Agriculture	2	50%
Arts and Crafts		
Construction/ Landscaping		
Education		
Health and well-being		
Financial and/or Insurance		
Information/ Communication		
Retail		
Other*	2	50%

Other:

- Snow Sports
- Tourism

This response seems at odds with the response showing that only two households responded to the question about owning/renting business premises but there were four responses to the question related to nature of the business. One way of interpreting this is that the two businesses are based on agriculture with some diversification.

A.5. Would you be in favour of the development of more Business Units within the Parish?

The response to this question erred slightly towards being against development of more business units with just over half of the households falling into the categories “Neither agree nor disagree” and “Disagree”:

Do you favour development of more Business Units within the Parish?

Strongly agree	2	3%
Agree	12	15%
Neither agree nor disagree	23	29%
Disagree	18	23%
Strongly disagree	21	27%
Not sure or don't know	3	4%
No Response	5	[6%]

A.6. Other suggestions for improving our economy

The following shows the question “*Please add other suggestions for improving our economy*”:

Decent fibre broadband to the property
Pub Shop Small restaurant.
Outlets for local produce (farm shop/local stock shelves at Wingrave Stores) Self-service milk machine at Red Barn Farm or other local dairy farms.
A licensed village club with charitable status using the Community Hall.
Encouraging more young people by having more affordable housing would create affordable employees for local business and reduce communising.
Enhancement and utilisation of agricultural business - Yes. Enhancement and utilisation of other businesses in area for attracting visitors to the area i.e. horses, stabling; short stay vacationing/holiday stay. Alpaca Farm Enhancement of hiking /bridleways.
We have no objection to businesses being run from home but are concerned that agreeing to more "business units" in the parish will "industrialise" the area in increase traffic.
Providing these were of a retail nature (pub, shop café...)
Do not want any large businesses. Only light businesses, nothing that will generate more heavy traffic e.g. lorries through the village.
Much better internet speed (fibre)
Faster Internet
It is dependent how many houses are to be built here
Whilst we disagree to this in the centre of the village – we would accept any further business units around Longmoor.
The economy would improve from having more facilities in the village. In particular the reinstatement of the local pub. I am aware that the village used to have 2 pubs, village shop, bakery and Post Office - all these have gone which is a significant economic loss.
Better internet connection that is more reliable

Appendix B Companies Located in Aston Abbotts as listed in Companies House

B.1. Active Companies

The following table lists the companies registered as Active. The table is sorted by the post code.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
Addicted2adventures Ltd	Westcraft 16 Bricstock, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4LP	HP22 4LP	Apr 2018	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Tour operator activities (79120)	Addicted2adventures Ltd is an active company incorporated on 6 April 2018 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Addicted2adventures Ltd has been running for 5 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 27th January 2024.
Genesis Motorcycle Transport Limited	3 Bricstock, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4LP	HP22 4LP	Apr 2022	Unreported	Cargo handling for land transport activities of division 49 (52243)	Genesis Motorcycle Transport Limited is an active company incorporated on 8 April 2022 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Genesis Motorcycle Transport Limited has been running for 1 year 10 months. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 7th April 2023.
Eir Compliance Service Limited	3 Chapmans Lea, Aston Abbotts, Default HP22 4LQ	HP22 4LQ	Oct 2023	Unreported	Other financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding, (not including security dealing on own account and factoring) n.e.c. (64999)	Eir Compliance Service Limited is an active company incorporated on 17 October 2023 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Eir Compliance Service Limited has been running for 4 months. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 17th October 2023.
Bluestone3 Globe LLP	3 New Zealand Cottages, Wingrave Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 4LS	HP22 4LS	Nov 2008	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	To be provided on next confirmation statement (Unknown)	Bluestone3 Globe LLP is an active company incorporated on 3 November 2008 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Bluestone3 Globe LLP has been running for 15 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 3rd November 2023.
Kingsmead Financial Planning Ltd	1 The Acorns Wingrave Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4LT	HP22 4LT	Dec 2013	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Other financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding, (not including security dealing on own account and factoring) n.e.c. (64999)	Kingsmead Financial Planning Ltd is an active company incorporated on 5 December 2013 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Kingsmead Financial Planning Ltd has been running for 10 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 5th December 2023.
Drift Management Limited	Unit 3 Stable Courtyard, Wingrave Road Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4LU	HP22 4LU	Jun 1993	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Bookkeeping activities (69202) Management consultancy activities (other than financial management) (70229)	Drift Management Limited is an active company incorporated on 18 June 1993 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Drift Management Limited has been running for 30 years. There is currently 1 active director and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 1st June 2023.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
Moke International Limited	Unit 3 Wingrave Road, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4LU	HP22 4LU	Aug 2015	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Manufacture of motor vehicles (29100) Sale of new cars and light motor vehicles (45111)	Moke International Limited is an active company incorporated on 12 August 2015 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Moke International Limited has been running for 8 years. There are currently 5 active directors and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 27th July 2023.
Photography Coaches Ltd	White Wheels Wingrave Road, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, HP22 4LU	HP22 4LU	Apr 2022	Unreported	Portrait photographic activities (74201) Other specialist photography (not including portrait photography) (74202) Other photographic activities (not including portrait and other specialist photography and film processing) n.e.c. (74209) Other education n.e.c. (85590)	Photography Coaches Ltd is an active company incorporated on 4 April 2022 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Photography Coaches Ltd has been running for 1 year 10 months. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 3rd April 2023.
Augur Communications Ltd	12 The Green, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, HP22 4LX	HP22 4LX	Aug 2013	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Public relations and communication activities (70210)	Augur Communications Ltd is an active company incorporated on 22 August 2013 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Augur Communications Ltd has been running for 10 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 22nd August 2023.
Clarke Financial Consulting Limited	The Old House The Green, Aston Abbots, Bucks HP22 4LX	HP22 4LX	Dec 2016	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Fund management activities (66300) Financial management (70221)	Clarke Financial Consulting Limited is an active company incorporated on 22 December 2016 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Clarke Financial Consulting Limited has been running for 7 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 21st December 2023.
DMH Thermal Ltd	16 The Green, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, HP22 4LX	HP22 4LX	Jan 2014	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Other construction installation (43290)	DMH Thermal Ltd is an active company incorporated on 21 January 2014 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. DMH Thermal Ltd has been running for 10 years. There is currently 1 active director and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 21st January 2024.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
A.D.S. & Sons Construction Limited	77 The Green, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4LY	HP22 4LY	Jan 2023	Unreported	Construction of domestic buildings (41202)	A.D.S. & Sons Construction Limited is an active company incorporated on 26 January 2023 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. A.D.S. & Sons Construction Limited has been running for 1 year 1 month. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 26th January 2023.
A.D.S. & Sons Estate Management Limited	77 The Green, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4LY	HP22 4LY	Jan 2023	Unreported	Management consultancy activities (other than financial management) (70229)	A.D.S. & Sons Estate Management Limited is an active company incorporated on 26 January 2023 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. A.D.S. & Sons Estate Management Limited has been running for 1 year 1 month. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 26th January 2023.
Andy Small Design & Build Limited	77 The Green, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4LY	HP22 4LY	Mar 2014	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Construction of domestic buildings (41202)	Andy Small Design & Build Limited is an active company incorporated on 24 March 2014 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Andy Small Design & Build Limited has been running for 9 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 24th March 2023.
Buckland Landscapes Limited	Home Farm 61 The Green, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4LY	HP22 4LY	Aug 2001	Small Between 10 to 50 employees or between £2 to £10 million turnover	Landscape service activities (81300)	Buckland Landscapes Limited is an active company incorporated on 17 August 2001 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Buckland Landscapes Limited has been running for 22 years. There is currently 1 active director and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 31st August 2023.
Small Developments Ltd	77 The Green, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4LY	HP22 4LY	Aug 2016	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Letting and operating of own or leased real estate (other than Housing Association real estate and conference and exhibition services) n.e.c. (68209)	Small Developments Ltd is an active company incorporated on 25 August 2016 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Small Developments Ltd has been running for 7 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 20th June 2023.
Snowbility Ltd	Grove Cottage 55 The Green, Aston Abbotts, Buckinghamshire HP22 4LY	HP22 4LY	Sep 2015	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Sports and recreation education (85510) Other sports activities (not including activities of racehorse owners) n.e.c. (93199)	Snowbility Ltd is an active company incorporated on 21 September 2015 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Snowbility Ltd has been running for 8 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 16th November 2023.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
Erin K Donaldson Ltd	Old School Cublington Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4NB	HP22 4NB	Mar 2018	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Computer consultancy activities (62020)	Erin K Donaldson Ltd is an active company incorporated on 5 March 2018 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Erin K Donaldson Ltd has been running for 5 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 10th February 2023.
Vogue Motorsport Ltd	Old School Cublington Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4NB	HP22 4NB	Mar 2023	Unreported	Manufacture of motor vehicles (29100) Other amusement and recreation activities (93290)	Vogue Motorsport Ltd is an active company incorporated on 28 March 2023 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Vogue Motorsport Ltd has been running for 11 months. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 28th March 2023.
Aston Management Limited	Unit 2 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aston Abbotts, Buckinghamshire HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Nov 2004	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Management consultancy activities (other than financial management) (70229)	Aston Management Limited is an active company incorporated on 9 November 2004 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Aston Management Limited has been running for 19 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 17th November 2023.
Auria Star Healthcare Ltd	4 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aylesbury, HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	May 2020	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Other residential care activities (87900)	Auria Star Healthcare Ltd is an active company incorporated on 19 May 2020 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Auria Star Healthcare Ltd has been running for 3 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 18th May 2023.
Auto Supplies International Ltd	Unit 1 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aston Abbotts, Buckinghamshire HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Oct 1994	Small Between 10 to 50 employees or between £2 to £10 million turnover	Wholesale trade of motor vehicle parts and accessories (45310)	Auto Supplies International Ltd is an active company incorporated on 5 October 1994 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Auto Supplies International Ltd has been running for 29 years. There are currently 2 active directors and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 12th November 2023.
Aylesbury Adventure Golf Ltd	1 Longmoor Barns, Cublington Road, Aylesbury, HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Aug 2019	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Letting and operating of own or leased real estate (other than Housing Association real estate and conference and exhibition services) n.e.c. (68209)	Aylesbury Adventure Golf Ltd is an active company incorporated on 6 August 2019 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Aylesbury Adventure Golf Ltd has been running for 4 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 5th August 2023.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
Aylesbury Golf Centre Limited	1 Longmoor Barns, Cublington Road, Aylesbury, HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Nov 1990	Small Between 10 to 50 employees or between £2 to £10 million turnover	Operation of sports facilities (93110)	Aylesbury Golf Centre Limited is an active company incorporated on 22 November 1990 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Aylesbury Golf Centre Limited has been running for 33 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 31st August 2023.
Blueleys Limited	Unit 4 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aylesbury, HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	May 2009	Medium Between 50 to 250 employees or between £10 to £50 million turnover	Other human health activities (86900)	Blueleys Limited is an active company incorporated on 27 May 2009 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Blueleys Limited has been running for 14 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 27th May 2023.
Caremark Aylesbury and Wycombe	4 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Road, HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Unknown	Unknown	Home care provider	Unknown
Cleaning Partners Ltd	4 The Hay Barn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aylesbury, HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Jan 2022	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	General cleaning of buildings (81210)	Cleaning Partners Ltd is an active company incorporated on 12 January 2022 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Cleaning Partners Ltd has been running for 2 years. There are currently 3 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 11th January 2024.
Ladyhall Limited	Unit 2 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aston Abbots, Buckinghamshire HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Jul 1992	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Wholesale of clothing and footwear (46420))	Ladyhall Limited is an active company incorporated on 3 July 1992 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Ladyhall Limited has been running for 31 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 3rd July 2023.
Longmoor Barns Management Limited	1 Longmoor Barns, Cublington Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Jun 1996	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Residents property management (98000)	Longmoor Barns Management Limited is an active company incorporated on 12 June 1996 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Longmoor Barns Management Limited has been running for 27 years. There are currently 4 active directors and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 12th June 2023.
Mecatech UK Limited	Unit 1 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aston Abbots, Buckinghamshire HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Mar 2002	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Wholesale trade of motor vehicle parts and accessories (45310)	Mecatech UK Limited is an active company incorporated on 30 March 2002 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Mecatech UK Limited has been running for 21 years. There is currently 1 active director and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 30th March 2023.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
Organisation Development & Research Limited	Unit 3 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aston Abbotts, Buckinghamshire HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	May 1994	Small Between 10 to 50 employees or between £2 to £10 million turnover	Management consultancy activities (other than financial management) (70229) Other human resources provision (78300)	Organisation Development & Research Limited is an active company incorporated on 13 May 1994 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Organisation Development & Research Limited has been running for 29 years. There is currently 1 active director and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 21st September 2023.
The Hay Barn Business Park Management Company Limited	2/3 Haybarn Business Park, Cublington, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Aug 1989	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Residents property management (98000)	The Hay Barn Business Park Management Company Limited is an active company incorporated on 25 August 1989 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. The Hay Barn Business Park Management Company Limited has been running for 34 years. There are currently 3 active directors and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 30th April 2023.
Abbotts Consultants Limited	Norduck Barn Moat Lane, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4NF	HP22 4NF	May 2023	Unreported	Tax consultancy (69203)	Abbotts Consultants Limited is an active company incorporated on 15 May 2023 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Abbotts Consultants Limited has been running for 9 months. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 15th May 2023.
Barefoot And Back To Nature Ltd	Abbotts View Farm Moat Lane, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4NF	HP22 4NF	Mar 2023	Unreported	Book publishing (58110) Management consultancy activities (other than financial management) (70229)	Barefoot And Back To Nature Ltd is an active company incorporated on 9 March 2023 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Barefoot And Back To Nature Ltd has been running for 11 months. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 9th March 2023.
Hitch Rigging Ltd	1 Norduck Cottages Moat Lane, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4NF	HP22 4NF	Oct 2021	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Scaffold erection (43991)	Hitch Rigging Ltd is an active company incorporated on 13 October 2021 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Hitch Rigging Ltd has been running for 2 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 14th October 2023.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
NPC Refresh Ltd	Norduck Farm Moat Lane, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, HP22 4NF	HP22 4NF	Sep 2022	Unreported	Agents specialised in the sale of other particular products (46180) Agents involved in the sale of a variety of goods (46190) Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet (47910) Other retail sale not in stores, stalls or markets (47990)	NPC Refresh Ltd is an active company incorporated on 30 September 2022 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. NPC Refresh Ltd has been running for 1 year 4 months. There is currently 1 active director and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 30th September 2022.
Seamless Solutions (SR) Limited	Moat Farm Stud, Moat Lane, Aston Abbots, Bucks HP22 4NF	HP22 4NF	Aug 2012	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Joinery installation (43320)	Seamless Solutions (SR) Limited is an active company incorporated on 7 August 2012 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Seamless Solutions (SR) Limited has been running for 11 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 7th October 2023.
Agile It Limited	The Gables Lines Hill, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4NG	HP22 4NG	Sep 2004	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Computer consultancy activities (62020)	Agile It Limited is an active company incorporated on 20 September 2004 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Agile It Limited has been running for 19 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 20th September 2023.
Firebird Consultancy Services Limited	The Gables Lines Hill, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, HP22 4NG	HP22 4NG	Oct 2023	Unreported	Management consultancy activities (other than financial management) (70229)	Firebird Consultancy Services Limited is an active company incorporated on 9 October 2023 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Firebird Consultancy Services Limited has been running for 4 months. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 9th October 2023.
Starbreeze Ltd	The Gables Lines Hill, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, HP22 4NG	HP22 4NG	Sep 2022	Unreported	Computer consultancy activities (62020) Management consultancy activities (other than financial management) (70229)	Starbreeze Ltd is an active company incorporated on 15 September 2022 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Starbreeze Ltd has been running for 1 year 5 months. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 14th September 2023.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
Burston Farmers Ltd	Burston Hill Farm Weedon Road, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, HP22 4NQ	HP22 4NQ	Jun 2020	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Mixed farming (01500)	Burston Farmers Ltd is an active company incorporated on 17 June 2020 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Burston Farmers Ltd has been running for 3 years. There are currently 3 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 16th June 2023.
Foxwylie Limited	Burston Hill Farm Weedon Road, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4NQ	HP22 4NQ	Jan 2016	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Other personal service activities n.e.c. (96090)	Foxwylie Limited is an active company incorporated on 25 January 2016 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Foxwylie Limited has been running for 8 years. There is currently 1 active director and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 31st January 2024.
J & J Farms Limited	Burston Hill Farm Weedon Road, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 4NQ	HP22 4NQ	Nov 2017	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Mixed farming (01500)	J & J Farms Limited is an active company incorporated on 27 November 2017 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. J & J Farms Limited has been running for 6 years. There are currently 2 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 18th April 2023.

B.2. Dormant Companies

The following table lists the companies registered as Dormant. The table is sorted by post code.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
Rycraft Ltd	8 Wingrave Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4LT	HP22 4LT	Aug 2020	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	To be provided on next confirmation statement (Unknown)	Rycraft Ltd is a dormant company incorporated on 10 August 2020 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Rycraft Ltd has been running for 3 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 9th August 2023.
Achievers Consultancy And Training Limited	White Wheels Wingrave Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, HP22 4LU	HP22 4LU	Nov 2000	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Management consultancy activities (other than financial management) (70229)	Achievers Consultancy And Training Limited is a dormant company incorporated on 2 November 2000 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Achievers Consultancy And Training Limited has been running for 23 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 2nd November 2023.
LTSB Limited	Unit 3 Wingrave Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4LU	HP22 4LU	Nov 2014	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Activities of head offices (70100)	LTSB Limited is a dormant company incorporated on 17 November 2014 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. LTSB Limited has been running for 9 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 17th November 2023.
Schnauzer Property Services Limited	Unit 3, Stable Courtyard, Wingrave Road, Aston Abbotts, Buckinghamshire HP22 4LU	HP22 4LU	Jun 2016	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Buying and selling of own real estate (68100)	Schnauzer Property Services Limited is a dormant company incorporated on 2 June 2016 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Schnauzer Property Services Limited has been running for 7 years. There are currently 2 active directors and 1 active secretary according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 1st June 2023.
Cublington Walled Gardens Management Company Limited	The Vines Cublington Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4NB	HP22 4NB	Apr 2011	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Residents property management (98000)	Cublington Walled Gardens Management Company Limited is a dormant company incorporated on 11 April 2011 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Cublington Walled Gardens Management Company Limited has been running for 12 years. There are currently 3 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 11th April 2023.

Company Name	Address	Post Code	Date incorporated	Size	Classification	Summary
ODRL Recruitment Solutions Ltd	3 The Hay Barn Business Park, Cublington Road, Aylesbury, HP22 4ND	HP22 4ND	Jun 2020	Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	To be provided on next confirmation statement (Unknown)	ODRL Recruitment Solutions Ltd is a dormant company incorporated on 30 June 2020 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. ODRL Recruitment Solutions Ltd has been running for 3 years. There is currently 1 active director according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 29th June 2023.
Fulwards Limited	Burston Grange Weedon Road, Aston Abbotts, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 4NQ	HP22 4NQ	Jul 2021	Micro Less than 10 employees or under £2 million turnover	Activities of other holding companies (not including agricultural, production, construction, distribution and financial services holding companies) n.e.c. (64209)	Fulwards Limited is a dormant company incorporated on 22 July 2021 with the registered office located in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Fulwards Limited has been running for 2 years. There are currently 3 active directors according to the latest confirmation statement submitted on 21st July 2023.



Local Green Spaces Evidence Report

Reference: 0184-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

A green infrastructure contributes to the quality and distinctiveness of local environments. It creates opportunities for walking and physical activity and generally adds to the quality of life and wellbeing of the community. Green infrastructure is diverse in character and can include formal parks and gardens, informal grassed areas, sports pitches and various other kinds of landscaped areas.

For many local communities, securing high quality green infrastructure in and around their neighbourhood is important. Designation of areas as 'Local Green Spaces' within the neighbourhood plan is a key element in protecting them for current and future generations.

National Planning Practice Guidance states: *Local Green Space designation is a way to provide special protection against development for green areas of particular importance to local communities.*

This document explains how we assessed potential candidates for Local Green Space designation. The assessment process resulted in the following being identified as local Green Spaces:

- Recreation Ground
- Churchyard
- The Village Green
- Vic Scott Memorial Orchard
- Allotments

2. Criteria and Methodology

There are set criteria in defining an area as Local Green Space. Local Green Space designation should only be used where the space is:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.
- demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife
- is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land

It should be noted that there is no precise definition of 'close proximity', but it should be interpreted as meaning adjacent or in very easy walking distance.

Consideration of whether the green space is local in character and not an extensive tract of land suggests spaces within a locality, rather than, for example, extensive green areas in the countryside around a settlement.

Based on these criteria, consideration was only given to green areas within the bounds of the village.

Identification of candidate green spaces was achieved using the results of the 2022 questionnaire. The questionnaire included a section on the environment and asked a specific question about how highly the residents valued the countryside and landscape around the parish and provided the opportunity for the residents to identify the green spaces that they valued the most. The responses to this question are provided in Appendix A.

To undertake the assessment of Local Green Spaces, an assessment tool provided in the *National Planning Policy Framework* has been used. This tool is shown in *Figure 1*.

Site Details		
Site name	Grid Ref.	Description and purpose
Checklist		
Statutory designations (e.g. SSSI)	Site allocations (give details)	Planning permissions (give details)
NPPF Criteria		
Close to the community it serves	Demonstrably special to local community (beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, wildlife, or other)	Local in character and not extensive tract

Figure 1 - Local Green Space assessment tool

3. Local Green Spaces Assessments and Details

The responses received from the questionnaire (Appendix A, Section A.2) were distilled into a list and were classified as either:

- Potential candidate for classification as a Local Green Space
- Ineligible due to area covering a large tract of agricultural land

The table overleaf shows the distilled list with the resulting classifications.

It should be noted that this document covers only green spaces. The results and assessment of protected views are covered in document reference 0186-DAT.

Table 1 - Classification of areas identified by residents

Areas identified from questionnaire responses	Initial Classification
Across the Vale (Lines Hill)	Ineligible – agricultural land
Allotments	Potential candidate for LGS
Behind Old Masters / New Masters	Ineligible – agricultural land
Churchyard	Potential candidate for LGS
Field at the end of Chapmans Lea.	Ineligible – agricultural land
Field behind Hunters way	Ineligible – agricultural land
Field South of Windmill Hill Farm	Ineligible – agricultural land
Fields at the back of Humphries Close	Ineligible – agricultural land
Fields behind Wingrave Road houses	Ineligible – agricultural land
Fields between Aston Abbots and Weedon.	Ineligible – agricultural land
First field on the Cublington footpath	Ineligible – agricultural land
Fox Covert (300m south of the recreation ground)	Potential candidate for LGS
Norduck	Ineligible – agricultural land
Vic Scott Memorial Orchard	Potential candidate for LGS
Paddock land behind Nash's Farm	Ineligible – agricultural land
Recreation Ground	Potential candidate for LGS
Green area before you get to the Recreation ground	Potential candidate for LGS
The Grove	Ineligible – agricultural land
Village Green	Potential candidate for LGS
Millenium Wood	Potential candidate for LGS

The result of the initial classification resulted in the following areas to be assessed as potential Local Green Spaces:

- Allotments
- Churchyard
- Fox Covert
- Vic Scott Memorial Orchard
- Recreation Ground
- The green area in Bricstock by the entrance to the recreation ground
- Village Green
- Millenium Wood

As part of an initial assessment, it was deemed necessary to exclude two of these areas. Both Fox Covert and the Millenium Wood are located about ½km from the centre of the village and are separated from the village centre by extensive tracts of agricultural land.

A third area, the area in Bricstock by the entrance to the recreation ground, was also excluded. It comprises two triangular areas laid to grass which are home to two small trees. The total area of both combined is approximately 160m². However, the areas are separated by Bricstock resulting in the overall area in front of the gates to the recreation ground being largely laid with tarmac.

Following the initial assessment, there were five remaining areas that were fully assessed. These are listed below, and their locations are shown in Figure 2.

- LGS1 Recreation Ground
- LGS2 Churchyard
- LGS3 The Village Green
- LGS4 Vic Scott Memorial Orchard
- LGS5 Allotments

More details of each of the areas are provided in Sections 3.1 to 3.5 and the results of the full assessment are provided in Appendix B which concluded that the five areas will be designated Local Green Spaces.

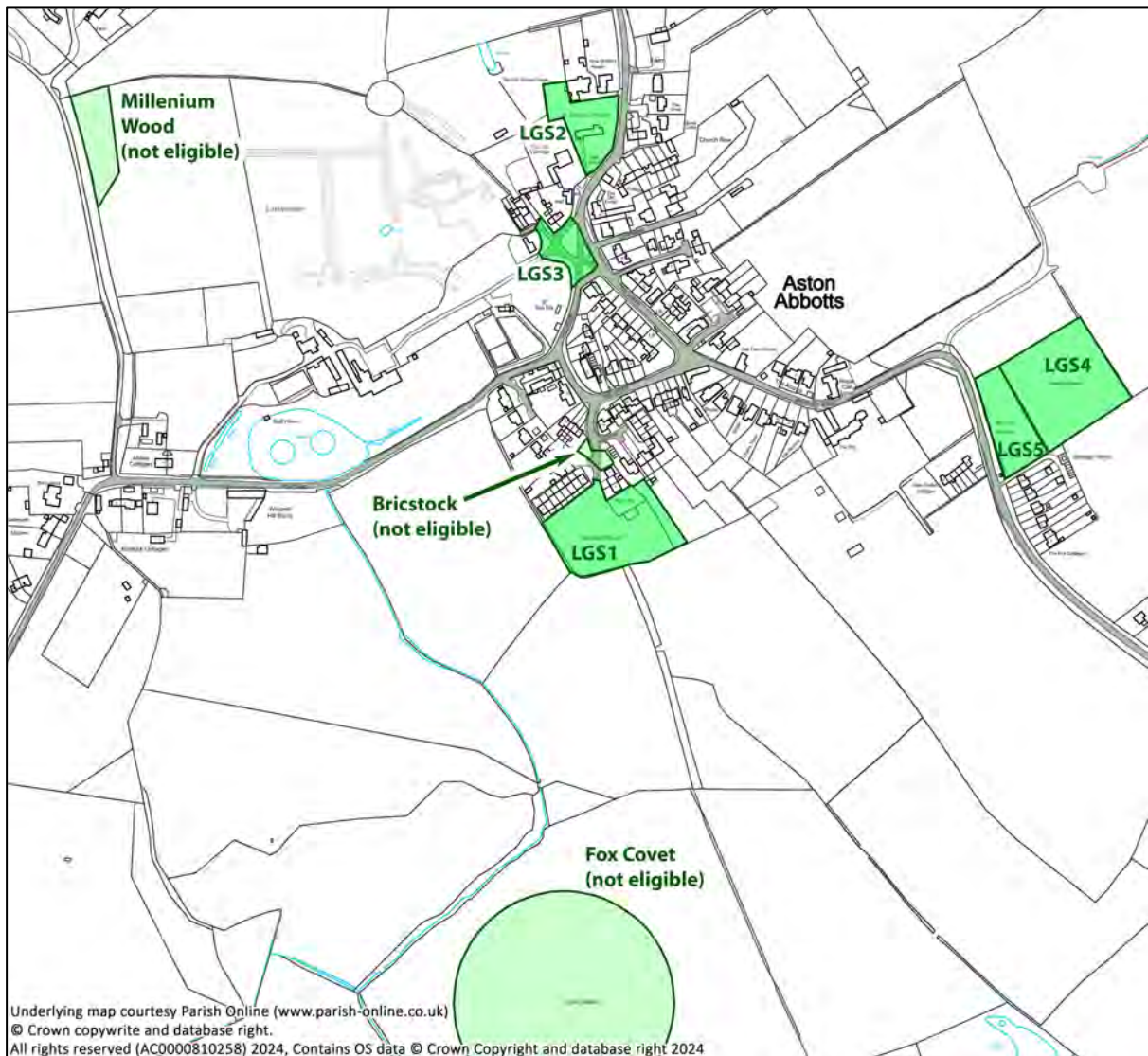


Figure 2 - Location of green spaces that were assessed

3.1. Recreation Ground

The recreation ground was established in 1945 and is owned and managed by the Parish Council.

It is approached from the north via Bricstock. The public footpath that links Aston Abbots to Rowsham runs south through the ground.

A children’s play area is situated at the northern side of the ground. The recreation ground is also equipped with an aerial runway, basketball hoop, goal posts, a table-tennis table and a bench.

Apart from its day-to-day use for walkers and sporting activities it is a major asset to the community for large events which include annual firework displays and other celebrations.



Entrance to the recreation ground from Bricstock



View looking south from the entrance



Children’s play area



View looking north from the south corner



View looking south over the Vale of Aylesbury

Figure 3 – Photographs of the Recreation Ground

3.2. The Churchyard

Situated on the north side of the village, the churchyard is entered from Cublington Road. To the right of the entrance is the war memorial.



View from the entrance from Cublington Road



Wild area



View of area behind the church

Figure 4 – Photographs of the Churchyard

3.3. The Village Green

The village green consists of three sizable grass islands adjacent to the entrance gates of The Abbey. The village green hosts several trees, including two large oak trees and a lime tree planted by diplomats from the Czech and Slovak Embassies to mark the 60th V.E. Day anniversary.

The village green is a focal point for the village. It is the location of the annual village fete and other significant celebrations. It is often used as a meeting place for hiking groups.

Two history boards have been installed. One of these shows the historic landmarks of Aston Abbotts and the other is dedicated to the links with Czech Republic and Slovakia, resulting from Aston Abbotts hosting the exiled President of Czechoslovakia Dr Edward Benes during the Second World War.



Figure 5 – Photographs of the Village Green

3.4. Vic Scott Memorial Orchard

The orchard is dedicated to the memory of the late Vic Scott who was extremely well respected in the village. He was an exceptionally knowledgeable gardener, botanist and naturalist. Vic lived in Aston Abbots all his life, for many years in the house on The Green of which his great-grandfather had been the first occupant in 1854.

The first trees in the orchard were planted in 2011 and there are now more than 130 trees. As well as the fruit trees, the orchard houses the obsolete trig point which used to stand on Lines Hill.

The land is owned by the church and is accessed through the allotments on Cublington Road.



Figure 6 – Photographs of the Vic Scott Memorial Orchard

3.5. Allotments

Like the Vic Scott Memorial Orchard, the allotments are owned by the church.



Figure 7 – Photographs of the Allotments

Appendix A Questionnaire Responses and Comments

*Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns
(barring human error in the transcription).*

No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.

A.1. Environment and Green Spaces Question

Section 7 of the Questionnaire concerned the environment. The relevant questions are shown below:

7. ENVIRONMENT

7.1	How important is to you, and how highly do you value, the countryside and landscape around the Parish? Please tick		
Very Important	Important	Fairly Important	Not important
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Please place an arrow on the maps in Figures 1 or 2 showing your favourite views <i>from a public viewpoint</i> . Please elaborate below if you wish:			

7.2	Which Green Spaces are important to you
<i>Note: Green space is land, not necessarily provided for formal recreation or public amenity, which makes a positive visual and environmental contribution to the Parish.</i>	
Are there any Green Spaces within the Parish are important to you? If so, please describe them and/or mark them on the maps in Figures 1 or 2.	

Note that this document covers only green spaces. The results and assessment of protected views are covered in document reference 0186-DAT.

A.2. Response

The “Tick Box” response question 7.1 is shown below:

Q7.1 [i] **How important is to you is the countryside/landscape around the Parish?**

Very important	76	93%
Important	6	7%
Fairly Important		
Not important		
No Response	2	[2%]

The following are the responses to the question 7.2 “**Which Green Spaces are important to you?**”. Note that text that could identify the respondent have been redacted.

[Redacted]
The fields along Moat Lane and Lines Hill. The recreation ground
Chapmans Lea Windmill Hill The Abbey
All
The fields behind Wingrave Road houses The Green Recreation Ground

<p>The Abbey field [REDACTED]</p> <p>The first field on the Cublington footpath as I often see deer there and the hawthorn hedge in flower is stunning.</p> <p>The field behind Hunters way on the footpath to Lines Hill</p> <p>The field behind Chapmans Lea</p> <p>Both fields become butterfly heaven when left ungrazed</p>
<p>The recreation ground is important for the community at large</p>
<p>Village Green, Footpaths, Bridleways. Open views to Lines Hill to Wingrave, Waddesdon and beyond.</p> <p>Recreation Ground.</p>
<p>Recreation Ground/park and play area.</p> <p>The field at the end of Chapmans Lea.</p>
<p>Behind the Abbey</p> <p>Across the Vale (Lines Hill)</p>
<p>Playground/Recreation Ground: open space for children to play safely.</p> <p>Orchard/Allotments: quiet spaces.</p> <p>Note: We moved to AA for the rural, green views and spaces. It is a parish asset and we should try to keep that.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Green - The Recreation Ground - The Grove - views of the church and Abbey. Mature trees and ancient pastureland. Typical "English" scene. - Lines Hill - for the wonderful open views
<p>Views over the Vale from Lines Hill is a treasure I never take for granted.</p>
<p>Lines Hill</p>
<p>The fields and walks around the village, as indicated, we walk regularly.</p>
<p>Village green</p> <p>Orchard</p> <p>Surrounding fields</p>
<p>The Green</p> <p>Recreation Ground</p> <p>Field walkways</p>
<p>Recreation Ground</p> <p>Orchard</p> <p>Allotments</p> <p>Footpaths</p>
<p>All</p>
<p>Love the views on Lines Hill but wish it was more accessible with a path linking the Lines Hill path across to Norduck Farm and also wish it continued on to the footpath at the park without having to go on to the road.</p>
<p>The part of The Green where the fete is held.</p> <p>The green area before you get to the park.</p> <p>The park itself</p> <p>The orchard</p> <p>All I consider important</p>
<p>All green spaces are important</p>
<p>Village Green. Recreation Ground. Churchyard. Reflective places</p>
<p>Again, all the green spaces are important to us and valued</p>
<p>All green spaces are important</p>
<p>Rec ground</p> <p>Footpaths & fields around the village</p>

All green spaces are important.
The Park. Church. Footpath F Chapmans Lea is a great view to Wing and the best (and only) circular walk from the village under 5km.
Clear views towards Wing
The Grove
Please see Fig 2 <i>The Grove, Windmill Hill Farm, Agricultural fields northeast of Chapman's Lee</i>
Recreation Ground. Chapmans Lea and beyond. The Grove.
The view [REDACTED] looking towards Wingrave is very important and I would not want this spoilt by new housing.
It is a beautiful view generally, the fields and green spaces are all important to me.
The Village Green The Recreation Ground The Orchard The fields along Lines Hill allow lovely views.
Grove Lines Hill Chapmans Lea Behind Old Masters / New Masters Norduck
Orchard The Green Recreation Ground Fox Covert Churchyard (esp. wild area)
The Green Path along Windmill Hill Farm
The Green - centre of the village. Lines Hill - magnificent views of the Chilterns and Vale Churchyard - peaceful and well kept playing field and playground Orchard - peaceful / good views
Footpath A – the Grove Footpath B – Norduck
Orchard Recreation Ground Footpaths The Green
Village Orchard The footpath through The Grove & Cricket Field. Norduck Drive
The Village Orchard is very important to me. But so is every acre of cared-for farm land. I cannot bare what I call creeping urbanisation.
The Green, the fields, and paddock land behind Nashs Farm / the rec. Fields between Aston Abbots and Weedon.
We love all the green spaces as they are vital to village living and are important to both physical and mental wellbeing and strongly feel green spaces and historical buildings/monuments should stay.

The Green
The recreation ground
The orchard
The Grove

Appendix B Assessment Results

B.1. LGS1 - Recreation Ground

Site Details		
Site name	Grid Ref.	Description and purpose
Recreation Ground Address: Bricstock, Aston Abbotts	OS Grid Ref: SP 84757 19858 (51°52'15"N , 000°46'13"W) Altitude: 135 m (see pin in Figure 8)	The Recreation Ground is an informal grassed area. It incorporates a children's play area, football goal nets, a table tennis table, picnic bench, and a bench. It is crossed by a public footpath. Used by children, families and dog walkers.
Checklist		
Statutory designations (e.g. SSSI)	Site allocations	Planning permissions
None	none	none
NPPF Criteria		
Close to the community it serves	Demonstrably special to local community (beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, wildlife, or other)	Local in character and not extensive tract
The Recreation ground lies adjacent to Bricstock on the South side of the village. It is in easy walking distance from anywhere within the village envelope	Recreational value for adults and children, dog walking, enjoyment of beautiful views across Aylesbury Vale to the Chiltern Hills (tranquillity). Many village events have been hosted there (e.g. Astonbury, Queen's Golden Jubilee)	0.7208 ha Adjacent to the southern edge of the village, the Recreation ground is owned and maintained by the Parish Council. One strip of land now part of the Recreation Ground was donated to the village as part of a S106 agreement when Nash's Farm was developed in 1996.

Recreation Ground Location



Figure 8 – Location of the Recreation Ground

B.2. LGS2 - The Churchyard

Site Details		
Site name	Grid Ref.	Description and purpose
The Churchyard Cublington Road, Aston Abbotts	OS Grid Ref: SP 84756 20240 (51°52'27"N , 000°46'13"W) Altitude: 135 m (see pin in Figure 9)	In addition to being a burial ground, this area, which is central to the village and includes a wildflower area, is often visited for contemplation by members of the community. It is used on Remembrance Sunday, for outdoor services and by the village fete
Checklist		
Statutory designations (e.g. SSSI)	Site allocations	Planning permissions
Conservation area	none	none
NPPF Criteria		
Close to the community it serves	Demonstrably special to local community (beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, wildlife, or other)	Local in character and not extensive tract
The Churchyard is central to the village and in easy walking distance from all parts of the community	Used as a place for quiet contemplation, people also go there to see the wild-flower area which has been cultivated by members of the PCC. In May 2023 the Churchyard hosted the whole village for afternoon tea, to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III Also used on Fete Day	0.344 ha There is a mowing rota made up of local people who look after the grass in the Churchyard (not necessarily Churchgoers).

The Churchyard Location

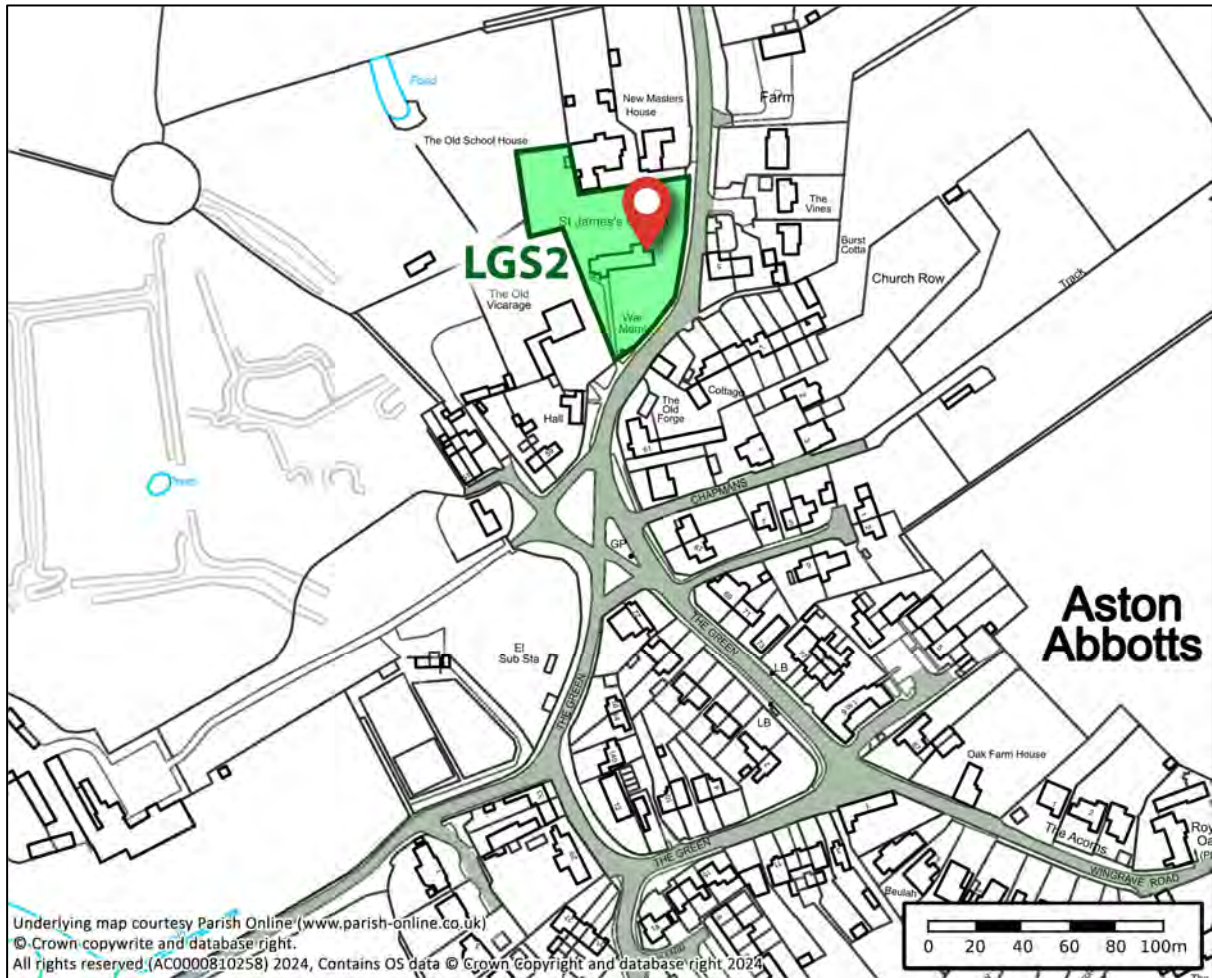


Figure 9 – Location of the Churchyard

B.3. LGS3 - The Village Green

Site Details		
Site name	Grid Ref.	Description and purpose
The Village Green	OS Grid Ref: SP 84721 20133 (51°52'24"N , 000°46'15"W) Altitude: 135 m (see pin in Figure 10)	The Village Green consists of a group of three triangular areas of grass which form the centre of the main junction between Wingrave Road and Moat Lane. This is an informal grassed area with three mature trees, used for the village fete and other major celebrations (e.g. the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022)
Checklist		
Statutory designations (e.g. SSSI)	Site allocations	Planning permissions
Conservation area	Common land	none
NPPF Criteria		
Close to the community it serves	Demonstrably special to local community (beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, wildlife, or other)	Local in character and not extensive tract
Central to the village. In easy walking distance of all properties	Used for the village fete and other whole village celebrations. There is a bench and two history boards located on The Green where both locals and passers-by stop to rest. The Green is planted with spring bulbs, tended by members of the community	0.19 ha including the surrounding roads. The Green enhances the views in the middle of the village

The Village Green Location



Figure 10 – Location of the Village Green

B.4. LGS4 - The Vic Scott Memorial Orchard

Site Details		
Site name	Grid Ref.	Description and purpose
The Vic Scott Memorial Orchard Wingrave Road, Aston Abbotts	OS Grid Ref: SP 85193 19991 (51°52'19"N , 000°45'50"W) Altitude: 131 m (see pin in Figure 11)	An informal area of grass planted with fruit trees used for recreation by residents of the village. Owned by the Church
Checklist		
Statutory designations (e.g. SSSI)	Site allocations	Planning permissions
none	none	none
NPPF Criteria		
Close to the community it serves	Demonstrably special to local community (beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, wildlife, or other)	Local in character and not extensive tract
Situated on the eastern side of the village and easily accessible on foot from anywhere in the village.	The Orchard is planted with fruit trees donated by members of the community. Most of the fruit trees are dedicated to residents or their relatives. This tranquil space is enjoyed by anyone who wishes to go there. It has hosted Mayday celebrations, Wassailing and Easter Egg hunts as well as being used in summer by organisations such as the village Book Club During the summer villagers go there to water and tend to their trees, with water provided by a local retired farmer.	0.8810 ha Owned by the Church and dedicated for the enjoyment solely of residents of the village of Aston Abbotts.

The Vic Scott Memorial Orchard Location



Figure 11 – Location of the Vic Scott Memorial Orchard

B.5. LGS5 - The Allotments

Site Details		
Site name	Grid Ref.	Description and purpose
The Allotments Wingrave Road, Aston Abbotts	OS Grid Ref: SP 85144 19962 (51°52'18"N , 000°45'53"W) Altitude: 133 m (see pin in Figure 12)	An area of land owned by the Church and used as allotments for residents of the village
Checklist		
Statutory designations (e.g. SSSI)	Site allocations	Planning permissions
none	none	none
NPPF Criteria		
Close to the community it serves	Demonstrably special to local community (beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, wildlife, or other)	Local in character and not extensive tract
Situated on the eastern side of the village and easily accessible on foot from anywhere in the village.	Used by members of the community to grow fruit and vegetables. A tranquil setting accessible to all residents of the village	0.3662 ha Owned by the Church for the enjoyment solely of residents of the village of Aston Abbotts.

The Allotments Location

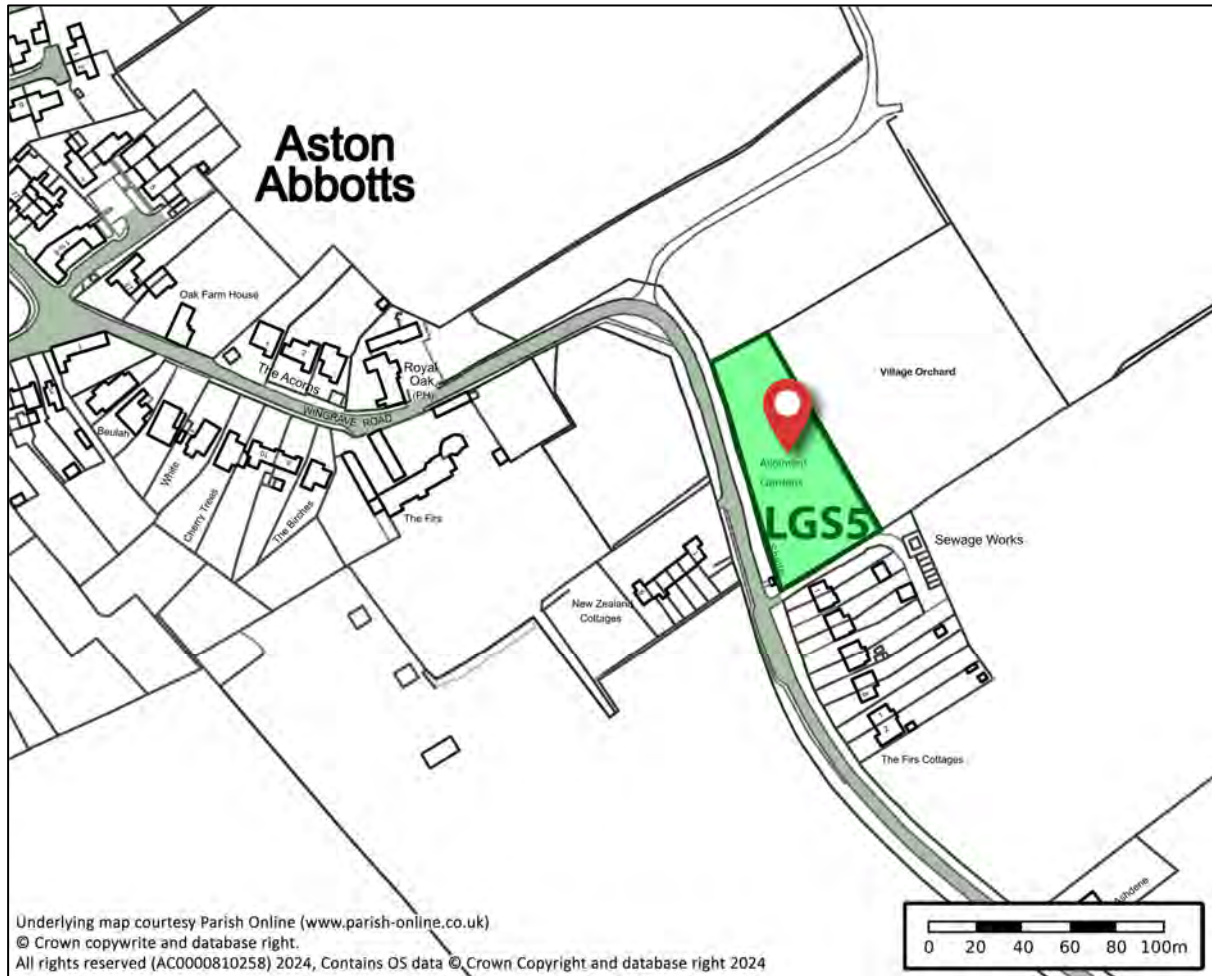


Figure 12 – Location of the Allotments



Natural Environment Evidence Report

Reference: 0201-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

This document summarises the findings related to both landscape and biodiversity. It has been informed from two sources:

- Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment undertaken by AVDC dated May 2008
- Environmental Information Search from Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre (BMERC) dated March 2023

The Parish lies mainly within two distinct character assessment areas covering about 70% of the parish. The elevated northern area of the Parish, including the village, is covered by the Cublington-Wing Clay Plateau. The landscape is a rural slightly elevated agricultural landscape with hedgerows and some trees with a few minor streams and ponds. The landscape is not particularly sensitive to small scale development and the emphasis is on improving the wildlife value. The south-eastern half of the Parish lies within the Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge area which is characterised by grassland, hedgerows and small areas of trees. The shallow wide valley runs east-west along the A418 and then rises up to the ridge at Wingrave. The area is of historic interest including Burston and much of it forms part of the Rothschild Estate. The landscape is moderately sensitive to change.

The BMERC search shows that notable species include badgers, smooth newts, water voles, numerous species of bats, and barn owls. Of the notable species, the rarest sightings of terrestrial mammals include hedgehogs which reflects the unfortunate decline that has been seen across the country since the turn of the century. There are also several Black Poplars in the parish which are a rare species. There are no protected wildlife sites in the Parish, although there is a traditional orchard.

100% of respondents to the questionnaire said that it was important for wildlife to be preserved.

2. Landscape Character Assessment Areas

The Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment undertaken by AVDC dated May 2008 can be found at:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/landscape-policy-and-assessments/landscape-character-assessments/>

The assessment was carried out at the Local Authority (district) level to a methodology following national guidance in which biodiversity and historic environment factors are fully integrated with physiographic, natural, cultural and visual considerations.

The assessment identified 79 landscape character areas grouped within 13 landscape character types. Five of these areas converge onto the parish of Aston Abbots:

- Cublington-Wing Plateau
- Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge
- Hulcott Vale
- Kingsbridge Valley
- Northern Vale

The map provided in Figure 1 shows the boundaries of these five areas and, for reference, the landscape character assessment reports are included in Appendices A through E.

As can be seen from the map, the two predominant areas are the Cublington-Wing Plateau and the Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge. About 50% of the parish is covered by Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge, which covers a large area to the east and south of the parish. The Cublington-Wing Plateau, in with the village resides, covers about 20% of the parish.

The areas to the west and the very south are covered by Kingsbridge Valley, Northern Vale and Hulcott Vale, each covering about 10% of the parish.

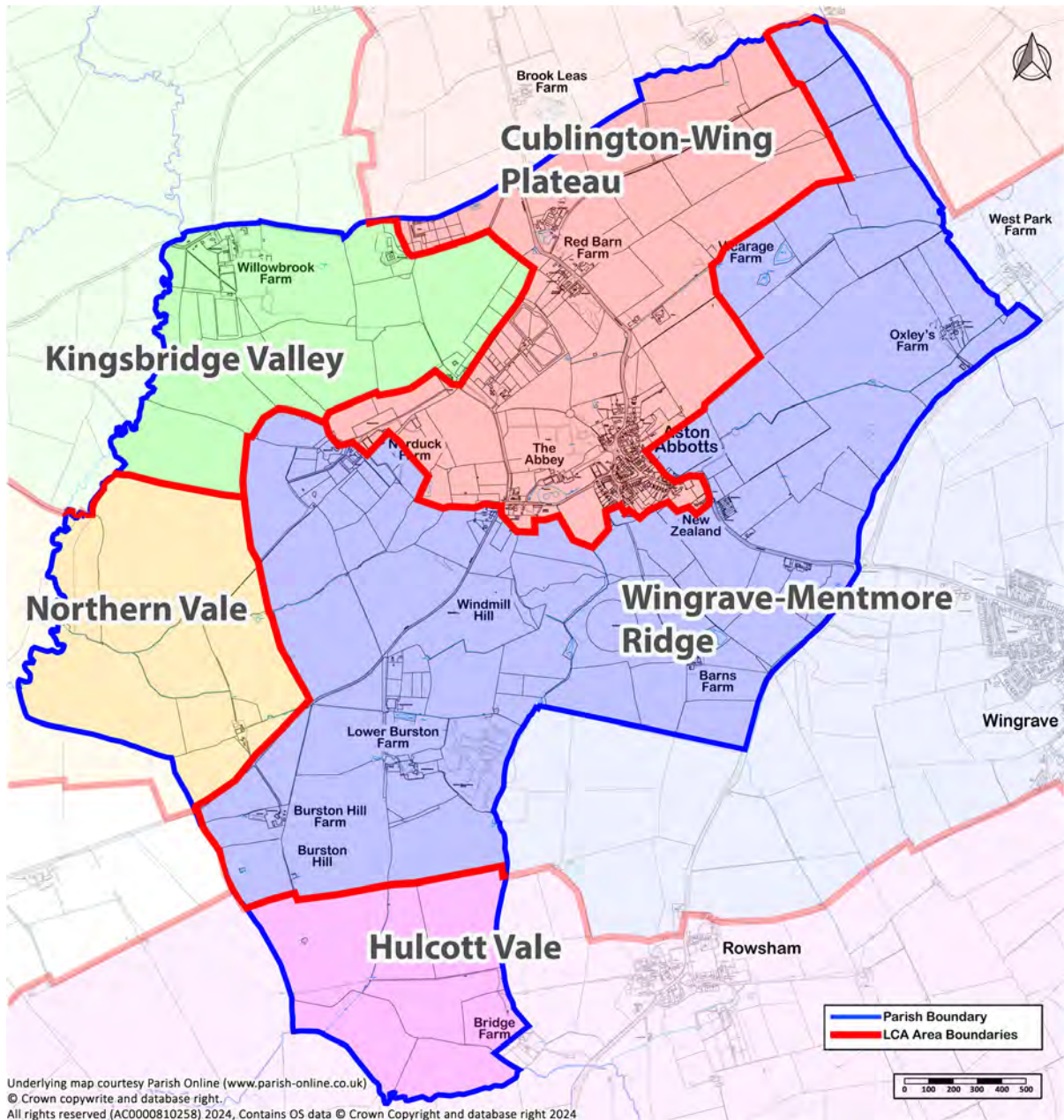


Figure 1 - Landscape Character Areas within the Parish Boundary

3. Environmental Information Search Findings

The Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre (BMERC) is a non-profit organization that collects, manages, and provides access to environmental data for Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes in England. Environmental records centres like BMERC play a crucial role in conservation efforts by gathering information about wildlife, habitats, and landscapes.

BMERC hold over 3.5 million wildlife records of flora and fauna in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes plus information about local sites such as Local Wildlife Sites and Local Geological Sites, Milton Keynes Wildlife Corridors and Road Verge Nature Reserves. They also hold data on NERC Act S41 Habitats of Principal Importance and other important conservation areas such as Biodiversity Opportunity Areas.

In March 2023 a search was requested for all species data for the parish of Aston Abbots. The data is provided under strict licence conditions so cannot be published. It is therefore only possible to make general comments on the findings of the search.

From the list of notable species, the following shows the breakdown of species groups:

Species Group	Number
Flowering Plant	3
Terrestrial Mammal	12
Insect - Butterfly	2
Bird	27
Amphibian	3
Insect - Moth	4
	51

From the bird species group, most records are associated with the barn owl.

The terrestrial mammal species group is primarily composed of bats, boasting entries for eight distinct species, with the pipistrelle bat being the most prevalent. The next most common of the terrestrial mammals are badgers. The water vole also makes an appearance.

Unfortunately, sightings of hedgehogs are very rare, which reflects the concerning decline observed nationwide since the turn of the century.

The amphibian species group includes two species of newts, one of which is the smooth newt.

4. 2022 Survey Results

The 2022 Questionnaire¹ included a section on ecology. It asked the following questions:

- How do you feel about our wildlife being preserved?

The community were also asked to provide any suggestions for improving support for ecology and local wildlife. The responses are summarised below.

4.1. How do you feel about our wildlife being preserved?

The response to this question is shown below:

Very important	77	93%
Important	4	5%
Fairly Important	2	2%
Not Important		
No Response	1	[1%]

4.2. Suggestions for improving support for ecology and local wildlife

Below are suggestions provided by the residents in relation to ecology and local wildlife.

Maintain green space along footpaths so that we can be close to nature
More eco initiatives/conservation areas, owl boxes, wild meadow space flower areas, bird and wild life housing.
- It would be good to see a wildlife conservation area established in the parish, and a wildlife/conservation group formed.
- Continued maintenance of the Village Orchard including a plan for its future and its preservation (maybe with funding).
- Education: Eg walks and talks about balance of our wildlife and the effect of having "to many" of one species in a small area (eg, magpies, rooks, raptors, badgers and foxes). How management of the landscape can improve the outcome for some of our more declining wildlife (song birds, lapwings, hares etc)
A green area that is accessible would be really nice. Especially with a pond and information signs about wildlife. Especially if this could be developed to link the footpaths and provide housing too.
Stop cutting down trees and bushes, we are losing so many wild birds because of this.
A small wood - possibly in the Grove or along the footpath D between Longmoor and Old School.
Build new structures where Swallows can nest - have lost most of barns now.
Important Issue - there should be a register of protected trees within the parish.
We need to prevent trees being cut down simple to facilitate development [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Trees form an essential view point of this village
Leave verges to grow and only cut down at the end of the season.
Things to encourage more wildlife such as wildflower meadows

¹ The full survey results are presented in the Evidence Report ref 0048-DAT

Appendix A – Cublington-Wing Plateau Landscape Character Assessment

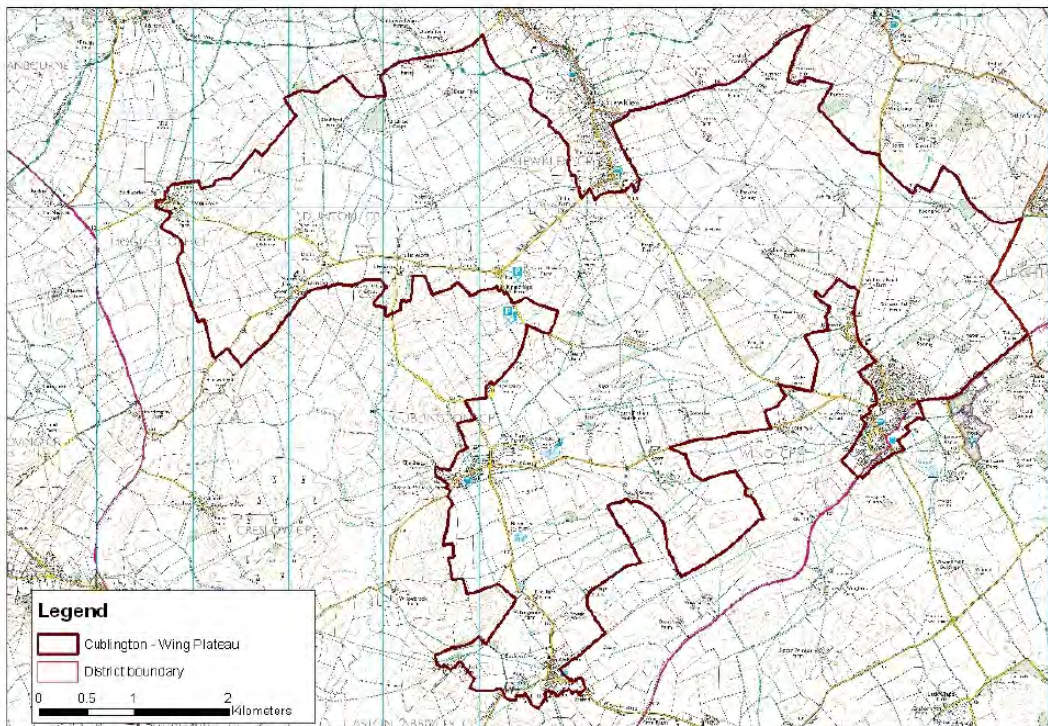
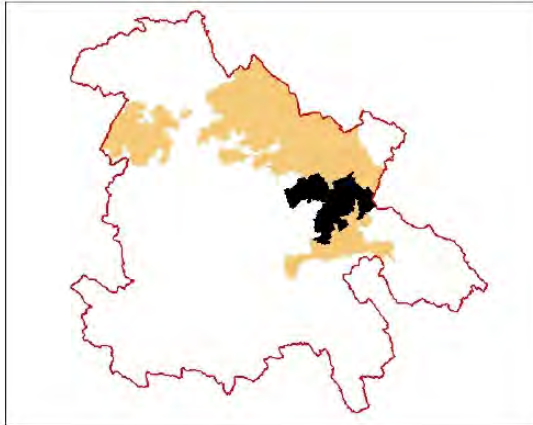
Obtained from Buckinghamshire Council website at:

<https://buckinghamshire-gov-uk.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/lca-413-cublington-wing-plateau.pdf>

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.13 Cublington - Wing Plateau

Landscape Character Type: LCT 4 Undulating Clay Plateau



B0404200/LAND/01

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.13 Cublington -Wing Plateau (LCT 4)

Key Characteristics

- Elevated clay plateau
- Extensive parliamentary and earlier fields between settlements
- Pastureland and small scale paddocks around settlements
- Areas of remote landscape
- Open arable plateau landscape

Distinctive Features

- Small nucleated settlements
- Dispersed farmsteads
- Small woodland coverts
- Ponds and fishing lakes
- Saxon church at Wing
- Historic earthworks
- Neutral grassland
- Neutral lowland meadow
- Fen

Intrusive Elements

- Disused airfield
- Industrial scale battery farming units
- Pylons
- Golf course landscape

Location Extending from the southern edge of Stewkley in the north, Hoggeston in the west and towards the south Bedfordshire border at Linslade in the east. Aston Abbots marks the southern edge.

Landscape character Clay plateau landscape with a gently undulating landform eroded by local streams. The core of the area consists of large arable fields with degraded or well trimmed hedgerows with few hedgerow trees. Paddocks and smaller parcels of grazing land are located around the settlements. There is mixed farming use and concentrations of smaller fields on the western fringes of the LCA. The extensive former WWII airfield is now used as a poultry farm with some remnant runways and MOD buildings and more recent woodland planting. There is a golf course southeast of Stewkley. Generally sparse woodland cover across the area and long straight roads connecting settlements. The settlement of Wing sits on a small promontory of land overlooking the valley to the south.

Geology Predominantly glacial till overlain by pockets of undifferentiated glacial deposits and head within the incised valleys. Large exposures of Kimmeridge clays mixed with glacial deposits in the west.

Topography The plateau within this area lies at a level of some 130 – 140m AOD. The drainage pattern has incised a network of valleys into the clay resulting in an undulating landform of local valleys and broad intervening ridges which often retain their plateau characteristics.

Hydrology The area drains to the south. However, part of this drainage west of a line between Cublington – Aston Abbots drains southwest into the Thames catchment, whilst to the east of this watershed the streams drain to the Ouzel catchment.

Land use and settlement An area of mixed farmland use. Arable areas are concentrated mainly in the open countryside between settlements with paddocks and grassland dispersed around settlements. There is an extensive area of disused airfield and Golf Course development south of Stewkley. Nucleated settlements are concentrated at Wing, Aston Abbots, Cublington and Hoggeston.

Tree cover There is a dispersed pattern of woodland of varying size and type. These are predominantly broadleaved cover of oak and ash. There is a recent plantation on the former airfield site. Areas of wet woodland occur along streams and contain species of willow and ash.

Biodiversity The area is an uneven mix of arable and grassland habitat interspersed with areas of woodland throughout and a few fragments of fen in the north east. The grassland is mostly improved, but some more interesting grassland habitat also occurs in the form of neutral pasture, neutral lowland meadow and unimproved grassland areas found predominantly in the north.

Ponds and other areas of standing water are a common feature throughout and together with the broadleaved deciduous woodland add further habitat interest and potential.

Historic environment There is evidence for pre-medieval occupation in the form of cropmarks, Roman finds and an Iron Age settlement on the Stoke Hammond - Linslade Bypass. The village of Wing is designated as a conservation area, notable for its unique Middle Saxon church, one of the

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.13 Cublington -Wing Plateau (LCT 4)

finest early churches in England which probably originated as a relic chapel and minster serving an area much larger than the parish. Archaeological excavations have found a large early medieval burial ground extending beyond the existing churchyard. Wing also has a Norman motte castle, some historic buildings and just to the southeast, the earthwork remains of Ascott House and Gardens. Archaeological remains of deserted and shrunken medieval settlements are well represented, most notably at Littlecote and Aston Abbots. There are also post-medieval tile and brickworks southwest of Stewkley. The other conservation areas are at Cublington, where there are timber-framed and brick vernacular buildings, and at Aston Abbots, where the neoclassical Abbey sits on the site of a grange of St.Alban's Abbey. The majority of the LCA is parliamentary enclosure land particularly concentrated around the southern end of Stewkley and to the north of Wing and Burcott. There is a concentration of pre 18th century enclosure land in the west around the settlements of Hoggston and Dinton and southwest towards Aston Abbots. The construction of Wing Airfield as a training base in 1940 removed the earlier landscape in this central area; some of the wartime structures may be of historical interest. Aston Abbots was notable as the wartime seat of the Czech Government in exile.

Designations

Conservation Areas at Cublington (4), Aston Abbots (2) and Wing
Scheduled Ancient Monuments: Deserted Village, Ascott House Mansion & Formal Gardens
Archaeological Notification Areas – 40 No.
SSSI – 1No
CWS – 4 No.
BNS – 15 No.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.13 Cublington -Wing Plateau (LCT 4)



Mott & Bailey site Wing



Disused airfield south of Stewkley

B0404200/LAND/01

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
 Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.13 Cublington -Wing Plateau (LCT 4)

Summary of Condition/Sensitivity Analysis	
Condition	Very good
Pattern of elements:	Coherent
Visual detractors:	Few
Visual unity:	Unified
Cultural integrity:	Good
Ecological integrity:	Moderate
Functional integrity:	Strong
Sensitivity	Moderate
Distinctiveness:	Distinct
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of place:	Weak
Landform:	Apparent
Tree cover:	Open
Visibility:	High
Guidelines	Conserve and Reinforce

Condition

Overall the condition of the landscape is considered to be very good. The area covers an undulating clay plateau eroded by a network of small streams which create a series of shallow valley particularly notable around the fringes of the area. The pattern of elements remains coherent. There are few visual detractors other than the poultry sheds on the old airfield site south of Stewkley. Some erosion of field pattern has occurred over the areas of arable intensification concentrated mainly over the core of the plateau. Cultural integrity is good due to the concentration of archaeological interest, historic buildings and extensive survival of a variety of historic field patterns. Ecological integrity is moderate due to the levels of connectivity and areas of designated sites and habitats of District significance. Overall the

functional integrity of the area is strong.

Sensitivity

The area has a distinctive character, however, continuity is disrupted. Sense of place is considered to be weak as locally it has been eroded by the airfield and its associated development as well as by loss of pattern where arable intensification is dominant. The degree of visibility is high due to long distance views over the plateau landscape and loss of tree cover. Overall the degree of sensitivity is considered to be moderate.



Pastureland with spring at Blackend Spinney which feeds into the Burcott valley.

B0404200/LAND/01

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.13 Cublington -Wing Plateau (LCT 4)

Landscape Guidelines Conserve and Reinforce

The landscape guidelines for Cublington-Wing Plateau are as follows:

- Encourage the management of hedgerows through traditional cutting regimes.
- Encourage the establishment of new hedgerow trees.
- Maintain the condition and extent of woodland using traditional techniques to create and manage a wide diversity of habitats.
- Maintain the condition and extent of unimproved and semi-improved grassland wherever possible. Encourage good management practices.
- Encourage landowners to improve ecological diversity by establishing and maintaining varied land maintenance regimes to benefit landscape and habitats.
- Promote connectivity of habitats.
- Maintain the existing extent and condition of ponds.
- Maintain the existing extent and condition of neutral grassland and lowland meadow.
- Encourage the conservation and interpretation of the areas rich historic environment.
- New housing and alterations to existing housing should be designed to reflect the traditional character of the area and use locally traditional materials.
- Promote the retention of the character of minor roads by the management of hedgerows and verges and limiting urbanising elements such as signage and kerbing.
- Consider encouraging the planting of new woodland following historic landscape pattern to reduce visual impact of intrusive elements.
- Encourage golf course management to promote a wide diversity of habitats and good interconnectivity with adjacent semi-natural habitats.
- Ensure the preservation of archaeological earthworks by maintaining grassland.



Access drive to Burcott Lodge Farm.

B0404200/LAND/01

Appendix B – Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge Landscape Character Assessment

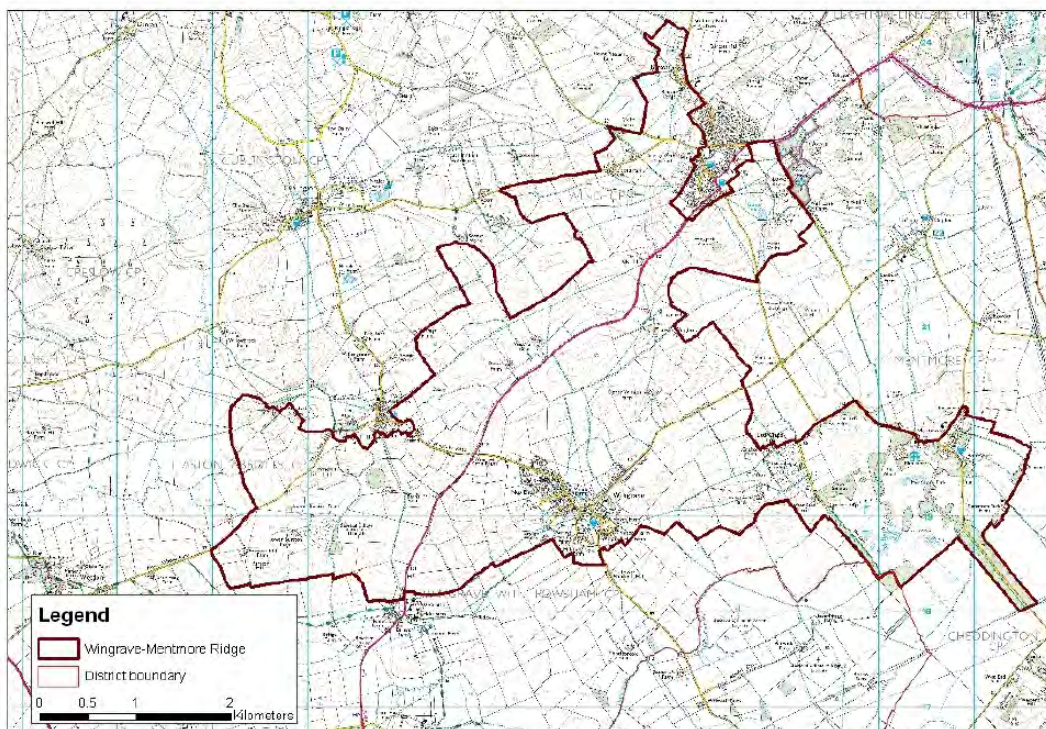
Obtained from Buckinghamshire Council website at:

<https://buckinghamshire-gov-uk.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/lca-414-wingrave-mentmore-ridge.pdf>

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.14 Wingrave - Mentmore Ridge

Landscape Character Type: LCT 4 Undulating Clay Plateau



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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.14 Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge (LCT 4)

Key Characteristics

- Shallow ridge with settlement
- Wide valley between the ridge and the clay plateau
- Aston Abbots-Wingrave watershed drains into Ouzel and Thame catchments
- Large arable fields in valley bottom
- Smaller paddocks and pastureland on steeper upper slopes
- Long distance views over the Vale and the Ouzel Valley
- Parliamentary and earlier fields

Distinctive Features

- House and parkland at Mentmore
- Historic earthworks
- Incised valley west of Wing-Burcott
- Distinctive circular woodland coverts
- Mature tree cover along highway network between Aston Abbots and Wingrave
- Ornamental highway trees with historic connections
- Rothschild influence
- Low levels of ecological interest

Intrusive Elements

- Traffic on A418
- Pylons
- Golf course at Mentmore

Location To the south of the village of Wing a ridge which runs between the villages of Wingrave to Mentmore. It also extends northward to include the valley to the west of Wing and Burcott.

Landscape character A shallow ridge which extends south from the plateau landscape to the north and is defined by the Vale landscape to the south. The ridge is also defined to the north by a wide local valley. The village of Wingrave sits on the ridge. There are long distance views over the Vale landscape to the south and in particular from the southern edge of Wingrave. Mentmore House and parkland sits on the eastern end of the ridge. At Mentmore there are long distance views towards Ascott House and the southern edge of Wing and eastwards over the Ouzel Valley. Medieval earthworks feature at Crafton.

The local valley to the west of Wing and its associated tributaries have shaped the landform into a rolling landscape of small grazing parcels enclosed by mature hedges. Mature tree cover follows the course of the stream. The incised nature of the landform combined with the mature hedgerows and tree cover introduce a sense of great tranquillity. This contrasts with the more open landscape of arable fields contained by the shallow valley to the north of Wingrave.

Geology An area of transition between the ridge of Gault clay in the south and the southern edge of the glacial till to the north. The eroded edge of the glacial till contains smaller local exposures of Kimmeridge clay. The valley between the two formations and to the west of Wing has been filled with head deposits.

Topography The upper part of the ridge at Wingrave is at a level of over 130m AOD falling to a level of 127m AOD at Mentmore. The valley to the north falls to a range of levels between 90 – 100m AOD rising in the north to a level of approximately 120m AOD at its interface with the clay plateau.

Hydrology Wingrave lies on the watershed between the various streams and ditches to the north which feed the Ouzel catchment and the streams and tributaries which run south to the River Thame. The largest water course is the stream to the west of Wing and Burcott which runs off the clay plateau to the north.

Land use and settlement An area of mixed farmland use. Arable areas are concentrated within the valley bottom with grassland on the steeper slopes especially between Aston Abbots – Wingrave and in the valley west of Wing. Wet meadows are found in the upper valley. There is parkland and a golf course at Mentmore.

Tree cover There is a higher concentration of woodland and tree cover over the ridge landscape to the south. This dissipates into a more open arable landscape in the valley between the ridge and Wing. There are also notable groups of mature hedgerow trees in the valley to the west of Wing and Burcott. The predominant species are oak and ash. There are circular woodland features at Wing Park and at Fox Covert; the latter belies its sporting origins. Extensive mature woodland at Mentmore including the noted avenue along the southern approach.

Biodiversity The habitat mix is predominantly of grassland and arable but broadleaved woodland is also present in small parcels, the highest density of these being in the east within the area of parkland at Mentmore. The

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.14 Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge (LCT 4)

grassland tends to be clustered at the extremities of the LCA, whilst arable land is in the centre.

Grassland is mostly improved, although small unimproved fields are also present in the east and west. The three CWS all located in the north of the area near Wing, are all grassland sites. Priority habitat types are restricted to the wet woodland at Mentmore associated with the avenue whilst broad habitat types are more widespread relating to the broadleaved woodland, the numerous ponds and lakes and the streams.

Historic environment Deserted and shrunken medieval settlement earthworks are characteristic of this area, most notably at Crafton and Little Burston, and a motte castle on the edge of Wing. Views of and from Wing church are important. There are also prominent earthworks of a Tudor garden at Ascott, the site of the Dorner's Mansion ruined by 1720. There are conservation areas at Crafton, Mentmore and Wingrave. At Mentmore the distinctive feature is the Rothschild influence focused on the mansion designed by Sir Joseph Paxton, the estate village and designed landscape. At Crafton the Rothschild's stud farm occupied the site of an historic village whilst other estate buildings were constructed in Wingrave. Approximately half of the LCA covering the land between Wing, Aston Abbots and Wingrave is parliamentary enclosure land. Three smaller concentrations of pre 18th century enclosures, northeast of Wingrave and around the site of Burston and Crafton deserted medieval villages.

Designations

Conservation Areas - Mentmore, Wingrave (2), and Crafton
Scheduled Ancient Monuments: Castle Hill, Medieval Village of Burton, Ascott House Mansion & Formal Gardens
Archaeological Notification Areas – 16 No.
CWS – 3 No.
BNS – 4 No.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.14 Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge (LCT 4)



Looking north from Wingrave over rolling farmland.



Looking northwest from Wingrave toward the Cublington to Wingrave Road.
The A418 runs in a shallow valley in the middle distance

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.14 Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge (LCT 4)

Summary of Condition/Sensitivity Analysis

Condition	Very good
Pattern of elements:	Coherent
Visual detractors:	Few
Visual unity:	Unified
Cultural integrity:	GoodModerate
Ecological integrity:	Strong
Functional integrity:	

Sensitivity	Moderate
Distinctiveness:	Distinct
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Tree cover:	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

Guidelines **Conserve and Reinforce**

Condition

Overall the condition of the landscape is considered to be very good. The pattern of elements is coherent. The area covers the shallow ridge that runs between Wingrave and Mentmore and the wide valley that sits to the north of Wingrave. There are few visual detractors, chief amongst these is the traffic on the A418. Cultural integrity is good due to the Rothschild influences on landscape and buildings at Wingrave and Mentmore, intact historic field patterns and strong archaeological interests. Ecological integrity is moderate due to reasonable connectivity and the areas of designated sites and habitats of District significance. Functional integrity remains strong.

Sensitivity

The area is identified as a distinctive landscape with good historic associations and sense of continuity. There is a moderate sense of place reflected in the intrinsic rural characteristics of the area. The degree of visibility is assessed as moderate and is underpinned by the variety of vistas from the ridge contrasting with the more contained views present in the valleys. Overall the degree of sensitivity remains moderate.



Mentmore Towers seen from the direction of Cheddington Station.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 4.14 Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge (LCT 4)

Landscape Guidelines Conserve and Reinforce

The landscape guidelines for Wingrave-Mentmore Ridge are as follows:

- Encourage the restoration of the historic hedgerow pattern where it has been lost. To enhance the landscape character and strengthen the ecological diversity. Where necessary use historic maps to identify where hedgerows have been lost.
- Encourage the management of hedgerows through traditional cutting regimes.
- Maintain the existing extent and condition of woodland using traditional techniques to create and manage a wide diversity of habitats.
- Maintain the existing extent and condition of unimproved and semi-improved grassland. Encourage good management practices.
- Encourage landowners to improve ecological diversity by establishing and maintaining varied land maintenance regimes to benefit landscape and habitats.
- Promote connectivity of habitats.
- Encourage the conservation and interpretation of the areas rich historic environment.
- Ensure the preservation of archaeological earthworks by maintaining grassland.
- New housing and alterations to existing housing should be designed to reflect the traditional character of the area and use locally traditional materials.
- Promote the retention of the character of minor roads by the management of hedgerows and verges and limiting urbanising elements such as signage and kerbing.
- Consider encouraging the planting of new woodland following historic landscape pattern to reduce visual impact of intrusive elements.
- Encourage the survey, management and conservation of Historic Parks and Gardens.
- Encourage the preservation and enhancement of views from publicly accessible areas and significant historic sites.



Gates to Mentmore Park.

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Appendix C – Hulcott Vale Landscape Character Assessment

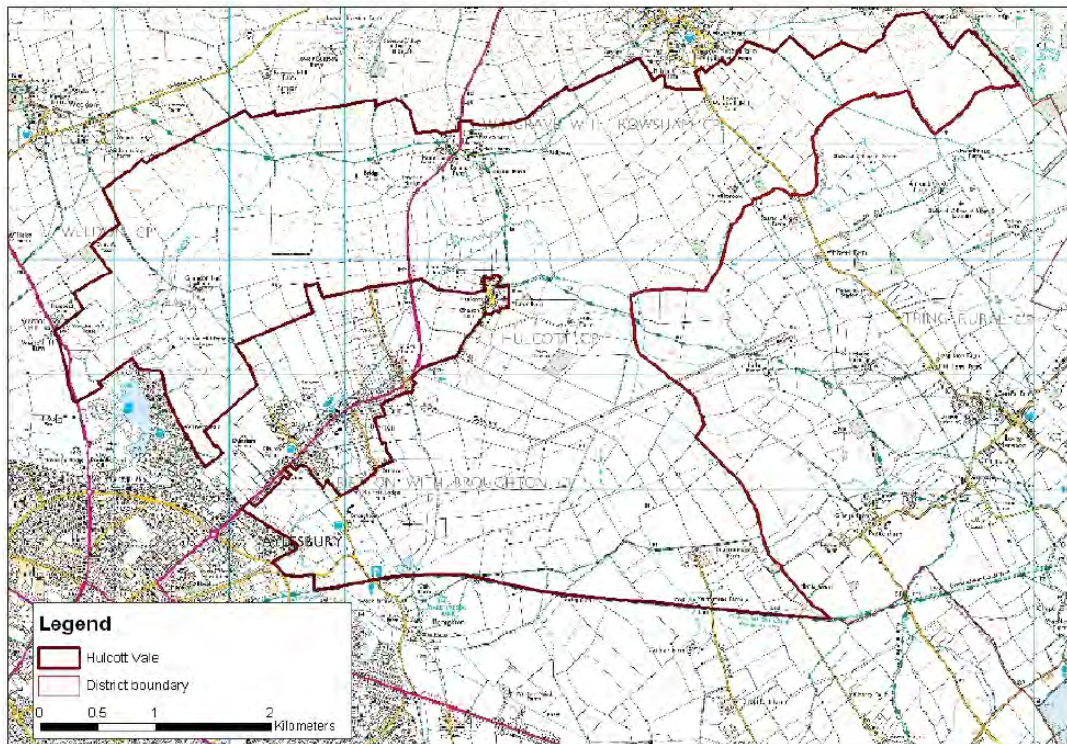
Obtained from Buckinghamshire Council website at:

<https://buckinghamshire-gov-uk.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/lca-86-hulcott-vale.pdf>

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.6 Hulcott Vale

Landscape Character Type: LCT 8 Vale



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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Environmental Character Assessment

LCA 8.6 Hulcott Vale (LCT 8)

Key Characteristics

- Low lying vale landscape
- Meandering course of the River Thame and feeder streams
- Parliamentary enclosure fields
- Predominantly in pastoral use with smaller pockets of arable fields
- Dispersed farmsteads
- Low level of woodland cover
- Black poplars along watercourses and in hedgerows
- Tranquillity (eastern parts)

Distinctive Features

- Aylesbury Arm of Grand Union Canal
- 'Hump back' brick road bridge over canal
- Historic meadows
- Hulcott Fields (neutral grassland) noted for bird interest
- Numerous ponds

Intrusive Elements

- Suburban edge to Aylesbury/Bierton
- Extensive network of pylons crossing the area
- Electricity sub station south of Burcott
- Driving range at Bierton Golf Course
- Traffic on A413

Location The area lies north east of Aylesbury. It covers the Thame valley east of the A413 Buckingham Road and the low lying area drained by a network of streams that feed into the river from the higher ground to the north and the Chilterns scarp to the south east. The north eastern boundary is defined by the parkland at Mentmore. The county boundary lies approximately 1km east of Hulcott. The character area extends beyond this boundary into Hertfordshire¹. This description refers only to the area within Buckinghamshire.

Landscape character An extensive area of low lying vale landscape predominantly in pastoral use and notable for its range of aquatic habitats located to the north, east and south of the Bierton Ridge. With the exception of the A413 the area is devoid of infrastructure and access by Rights of Way is extremely limited, conveying a very remote character in the eastern parts best experienced from the towpath of the Aylesbury Arm of the Grand Union Canal.

The river Thame runs across the Vale, between the Weedon Ridge to the north and the Bierton Ridge to the south. This part of the LCA has a more remote character and a greater sense of visual containment. It is linked to the rest of the vale landscape by the river corridor and the predominant characteristics of large open arable fields and clipped hedgerows. The area is overlooked in long distance views from the surrounding areas.

Geology Upper Greensand and Gault clay, to the east of Bierton and the Hulcott. The Thame valley north of Bierton is Portland Beds with alluvium.

Topography Low lying vale between the higher ground to the north and the Bierton Ridge, and then to the east of Hulcott opening out and wrapping around the southern side of the Bierton Ridge and extending southwards to the Aylesbury Arm of the Grand Union Canal. The level of the river Thame is approximately 75m AOD where it passes under the A413. In the north the area extends to the lower slopes of the Quainton - Wing Hills. The undulating ground lies at a level approximately 100m AOD. The level at the canal boundary to the south varies little between 80-85m AOD.

Hydrology The hydrology of the area comprises the river Thame and tributaries, Aylesbury Arm of the Grand Union Canal, ponds and the fishing lakes immediately to the north of the canal.

Land use and settlement The area is predominantly given over to pastoral use with local groups of fields used for arable production. There are groups of arable fields north of Bierton and randomly dispersed to the east of the area. Bierton Golf Course lies to northeast of Bierton, an artificial landscape of more recent vintage sitting within the existing field pattern. On the edge of Aylesbury at Burcott the character area funnels into a narrow neck of land currently in pastoral use. This area also supports a number of ponds and small lakes.

Although bounded to the west by Aylesbury, the village of Rowsham is the only settlement within the area, which is otherwise sparsely populated with occasional farmsteads. Rowsham is a cluster of farmsteads located above the flood plain and with access to the A418. A small residential development on the east side of the A418 has been incorporated into the village.

¹ See 'Boarscroft Vale' in the 'Dacorum Landscape Character Assessment' available at www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/Area112.pdf

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Environmental Character Assessment

LCA 8.6 Hulcott Vale (LCT 8)

The line of a disused railway (Aylesbury to west coast main line at Cheddington) can be seen south of Burcott. Evidence of the line has been removed but is identifiable where overgrown with scrub and other vegetation. A number of pylon lines cross the area congregating at a sub-station south east of Burcott Lodge Farm.

Tree cover There are very few blocks of woodland other than the covert south east of Hulcott and some scrubby parcels adjacent to the county boundary (west of the Wingrave to Long Marston road). Oak and ash predominate in hedgerows on drier ground with black poplar and some pollarded willow adjacent to streams and wet ditches.

Biodiversity The LCA contains a large area of BNSs and broad habitat types compared with much of the District.

Habitat is dominated by grassland a high proportion of which is neutral grassland, a broad habitat type. A substantial block of this grassland forms a large BNS known as Hulcott Fields - a low lying area of open landscape with often defunct hedges, which is noted for its bird interest. Neutral grassland is also present on the urban edge of Aylesbury to the north and south of Bieron.

Arable is also present but other habitat includes further broad habitat types; small fragments of broadleaved woodland, many ponds, the river Thame and other watercourses and the small lakes and the Grand Union Canal on the southern boundary.

The Three Ponds Meadow CWS adjoining the urban edge of Aylesbury has range of terrestrial and aquatic habitats in a small area and corresponding floristic interest – hedgerow including black poplar, wet neutral grassland in the furrows, neutral grassland on the ridges, and marshy grassland around a pond. The site is known to be used by amphibians.

Historic environment Hulcott Vale has practically no pre 18th century landscape enclosure other than a collection of fields in the northeast which lie between the county boundary and the area to the west of Mentmore. There is a solitary area of fossilised strips north of Hulcott and well preserved flood meadows associated with the course of the River Thame. The majority of the area is designated as 18-19th century Parliamentary enclosure land. The golf course at Bieron represents the single largest 20th century feature in this landscape.

The only settlement of significance is the village of Rowsham, which contains a handful of listed buildings. This area contains only a few archaeological sites that are known, apart from some isolated patches of ridge and furrow and Roman finds, the most significant is the site of the shrunken village of Broughton. The landscape also contains two features from the industrial age, the Aylesbury - Cheddington railway, opened in 1839 and dismantled in 1953, bisects the landscape. The southern boundary of the area is demarcated by the Aylesbury Arm of the Grand Union canal. The latter has been restored to some degree and provides access and recreation of the area.

Designations

Archaeological Notification Areas – 10 No.

CWS – 1 No.

BNS – 8 No.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Environmental Character Assessment

LCA 8.6 Hulcott Vale (LCT 8)



Remote low lying vale landscape in pastoral use north of College Road and extending beyond the district boundary.



The Vale seen from the Bierton Ridge above Grendon Hill Farm. The flatter vale lies between the Bierton Ridge and the Weedon Ridge to the north.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.6 Hulcott Vale (LCT 8)

Summary of Condition/Sensitivity Analysis

Condition	Moderate
Pattern of elements:	Coherent
Visual Detractors:	Some
Visual unity:	Coherent
Cultural integrity:	Variable
Ecological integrity:	Moderate
Functional integrity:	Coherent

Sensitivity	Low
Distinctiveness:	Distinct
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of place:	Moderate
Landform:	Insignificant
Tree cover:	Intermittent
Visibility:	Low

Guidelines **Enhance and Reinforce**

Condition

Generally the landscape is in moderate condition. The pattern of hedgerows remains mainly intact, however, there are areas of arable intensification where hedges are gappy or removed. There is a distinctive low level of woodland cover. The pattern of elements remains coherent whilst there are some notable detracting features such as the concentration of pylons and overhead power lines. The cultural integrity is classified as variable; the landscape has good surviving parliamentary enclosure fields and meadows modified where traditional grazing is in decline in favour of increased cultivation. The landscape has a dearth of archaeological monuments and historic settlements. Ecological integrity is moderate due to strong connectivity and the areas of designated sites and habitats of District significance. The functional integrity of the

landscape is considered to be coherent.

Sensitivity

The landscape is distinctive in character and the historic associations are reasonably well expressed in the field patterns and drainage networks. Overall the sense of place is moderate. The topography is insignificant due to the flat character of the Vale which, combined with the intermittent nature of the tree cover and concentration of hedgerows gives a low degree of visibility. Overall the sensitivity of the landscape is low.



The Aylesbury Arm of the Grand Union Canal forms the southern boundary of the LCA. The canal towpath is one of the few public viewpoints to the Hulcott Fields LCA seen here to the right.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.6 Hulcott Vale (LCT 8)

Landscape Guidelines Enhance and Reinforce

Guidelines for the Hulcott Vale are as follows:

- Enhance the original field pattern by supporting initiatives for management and re-planting of hedgerows and infilling gaps.
- Encourage replacement planting of hedgerow trees.
- Create new blocks of woodland to enhance the landscape structure and screen suburban edges and road corridors.
- Maintain and improve the condition of existing hedgerows through traditional cutting regimes.
- Maintain the existing extent of Hulcott Fields and connectivity to other fragments of neutral grassland.
- Encourage the development of native vegetation including black poplar, along streams and other watercourses.
- Encourage the management of the area's rich variety of different aquatic habitats and seek opportunities to extend and interconnect these habitats.
- Encourage the conservation and interpretation of the areas rich historic environment including that of the canal.
- Promote the canal as a route for non car-based recreation from Aylesbury. The aim should be to make it accessible to the less mobile.
- Promote the retention of the remote quality of parts of the area.
- Ensure that views across the area to surrounding higher ground are retained.



Hump back brick bridges and canal features are characteristic of the southern boundary of the LCA.

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Appendix D – Kingsbridge Valley Landscape Character Assessment

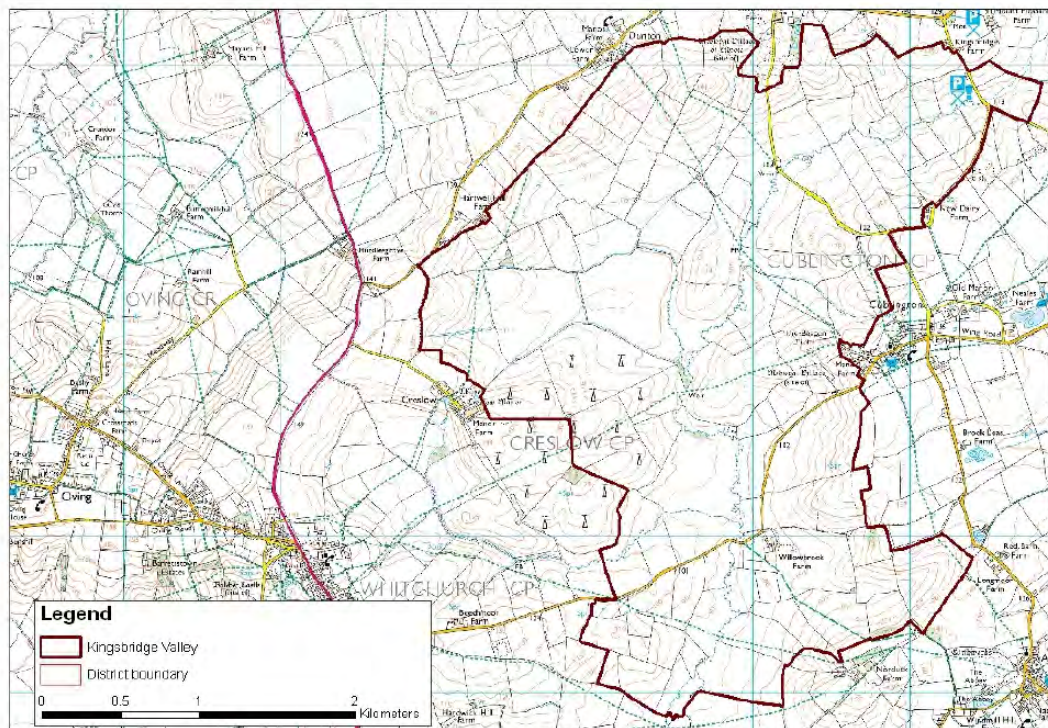
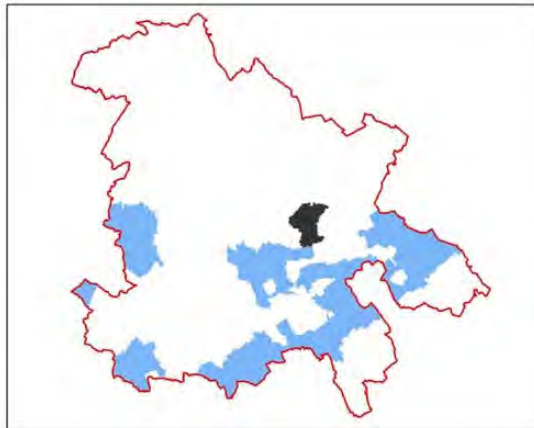
Obtained from Buckinghamshire Council website at:

https://buckinghamshire-gov-uk.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/LCA_8.2_Kingsbridge_Valley_-_revised_1_may_08.pdf

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.2 Kingsbridge Valley

Landscape Character Type: LCT 8 Vale



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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.2 Kingsbridge Valley (LCT 8)

Key Characteristics

- Wide shallow valley with well defined edges
- Gently rolling landform containing local ridges and shallow hills
- Meandering stream fed by local ditches and tributaries
- Valley crossed by local roads
- Predominantly arable land use
- Large open fields with clipped hedges
- Remoteness
- Lack of woodland cover
- Pastoral land use on upper reaches of the valley

Distinctive Features

- Small pockets of willow scrub along stream alignment
- Car park and picnic site at Kingsbridge
- Historic earthworks at Cublington
- Ridge and furrow at Creslow
- Smaller parcels of grazing land south of Kingsbridge Farm
- Large areas of arable habitat
- Pre 18th century and parliamentary fields

Location The LCA lies to the east of Whitchurch within a valley that curves gently around the village of Cublington.

Landscape character The rolling landform contains a winding valley with local tributaries cut from the adjoining claylands. There is a meandering stream in the valley bottom identified by the associated mature willow and scrub. The land is predominantly in arable use with large fields and some clipped hedges. No development is present in the valley bottom. The area is remote but overlooked by isolated farmsteads around edges of valley. Land use changes to pasture on the upper fringes especially adjacent to farmsteads and settlements. A picnic site and car parking is available south of Kingsbridge Farm.

Geology A small local valley cut out of Kimmeridge clay. The top edges of the valley are capped with Gault clays and glacial deposits. The erosion of the valley has exposed some local calcareous outcrops. There are head deposits on the western flank of the valley with alluvium along the valley floor.

Topography The stream passes under the road running south from Kingsbridge Farm. The level of the road being at 112m AOD. The stream falls to a level of 90m AOD at the southern boundary of the area. The sides of the valley rise to 150m AOD to the west and approximately 138m AOD at Cublington to the east.

Hydrology The stream that flows down the Kingsbridge valley rises from land to the west of Stewkley picking up a few other minor tributaries from the enclosing valley to the north and west, and drains south into the catchment of the river Thames.

Land use and settlement Predominantly arable land use but with some pasture land on the upper slopes of the valley. Generally unsettled with exception of the farmstead at Willowbrook Farm.

Tree cover There is no significant woodland cover other than small groups of willow following the stream alignment.

Biodiversity The range of habitats is limited in this LCA due to the heavy concentration of arable farming throughout. This dominance is relieved by some grassland around the fringes of the area, most of which is improved; and a few small fragments of woodland habitat, several of which are adjacent to the small watercourses providing the principal aquatic habitat – there are also some ponds. The stream and hedgerow network provide habitat connectivity, although the value of some hedges may be reduced by the clipping regime.

The single CWS at Cublington motte is very interesting comprising a hedge-bound field with a matrix of dry and damp unimproved grassland. The marshy grassland, set in shallow ditches, supports a wide range of grasses including species unusual in Buckinghamshire and is noted for dragonflies, butterflies and grasshoppers.

Historic environment The historic landscape is a mixture of pre 18th century enclosure land in the west and south with parliamentary enclosure land in the north and east. There is no settlement of note. There are several areas of well preserved ridge & furrow, including fine examples around Creslow which occupy a large and now sub-divided late medieval great field.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.2 Kingsbridge Valley (LCT 8)

However, the most notable archaeological site is the earthworks of a deserted settlement and motte and bailey castle to the west of Cublington. An excavation in the 19th century indicated that the remains of medieval village earthworks are within the bailey. It is thought that this also included a church and associated graveyard which eventually moved to its present position in Cublington village around 1400 AD. There is also a Roman villa site to the north east of Creslow. The area is also associated with archaeology from more recent times as the hill at Creslow was once the location for a radio transmitter station built during the Second World War.

The station operated until the early 1990s and was decommissioned, the masts that were once a characteristic of the landscape have been demolished. The only surviving part of the complex is a solitary building.

There are a couple of promoted routes that run through the area.

Designations

Scheduled Ancient Monuments: Deserted Village
Archaeological Notification Areas – 8 No.
CWS – 1 No.

Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.2 Kingsbridge Valley (LCT 8)



The Kingsbridge Valley looking west.



Mature trees adjacent to water course.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
 Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.2 Kingsbridge Valley (LCT 8)

Summary of Condition/Sensitivity Analysis		Condition
Condition	Moderate	Overall the condition of the landscape is considered to be moderate. The valley which is sparsely settled constitutes a tributary of the River Thame however, the configuration of the landform enables a sense of visual containment and separates the valley from the vale landscape. The intrinsic rural character of the area with few visual detractors supports the assessment that the pattern of elements and the visual amenity are strongly unified. Cultural integrity overall is variable despite some loss of field pattern and encroachment of 20 th century fields there are good examples of historic fields, ridge and furrow and archaeological earthworks. Ecological integrity is weak despite strong connectivity, due to the low areas of designated sites and habitats of District significance. Functional integrity is weak.
Pattern of elements:	Unified	
Visual detractors:	Few	
Visual unity:	Strongly unified	
Cultural integrity:	Variable	
Ecological integrity:	Weak	
Functional integrity:	Weak	
Sensitivity	Moderate	
Distinctiveness:	Indistinct	
Continuity:	Recent	
Sense of place:	Very weak	
Landform:	Dominant	
Tree cover:	Open	
Visibility:	Very high	
Guidelines	Conserve and Enhance	

Sensitivity

Arable intensification and lack of tree cover have diluted the distinctiveness of the area. Continuity is also dissipated and consequently sense of place is very weak. The dominance of the landscape lies in the landform. The lack of tree cover, other than the willow scrub which follows the stream alignment, ensures high visibility and long distance views across the valley. Overall the sensitivity is considered to be moderate.



Rustic bridge over stream.

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**Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment**

LCA 8.2 Kingsbridge Valley (LCT 8)

Landscape Guidelines Conserve and Enhance

The landscape guidelines for Kingsbridge Valley are as follows:

- Promote management of hedgerows by traditional cutting regimes and establishment of new hedgerow trees.
- Encourage the establishment of small areas of woodland and groups of hedgerow trees.
- Encourage the establishment of a buffer zone of semi-natural vegetation along the watercourse to enhance biodiversity, interconnecting and landscape quality.
- Encourage landowners to enhance biodiversity by adopting varied land maintenance regimes to benefit landscape and habitats.
- Encourage the conservation and interpretation of the historic heritage.
- Encourage a policy of low density, low impact development to ensure that the valley retains its qualities of remoteness and tranquillity.
- Encourage the development of new footpath links especially in the north of the area.
- Encourage the preservation of historic earthworks and ridge and furrow by maintaining a continuous grass sward and do not allow bare patches of soil to develop.



Picnic site at Kingsbridge Farm (Managed by Buckinghamshire County Council).

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Appendix E – Northern Vale Landscape Character Assessment

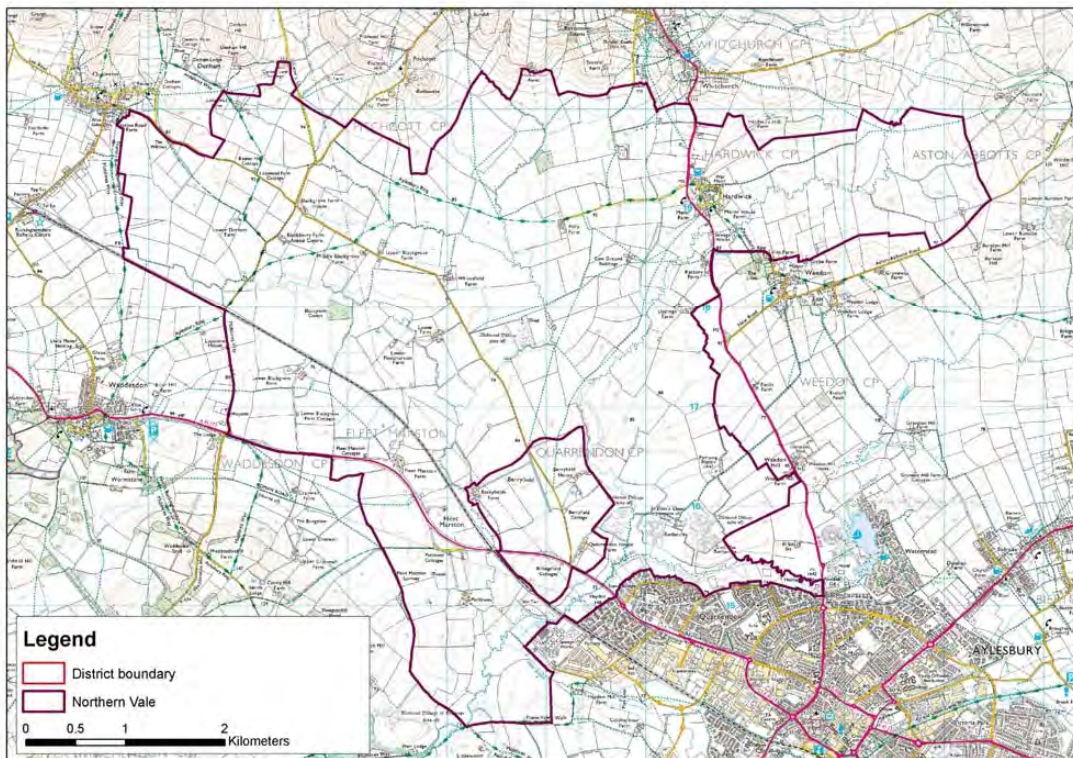
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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.5 Northern Vale

Landscape Character Type: LCT 8 Vale



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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.5 Northern Vale (LCT 8)

Key Characteristics

- Virtually flat landform
- Network of meandering streams feeding into the River Thames
- Large open arable fields
- Recreational and amenity landscape on the northern fringe of Aylesbury
- Historic meadows

Distinctive Features

- Deserted medieval settlements
- Site of Quarrendon Tudor mansion and gardens
- Roman roads and settlements
- Hardwick church
- Fleet Marston church
- River Thames
- Large areas of neutral grassland in northeast

Intrusive Elements

- Western fringe of area crossed by pylons
- Disused pumping station west of Weedon Hill Farm
- Railway line (occasional use only)
- Traffic on A41 and A413

Location The area lies immediately northwest of Aylesbury. The western extent is defined by the Waddesdon – Eythrope ridge whilst the eastern boundary is broadly the A413 corridor including a small valley north of Weedon that feeds into the Vale. The northern boundary merges gradually into the rising land that forms the Quanton – Wing Hills.

Landscape character Open vale landscape emphasised by very low level of settlement, limited topography, large scale landscape pattern and the hills lying to the north and south which define the visual horizon in most views. Despite the proximity of Aylesbury often clearly visible, there is a sense of isolation away from the A41 and A413.

Geology Amphill Clay Formation - grey mudstone overlain locally with alluvium and Head deposits.

Topography Low lying vale crossed by a network of shallow valleys. The higher ground at the northern end lies at approximately 85m AOD. The land falls gently from 100m AOD at the head of the valley north of the Weedon Ridge to the river Thames which lies at a level of approximately 70m AOD. Immediately north of Quarrendon historic earthworks rise above the level of the vale landscape. Most notable are remains of the medieval settlement and Civil War earthworks.

Hydrology Feeder streams running from the higher ground to the north towards the river Thames meander across the flat vale landscape but often are not marked by vegetation.

Land use and settlement The dominant land use is arable. The fields are large scale, open with well trimmed hedges. The fields are often irregular in shape with notable loss of hedgerows due to field amalgamation. Land use on the northern and southern fringes changes to mixed arable and pastoral use. Grazing land is often found adjacent to water courses. The area of flood plain immediately between the River Thames and the northern edge of Aylesbury is laid out as recreational land with sports pitches connected by footpaths and parkland planting.

The area is sparsely populated, the settlement of Hardwick on the northern edge of the area being the exception. Elsewhere settlement comprises occasional farmsteads dispersed over the area with associated barns and notably some with taller structures such as silage storage facilities.

There are a number of deserted medieval village sites - one site lies to the north of Berryfield and there is a complex of sites to the east of Quarrendon House Farm comprising several earthworks including a ruined church and the site of a Tudor moated mansion and gardens. These are locally visible but do not feature strongly in the wider landscape. The south western corner of the area is crossed by Akeman Street, a Roman road. The church tower of St Mary's Church at Hardwick is a distinctive local feature.

Tree cover There are no large blocks of woodland, there are however, small groups of trees associated with farmsteads, following streams and grouped around ponds. Oak and ash are the dominant species on drier ground, whilst mature black poplar are often found along watercourses and ditches either as individuals or in groups. Mature pollarded willows are also common along wet ditches.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.5 Northern Vale (LCT 8)

Biodiversity The terrestrial habitat is dominated by an uneven mix of arable and grasslands peppered with small areas of broadleaved woodland within a framework of hedges and streams.

In the northwest of the area there is a high density of unimproved grassland and of neutral grassland, a broad habitat type. This is reflected in the designations of CWS and BNS in this locality. The CWS include the botanical interest of the previous Waddesdon Station and adjoining railway embankments, and of the seven species rich meadows at Waddesdon Common which include areas of ridge and furrow and ponds.

Aquatic habitat is provided by the river Thames and its tributaries. Adjacent to the Thames at Aylesbury Sewage Works a CWS has been designated in recognition of the importance of the marshy grassland and scrub for birds, riparian mammals and botanic interest.

Historic environment To the north of Aylesbury lies an extensive area of pre 18th century irregular enclosure land extending north from the flood meadows of the River Thames up to the Pitchcott - Whitchurch Ridge. These are large irregular fields that were probably established in the late 15th to early 16th century following the depopulation of the medieval villages and the change over from arable to pastoral agriculture. The area also has a wide expanse of meadows with relict water channels on the outskirts of Aylesbury which are some of the best examples in Buckinghamshire. Dispersed over the area are moderate sized groups of fields which are 19th century enclosure land. Parliamentary enclosure land is concentrated over two areas around Hardwick, in two major groups to the southwest and southeast of the village and covering the fields to the northwest where they run up to the boundary at Quainton. There are large 20th century prairie fields stretching in a belt between Fleet Marston, northwest of Aylesbury and the Pitchcott to Whitchurch Ridge to the north.

The area also contains a number of nationally important archaeological site at Quarrendon; this comprises several earthworks including deserted medieval settlements, a ruined church and the site of a Tudor moated mansion and gardens built by Sir Henry Lee, Queen's Champion to Elizabeth I and founder of Aylesbury Grammar School. At Fleet Marston there is a substantial archaeological site of a 'Roman Small Town' along Akeman Street and a minor Roman Road leading to Thornborough. Across the rest of the area there is a dense scatter of Roman farmsteads and a few prehistoric sites. To the north of the Roman town is the deserted medieval village of Fleet Marston. The only tangible remains of the settlement is the grade II* redundant parish church of St Mary's dating to the 12th and 13th century. There is also another small deserted medieval settlement known as Quarrendon III and some ridge and furrow. Other listed buildings, including a prominent church, are concentrated in the conservation area at Hardwick.

This area has a high amenity potential as the site of Quarrendon is focus of current conservation and access proposals.

Designations

Conservation Area at Hardwick

Scheduled Ancient Monuments: Deserted Village & Earthworks

Archaeological Notification Areas – 30 No.

CWS – 5 No.

BNS – 8 No.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.5 Northern Vale (LCT 8)



Open vale landscapes with scattered farmsteads, large fields, well clipped low hedges and occasional trees.



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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
 Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.5 Northern Vale (LCT 8)

Summary of Condition/Sensitivity Analysis	
Condition	Good
Pattern of elements:	Coherent
Visual Detractors:	Some
Visual unity:	Coherent
Cultural integrity:	Good
Ecological integrity:	Strong
Functional integrity:	Very strong
Sensitivity	High
Distinctiveness:	Distinct
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Tree cover:	Open
Visibility:	High
Guidelines	Conserve

Condition

Generally the condition of the landscape is considered to be good. The pattern of hedgerows has been eroded by the process of field amalgamation within the core of the area. It often remains only where boundaries are defined by ditches and drains. There are, however, better preserved field patterns and hedgerows on the northern fringe of the area. The general pattern of elements is considered to be coherent and there are few detracting features over this large area. The cultural integrity is good, the area contains a rich concentration of archaeological sites and monuments including the nationally important earthworks of Quarrendon as well as historic meadows and fields. Ecological integrity is strong as a result of good connectivity and a relatively large area of designated sites and

habitats of District significance. Overall the functional integrity is very strong.

Sensitivity

The area has a distinctive character and the historic associations are present in the various medieval and later earthworks but are being diluted by erosion of field pattern. Around the Quarrendon scheduled ancient monument the historic site has unique/rare distinctiveness. Overall the sense of place is moderate. The flat landform and sparse nature of tree cover provides for a high degree of visibility over the core of the area but this is reduced to moderate in the vicinity of the River Thames at Quarrendon due to the higher degree of tree cover. The overall degree of sensitivity is high.



Fleet Marston church.

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Aylesbury Vale District Council & Buckinghamshire County Council
Aylesbury Vale Landscape Character Assessment

LCA 8.5 Northern Vale (LCT 8)

Landscape Guidelines Conserve

Guidelines for the Northern Vale are as follows:

- Restore and enhance the original field pattern, where practical, including support for initiatives for management and replanting of hedgerows and infilling of gaps.
- Maintain and improve condition of existing hedgerows through traditional cutting regimes.
- Encourage the establishment of new hedgerow trees.
- Encourage planting of new woodlands and hedgerow trees particularly to reduce the visual impact of intrusive elements.
- Encourage the development of native vegetation including black poplar, along streams and other watercourses.
- Encourage traditional management of historic meadows.
- Maintain strong connectivity between habitats.
- Maintain extent and condition of neutral grassland.
- Where arable farming occurs next to watercourses encourage the creation of buffer strips of grassland and bank side vegetation to provide more diverse habitats enhance the landscape and reduce impact of run off of herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers.
- Encourage improved access, conservation and interpretation of the area's rich historic environment, especially the Quarrendon scheduled ancient monument site in response to proposed development.
- Encourage the establishment of non-car based recreational routes into the countryside from the northern edge of Aylesbury. The routes should aim to be accessible to the less mobile.
- Encourage arable reversion or minimum cultivation to protect buried archaeological remains
- Encourage the preservation of historic earthworks and ridge and furrow by maintaining a continuous grass sward and do not allow bare patches of soil to develop.
- Preserve or enhance the setting of key heritage features.
- Seek opportunities to bring the redundant church at Fleet Marston back into appropriate beneficial use.



B0404200/LAND/01



Protected Views Evidence Report

Reference: 0186-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
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This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

The identification of Protected View is an important element of the Neighbourhood Plan and gathering information on highly valued views was a topic in the 2022 Questionnaire.

As a result of the information gathered from the survey and other input, the following are the proposed Protected Views:

- Countryside
 - PV01 Whitchurch North footpath by Freemasons Wood looking north
 - PV02 North Bridleway looking northwest
 - PV03 Cublington Footpath near Badgers Oak Farm looking west
 - PV04 Lines Hill, wide panorama over the Vale of Aylesbury
 - PV05 The Grove looking across earthworks towards village green
 - PV06 Footpath by Chapmans Lea looking northeast towards Wing
 - PV07 Recreation Ground looking south
 - PV08 Footpath to Wing looking east towards Chiltern Hills
- Village
 - PV09 The Village Green (three views)
 - PV10 The Green towards Old Cottage
 - PV11 Moat Lane, on entering the village
 - PV12 Cublington Road, on entering the village
 - PV13 Wingrave Road, on entering the village

This document provides details on these Protected Views and outlines the process used in selecting them. Section 2 discusses the methodology and Sections 3 and 4 provide information on the views and their locations along with findings from the assessments.

Appendix A provides the relevant results from the 2022 questionnaire.

2. Methodology

2.1. Identification of candidate views

The questionnaire circulated to residents in 2022 had a section on the environment and asked a specific question on how highly the residents valued the countryside and landscape around the parish. This question provided the opportunity for the residents to identify views that they valued the most.

The responses to this question are provided in Appendix A which includes an example of how the information on the viewpoints was obtained. This was by way of marking arrows or vantage points on the maps provided in the questionnaire. The position of all the arrows and vantage points were transposed to a single map and clusters identified which became candidate views for assessment.

It's important to acknowledge that, given the nature of the question, the views and vantage points identified from the survey focused on views across the countryside from public footpaths. Nevertheless, it is recognised that street views within the village are also an important characteristic that should be considered. As a result, the Steering Group has identified certain views within the village as potential candidates for Protected View Status.

The location and assessment of countryside views are provided in Section 3 and Section 4 covers the village views.

2.2. Criteria

Each potential Protected View was assessed against the following criteria:

- Countryside Views
 - Viewpoints for protected views should be publicly accessible and well-used.
 - Presence of an important heritage asset or listed building in the view.
 - The view has considerable scenic value with a view over the surrounding countryside.
 - Presence of particularly important geological or natural features.
- Village Views
 - Presence of an important heritage asset or listed building in the view.
 - The view has cultural and community value.
 - Presence of particularly important architectural or natural features.
 - Is considered a view that defines a key characteristic of the village.

A description of each of the candidate Protected Views and their assessment against the criteria are provided in Sections 3.2 and 4.2.

3. Countryside Protected Views - Locations and Assessments

This section details how the list of candidate views was defined and then assesses each of them against the criteria defined in Section 2.

3.1. Identifying Candidate Views

A total of 38 maps were marked up with more than 100 arrows identifying specific views and approximately 25 vantage points marked. These were overlaid on a map of the parish, the result of which is shown in Figure 1.

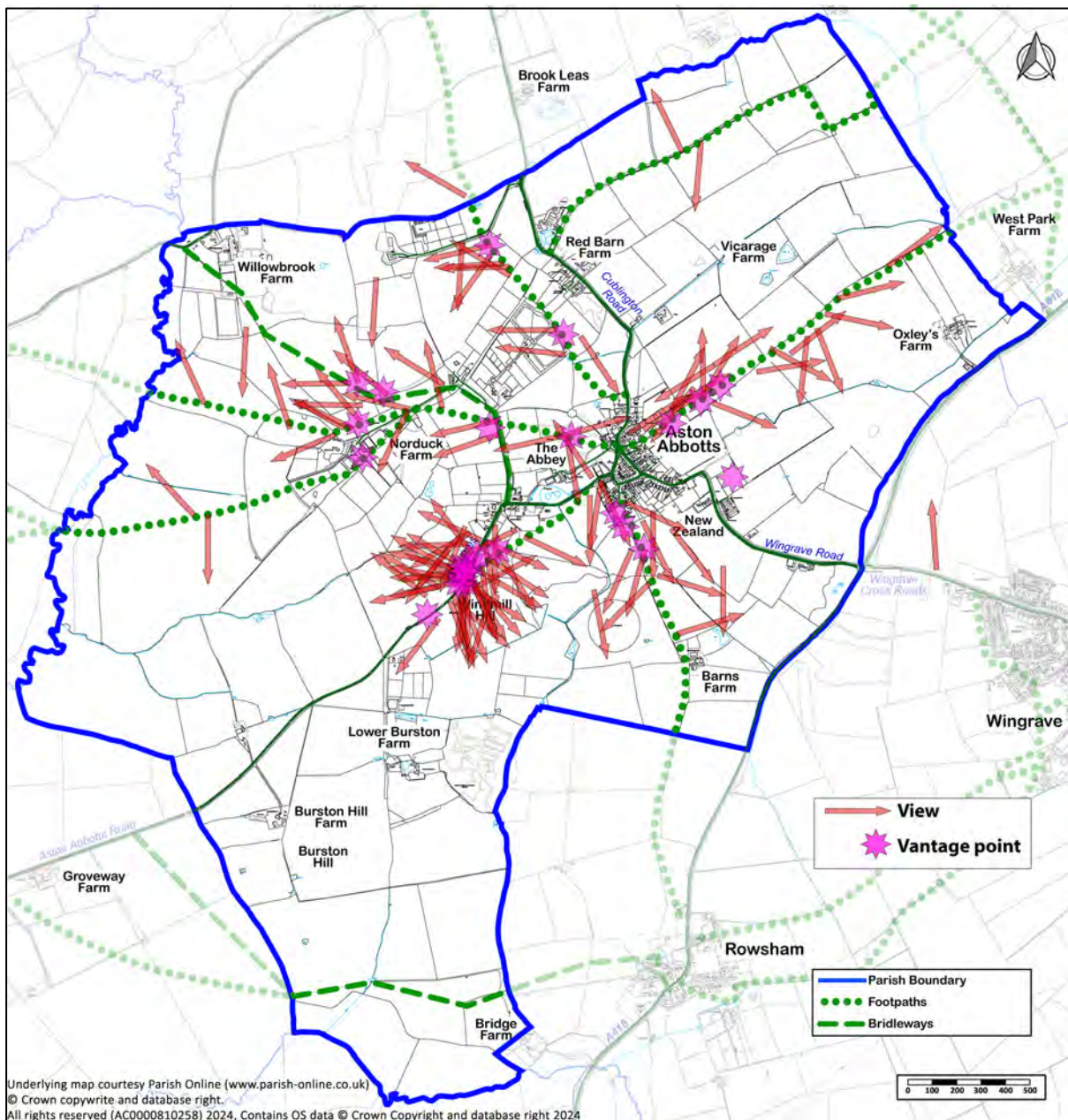


Figure 1 - Location of all vantage points and views marked-up on the maps

The views and vantage points from the questionnaire were examined and eleven clusters were identified and tagged as candidate sites for assessment; these are illustrated in Figure 2. Each candidate site was then surveyed during which a specific viewpoint was identified for assessment. The findings of the assessments for each candidate viewpoint are provided in Section 3.2.

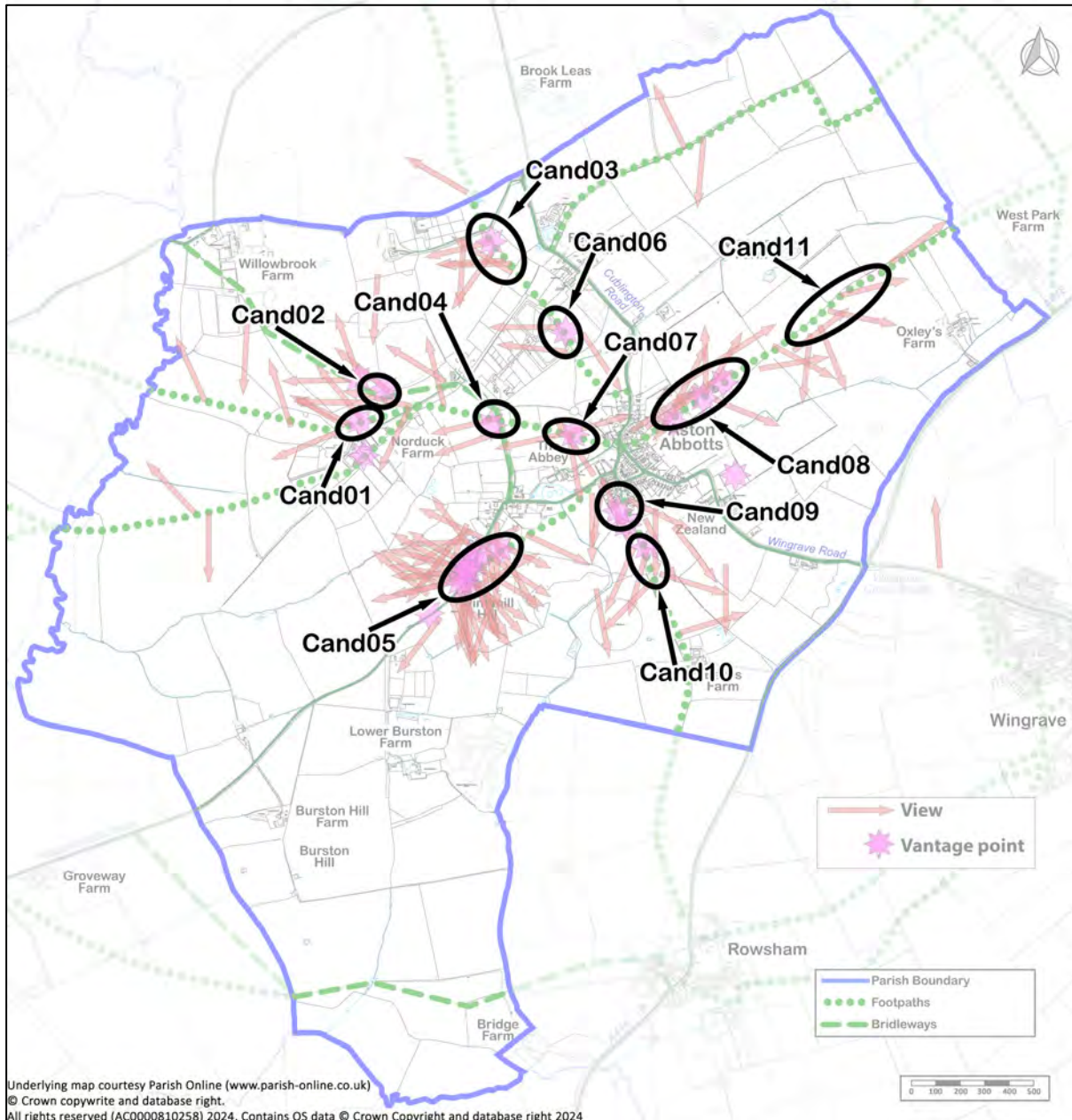


Figure 2 - Cluster locations for potential Protected Views

3.2. Assessment

Each of the candidate countryside views were assessed against the following criteria:

- Viewpoints for protected views must be publicly accessible and well-used.
- Presence of an important heritage asset or listed building in the view.
- The view has considerable scenic value with a view over the surrounding countryside.
- Presence of particularly important geological or natural features.

The findings of the survey and assessment of each candidate view are provided in the following subsections.

3.2.1. Candidate 01 – Freemasons Wood looking north



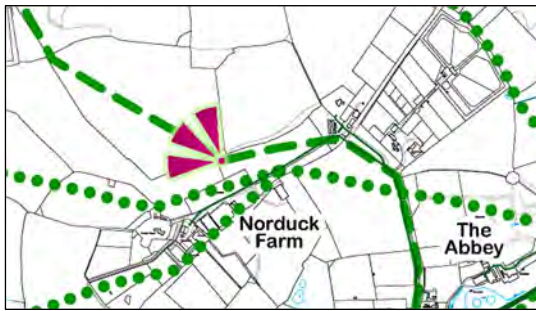
On walking west along Whitchurch North footpath through Freemasons wood, you catch glimpses of the view awaiting you as you look north. On exiting the wood, you are presented with an amazing panorama across rolling countryside looking over Willow Brook and Badgers Oak Farms towards Cublington. In the distance to the west, you can see the Quainton Hills on the horizon.

The view has considerable scenic value with a view over the surrounding countryside and hence is proposed as a Protected View.



Figure 3 – Panoramic view from Masons Wood looking North

3.2.2. Candidate 02 – North Bridleway looking northwest



On walking west on the North Bridleway away from Abbots View Farm, you walk about 100m with hedgerows and trees on your right which blocks the view to the north. When you reach the end of the trees, the bridleway turns sharply north and you are presented with a view similar to that for the Candidate View 01. There is a difference, however, since the bridleway in front of you slopes down very steeply presenting a far more dramatic view, a feature that the picture shown in Figure 4 does not do justice.

The view has considerable scenic value with a view over the surrounding countryside and the Quanton Hills and hence is proposed as a Protected View.



Figure 4 – View from North Bridleway looking northwest

3.2.3. Candidate 03 – Cublington Footpath near Badgers Oak Farm looking west



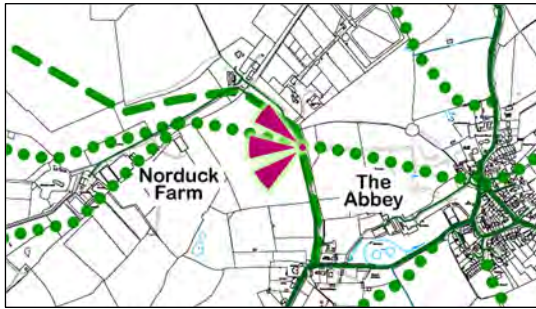
On walking northwest along the footpath towards Cublington, you pass Abbotts View Farm on your left. Continuing towards Badgers Oak Farm, you are presented with an incredible view southwest, along a vale, with Waddesdon Hill on the horizon. The juxtaposition of the Berryfields Wind Turbine, visible 6km in the distance on a clear day, although controversial to many, remains worthy of admiration.

The view has considerable scenic value with a view over the surrounding countryside and hence is proposed as a Protected View.



Figure 5 –View from Cublington Footpath near Badgers Oak Farm looking Southwest

3.2.4. Candidate 04 – Millenium Wood looking towards Norduck Farm



As you exit Millenium Wood following the footpath westwards, the footpath continues straight ahead across an arable field. The vista from this viewpoint changes seasonally and can often be stunning as the various crops develop. However, it was considered that this vista did not meet the criteria to be included as a proposed Protected View since the view is largely constrained to the one field and there is little open countryside visible in the distance because of the hedge on the far boundary of the field



Figure 6 – View looking west from Millenium Wood

3.2.5. Candidate 05 - Lines Hill, wide panorama over the Vale of Aylesbury



The footpath leading southwest from Moat Lane passes to the south of Windmill Hill Farm and meets The Lines approximately 300m from the village boundary. As The Lines is approached across the last field, impressive panoramic views across the Vale of Aylesbury and the Chiltern Hills slowly open up. As can be seen from the number of arrows in Figure 1, this view is the most highly valued by the residents. Figure 7 shows the view from the middle of the field as you approach The Lines, looking south towards the site of the Medieval Village of Burston. Figure 8 shows a 180° panorama from the point where the footpath meets The Lines.

This view has considerable scenic value with a panorama over the surrounding countryside and hence is proposed as a Protected View.

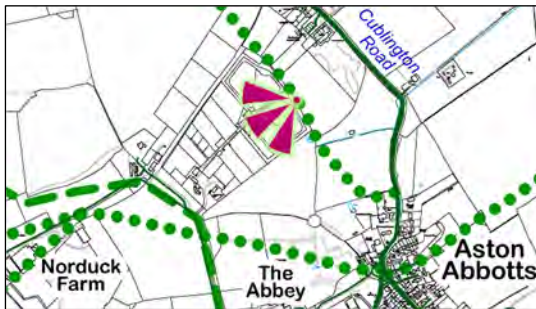


Figure 7 – View from middle of field approaching The Lines



Figure 8 – 180° panoramic view from The Lines looking towards Aylesbury

3.2.6. Candidate 06 – Cublington Footpath looking towards Abbots View Farm



As you walk northwest along the Cublington Footpath, you are greeted with the sight of Abbots View Farm to the west as depicted in Figure 9. This picturesque scene reveals many farm animals, with the occasional glimpse of alpacas in the distance. While delightful to behold, it was considered that this vista did not meet the criteria to be included as a proposed Protected View.



Figure 9 – View looking towards Abbots View Farm

3.2.7. Candidate 07 – The Grove looking across earthworks towards the village green



The Grove is the local name given to the private land belonging to The Abbey through which a public footpath runs. The Grove is characterised by undulating agricultural earthworks. Looking east from the centre of The Grove there are views over the earthworks towards the houses on The Green and south towards The Abbey, which is a Grade II listed building and a private residence.

The scene from the footpath across The Grove has both interesting geological/historical features and a view of a listed building and hence is proposed as a Protected View.



Figure 10 – View from the public footpath in The Grove looking southeast

3.2.8. Candidate 08 - Footpath by Chapmans Lea looking northeast towards Wing

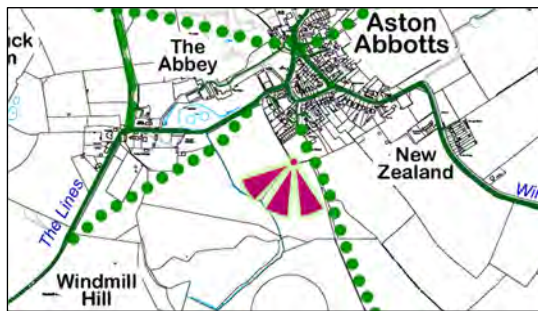


At end of Chapmans Lea, you pass through a gate onto a farm track which is about 100m long and bordered with hedgerows. On climbing over the stile at the end of the track, you are greeted with the panorama shown in Figure 11, which has an unobstructed almost 180° view to the boundary of the field and beyond towards the village of Wing. This spot has considerable scenic value with a view over the surrounding countryside and clearly marks a transition from the village settlement to the open countryside. For this reason, it is proposed as a Protected View



Figure 11 – View from Wing footpath looking northeast towards Wing

3.2.9. Candidate 09 - Recreation Ground looking south



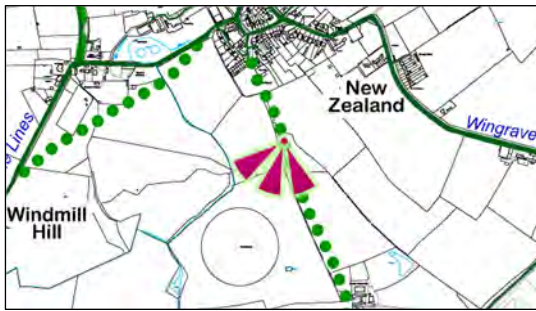
At the southern corner of the recreation ground, there are stunning views across rolling countryside over the Vale of Aylesbury towards the Chiltern Hills, as shown in Figure 12. Aylesbury town centre can be clearly seen, dominated by the controversial high rise listed County Hall, built in 1966 with a design based on postwar Brutalism.

This view has considerable scenic value with a panorama over the surrounding countryside as well as architectural interest and hence is proposed as a Protected View.



Figure 12 – Panoramic view over the Vale of Aylesbury from the recreation ground

3.2.10. Candidate 10 – Rowsham Footpath looking towards Fox Covert



On following the Rowsham footpath south from the recreation ground, you traverse a field then walk about 100m through a wood. On emerging from the wood, you are presented with the view shown in Figure 13 which is looking southeast. The view is dominated by the field which rises from the walker and there are power cables traversing the field. From the arrows marked on the map, there was an impression that there were views southwest towards Fox Covert but that view is completely obscured by tall hedgerows and trees. Walking another 100m south to crest of the field, the view is then dominated by farm buildings.

As a result of the survey, it was concluded that this view does not meet the criteria for a Protected View.



Figure 13 – From Rowsham footpath looking southeast

3.2.11. Candidate 11 - Footpath to Wing looking east towards Chiltern Hills



Approximately 900m from the end of Chapmans Lea, along the Wing footpath, you are presented with stunning view eastward of the northern range of the Chiltern Hills as shown in Figure 14.

The view has considerable scenic value with a view over the surrounding countryside and hence is proposed as a Protected View.



Figure 14 – View of the northern range of the Chiltern Hills

3.3. Countryside Protected Views – Result of Assessment

From the survey and assessment of the candidate views, the following views are proposed as countryside Protected Views.

- PV01 Whitchurch North footpath by Freemasons Wood looking north
- PV02 North Bridleway looking northwest
- PV03 Cublington Footpath near Badgers Oak Farm looking west
- PV04 Lines Hill, wide panorama over the Vale of Aylesbury
- PV05 The Grove looking across earthworks towards village green
- PV06 Footpath by Chapmans Lea looking northeast towards Wing
- PV07 Recreation Ground looking south
- PV08 Footpath to Wing looking east towards Chiltern Hills

The locations of these are shown in Figure 15.

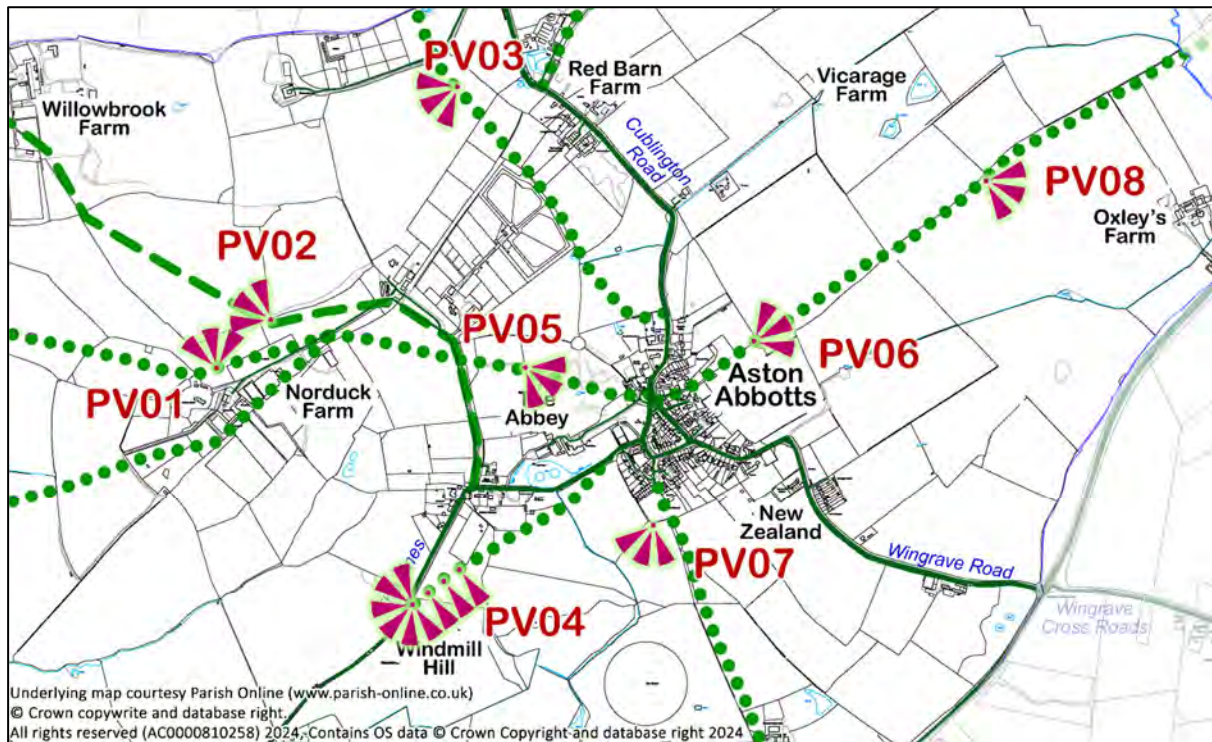


Figure 15 - Location of proposed Countryside Protected Views

4. Village Protected Views - Locations and Assessments

This section details how the list of candidate views was defined and then assesses them against the criteria defined in Section 2.

4.1. Identifying Candidate Views

From various events and meetings, the following candidates for Protected Views within the village have been identified:

- Views of the village green
- The Green towards Old Cottage
- View towards the Church and Church Row from the footpath to Wing.
- Cublington Road, on entering the village
- Wingrave Road, on entering the village
- Moat Lane, on entering the village

4.2. Assessment

Each of the candidate views were assessed against the following criteria:

- Viewpoints for protected views should be publicly accessible and well-used.
- Presence of an important heritage asset or listed building in the view.
- A view that contains features that contribute to the distinctive character of the village.

Details of each view and their assessments are provided in the following subsections.

4.2.1. The Village Green

The village of Aston Abbots can be approached from three directions; from the A418 at Wingrave Crossroads, the A413 via Weedon and from the village of Cublington. These three roads converge at the heart of the village, which is the village green.

The views of the village green, as it is approached from these roads, contribute significantly to the character of the village, reflecting its rural surroundings. Given its importance, it is proposed to designate views of the village green as protected views as well as a Local Green Space.



Figure 16 – The Village Green from Cublington Road



Figure 17 - The Village Green looking north



Figure 18 - The Village Green looking west

4.2.2. The Green towards Old Cottage

The view from the village green along The Green towards The Old Cottage is shown in Figure 19. The eye is drawn to the 17th century Old Cottage with its magnificent thatch in the centre of the view. On the left are the Methodist Chapel and Overstone Cottages and, on the right, there is the timber constructed bus shelter.



Figure 19 - The Green looking from the Village Green towards The Old Cottage

This view typifies a key characteristic of the village in that it encompasses historic architectural features, and the streetscape is dominated by vegetation, such as trees and hedges which soften the feel of the built environment. This is particularly noticeable on the right side of the road which consists of more modern properties.

This view includes heritage assets and features that contribute to the distinctive character of the village and hence is worthy of protected view designation.

4.2.3. Church and Church Row from the footpath to Wing

Looking east towards the church from the footpath to Wing at the end of Chapmans Lea there is a view of the rear of the cottages on Church Row (as viewed from a point about 80m from the start of the footpath). Although this view features the church tower, the hedgerow obscures some of the older buildings with the newer properties dominating parts of the view (see Figure 20). It was therefore considered not to include this view as a protected view.



Figure 20 – Church Row from the Wing footpath

4.2.4. Moat Lane, on Entering the Village

From Weedon to the west, the village is entered along The Lines. The Lines is a gated road with the gate located at the point where The Lines runs into Moat Lane. On passing through the gate into Moat Lane, Windmill Hill Farm is passed on the right followed by a left-hand bend. On navigating the bend, you are greeted with an imposing avenue of tall hedgerows and trees which stretches for about 100m which can be seen in Figure 21. These hedgerows provide a dramatic entrance to the village and a sense of openness as one reaches the countryside on The Lines upon exiting the village.



Figure 21 – Entrance to the Village along Moat Lane

A description of this stretch of road is included in Buckinghamshire Council’s appraisal of the conservation area¹:

“In similarity to both of the other approach roads into the village, Moat Lane is bounded on either side by hedgerows, with the exception of a small stretch on the southern side of Windmill Hill Farm where the enclosure is provided by a brick wall. The hedging along the southern side of the road tends to be lower and less dense than that on the northern side, which defines the southern boundary to the extensively landscaped and private ground of The Abbey (formerly known as Aston House).”

There is no intention to assign specific protection status to the hedgerows. All hedgerows, both in the village and the wider parish, are important to biodiversity and the Plan has a general policy in relation to rural character which states that established hedgerows should be retained wherever possible.

This view contains features that contribute to the distinctive rural character of the village and hence is worthy of protected view designation.

¹ <https://buckinghamshire-gov-uk.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/CA-Aston-Abbots.pdf>

4.2.5. Wingrave Road, on Entering the Village

Upon entering the village from Wingrave, a sharp left-hand bend occurs shortly after passing New Zealand Cottages. Navigating the bend reveals a long avenue of tall hedgerows, guiding the way into the village as can be seen in Figure 22. At the end this stretch of road, which is about 50m long, stands the impressive thatched Royal Oak on the right and the imposing The Firs on the left.



Figure 22 – Entrance to the Village along Wingrave Road

The stretch of road, which has a pavement, is frequently used by the residents as it links the centre of the village to the allotments and the village orchard. It is also the main route to the Wingrave Crossroads and is frequented by walkers and those using the bus services that run along the A418.

There is no intention to assign specific protection status to the hedgerows. All hedgerows, both in the village and the wider parish, are important to biodiversity and the Plan has a general policy in relation to rural character which states that established hedgerows should be retained wherever possible.

This view contains features that contribute to the distinctive rural character of the village and hence is worthy of protected view designation.

4.2.6. Cublington Road, on Entering the Village

After travelling about 100m from the village boundary as you enter the village from Cublington, you are presented with a scene that has the Church of St James on the right and the marvellous thatched Church Farmhouse, both listed buildings. In the centre of the scene, as the road bears right to meet the village green stands the Old Forge.



Figure 23 – Cublington Road approaching the village green

The Church of St James the Great is an iconic emblem of the village and its architectural significance, along with the those of the surrounding buildings, contributes significantly to the character of the village and hence this view is worthy of protected view designation.

4.3. Village Protected Views – Result of Assessment

As a result of the assessment, the following views are proposed as Village Protected Views:

- PV09 The Village Green (three views)
- PV10 The Green towards Old Cottage
- PV11 Moat Lane, on entering the village
- PV12 Cublington Road, on entering the village
- PV13 Wingrave Road, on entering the village

The locations of these are shown in Figure 24.

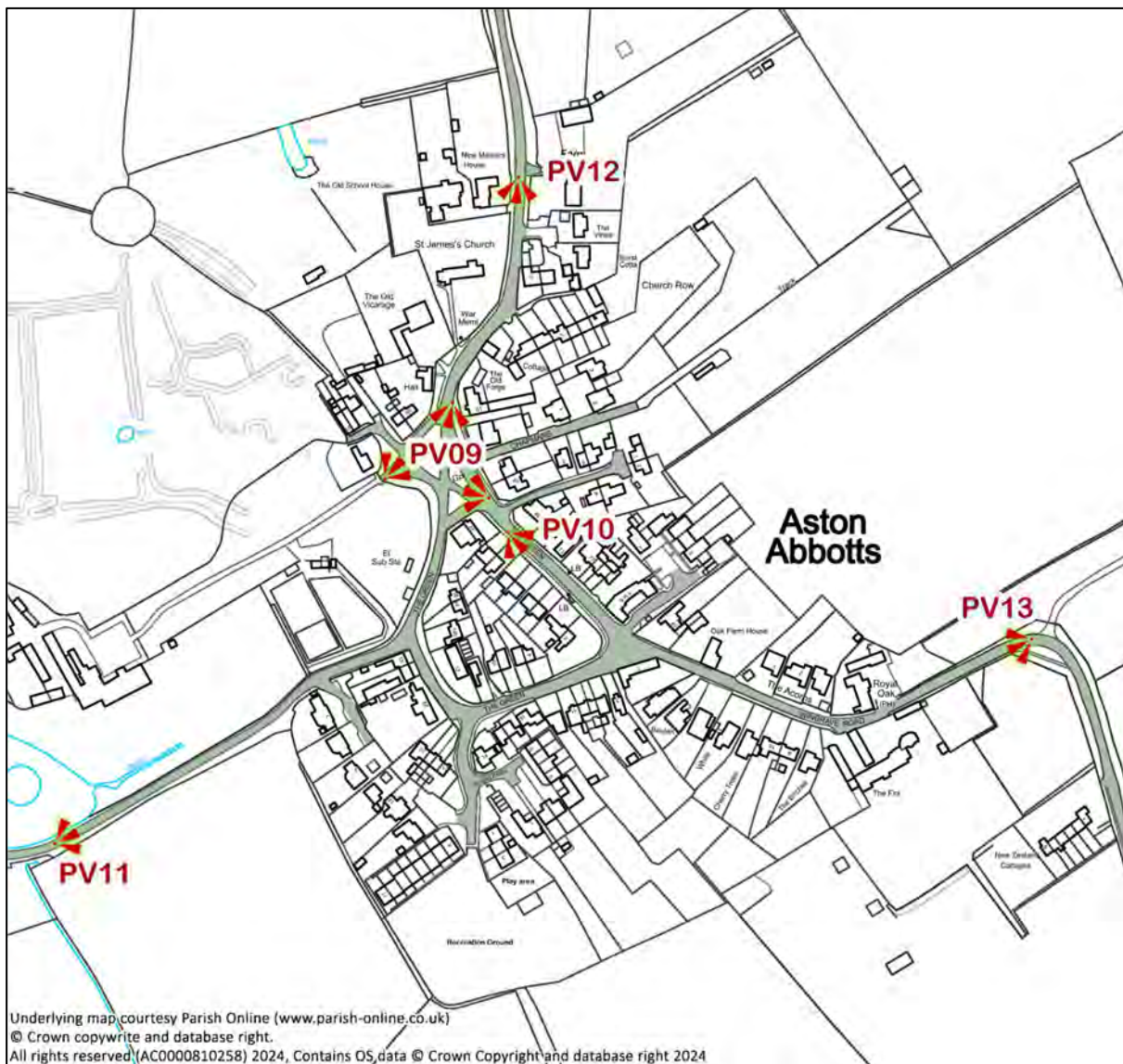


Figure 24 - Location of proposed Village Protected Views

Appendix A – Questionnaire Responses and Comments

*Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns
(barring human error in the transcription).
No attempt has been made to correct typographical or other errors.*

A.1. Question related to the Environment and Favourite Views

The 2022 Questionnaire included the maps shown in Figure A.1 and A2.

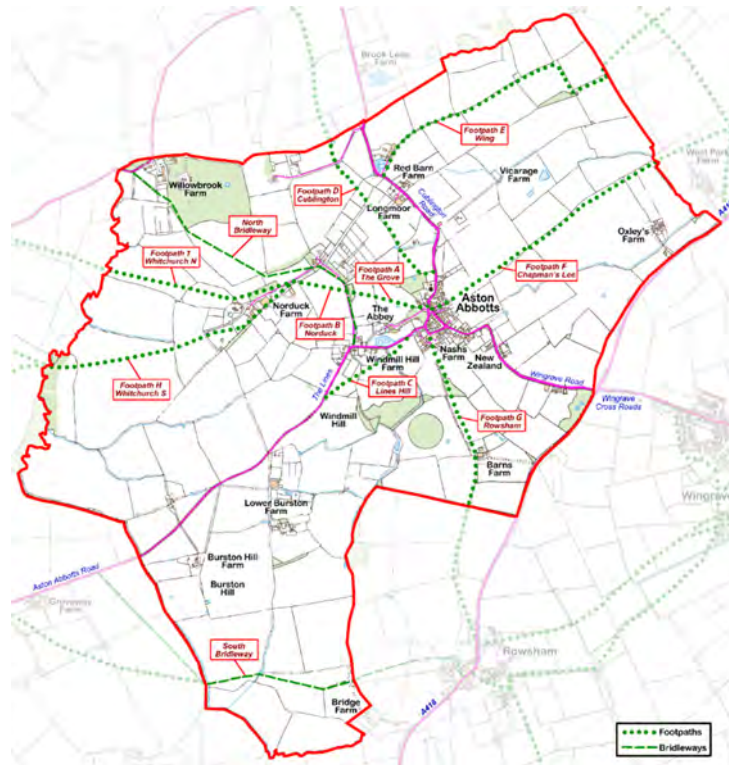


Figure A.1 – Map showing parish boundary

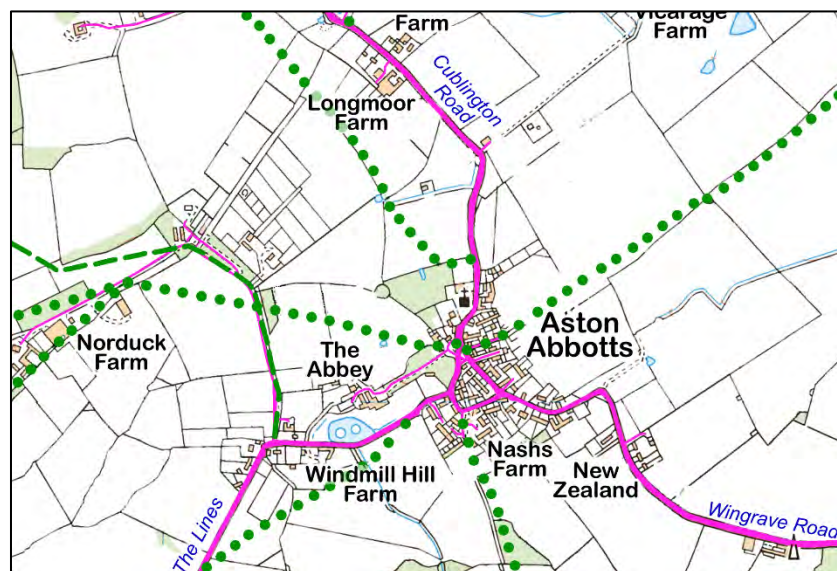


Figure A.2 – Map of village and immediate surroundings

Question 7.1 of the Questionnaire which provided the residents the opportunity to show their favourite views from a public viewpoint is shown below:

7.1	How important is to you, and how highly do you value, the countryside and landscape around the Parish? Please tick		
Very Important <input type="checkbox"/>	Important <input type="checkbox"/>	Fairly Important <input type="checkbox"/>	Not important <input type="checkbox"/>
Please place an arrow on the maps in Figures 1 or 2 showing your favourite views <i>from a public viewpoint</i> . Please elaborate below if you wish:			

A.2. Response

The response the question 7.1 is shown below:

Q7.1 [i] How important is to you is the countryside/landscape around the Parish?

Very important	76	93%
Important	6	7%
Fairly important		
Not important		
No Response	2	[2%]

The following are the responses to the question “**Favourite Views - please elaborate below if you wish.**”

The view from Windmill Hill of the Vale of Aylesbury is amazing, even with the awful concrete tower Bucks CC call home. (Shame the litter bin was removed as litter is often left here)
Stunning view from Lines Hill - many enjoy this
Figure 1
We moved here for the countryside, views and walking. Access to fields, wildlife is vital for us and our wellbeing.
It's all beautiful, that's why we moved here!
The views are priceless from the recreation ground, Lines Hill and from the public footpaths.
The surrounding countryside in all directions is uplifting and highly appreciated.
Footpath C, Footpath E, Footpath F, Footpath I, Footpath H, Footpath G, Footpath A, Footpath D, North Bridleway.
Views from Lines Hill and the corner of the Recreation Ground.
Why would you live somewhere like this without the countryside
Marked on Figure 2 and highlighted
- The view from Lines Hill is arguably amongst best in the county: You can see from Dunstable Down -> Whippsnade -> Ashridge -> Wendover Gap & Combe Hill -> Ridgeway on top of Chilterns -> Stokenchurch Beacon -> Didcot (on a clear day).
- In the other direction: Waddesdon -> Quainton Hills -> Hardwick -> Whitchurch.
- Views from gate to field behind Hunters Way -> Chilterns
Views over the Vale form Lines Hill is a treasure I never take for granted.
Lines Hill
See arrow

We moved here for the countryside, views and walking. Access to fields, wildlife is vital for us and our wellbeing.
It's all beautiful, that's why we moved here!
The views are priceless from the recreation ground, Lines Hill and from the public footpaths.
The surrounding countryside in all directions is uplifting and highly appreciated.
Footpath C, Footpath E, Footpath F, Footpath I, Footpath H, Footpath G, Footpath A, Footpath D, North Bridleway.
Views from Lines Hill and the corner of the Recreation Ground.

A.3. Typical example of Marked-up Map

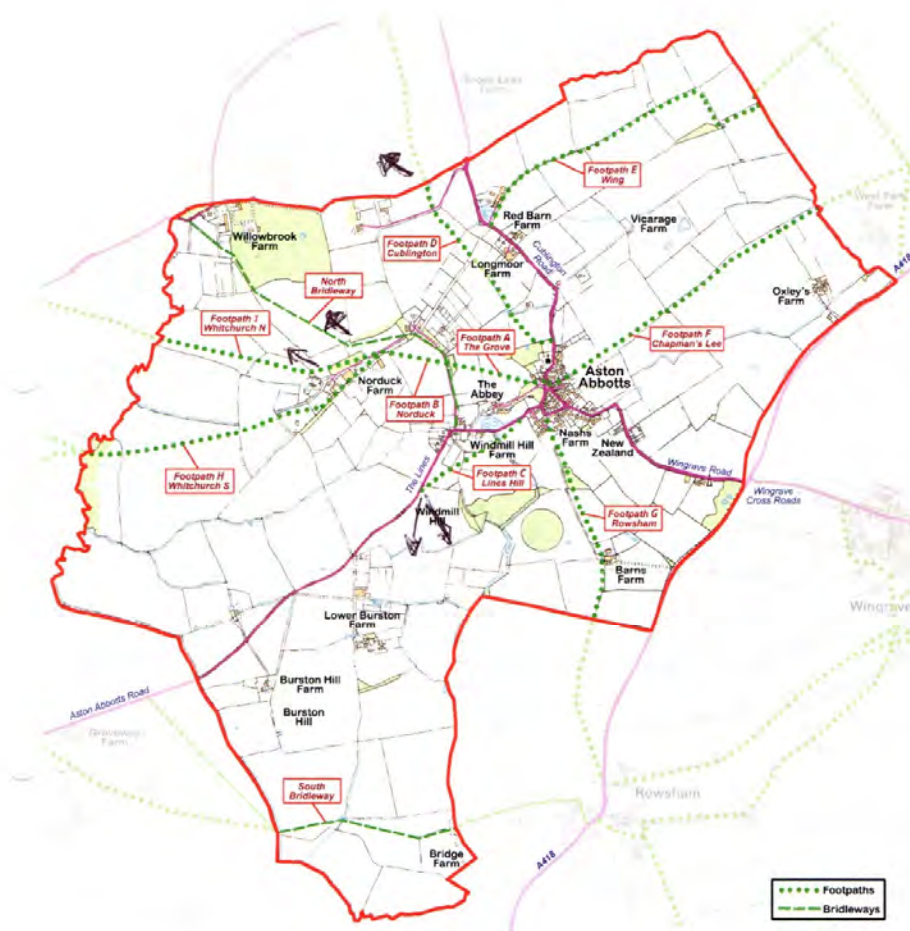


Figure 1 – Aston Abbots Parish Boundary



Traffic Calming, Heavy Vehicles and Parking Evidence Report

Reference: 0082-DAT

Submission Stage (Issue 1)
October 2024

This document has been produced by the Aston Abbotts Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group acting on behalf of the Aston Abbotts Parish Council

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1. Summary

It is recognised that issues around traffic calming, volume of traffic and vehicle speed are a significant concern for most residents. The Neighbourhood Plan, unfortunately, can have little influence over this since the responsibility for roads and traffic lies with Buckinghamshire Council.

The purpose of this document is to outline the various concerns expressed by residents and provide examples of the issues of heavy goods vehicles and on-street parking. Its purpose is to raise these concerns within the Neighbourhood Plan, ensuring that any future developments do not aggravate these issues.

The topic of heavy goods vehicles and traffic through the village is raised by residents through many channels, either directly with the Parish council or through the public forums such as the Chronicle and the AA Email Postbox. Residents also took the opportunity to voice their concerns in their responses to the 2022 survey. After assessing these issues and concerns, the findings and recommendations indicate that the following action and aspiration should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan:

- **Traffic calming:** Parish Council to continue to raise the issues with Buckinghamshire Council with the hope of identifying affordable solutions for traffic calming.
- **Freight Strategy:** The implementation of a Freight Strategy encompassing Aston Abbotts should be a long-term aspiration of the Parish Council.

Closely linked to traffic calming and HGVs is on-street parking which is prevalent in the centre of the village. This too is troubling for the residents who are concerned about safety of increased heavy goods traffic combined with roads narrowed to a single lane with parked vehicles. On-street parking in the village for existing households is a necessity but it must be ensured that any developments in the village avoid increasing the need for it.

2. 2022 Survey Results

The following lists the comments, related to traffic and transport, made by residents on the questionnaire returns. ***Please note that comments are transcribed exactly as written on the questionnaire returns (barring human error in the transcription). No attempts have been made to correct typographical or other errors.***

Q1.6 Other Factor for Overall Impression:

- Suffers from excessive traffic and used as rat-run
- Needs traffic calming
- Stop lorries through village
- Traffic calming measures & stop cut-through via The Green to Weedon
- Traffic transit noise/quality worsening noticeably
- Village needs traffic calming measures urgently

Q2.5 Please add any comments you think would help in identifying suitable locations for future housing:

- Towards the A418, to avoid increase in traffic through the village. (Roads are narrow and parked cars already cause congestion).
- Any locations will need good road access and parking. My main concern is the impact on existing resident re parking and increased traffic flow.

- Providing road traffic is not increased as road through the village is too busy already. Do not ruin the countryside!

Q3.5 Please add other suggestions for improving our economy.

- We have no objection to businesses being run from home but are concerned that agreeing to more "business units" in the parish will "industrialise" the area in increase traffic.
- Only light businesses, nothing that will generate more heavy traffic e.g. lorries through the village."

Q5.3 Other Things for Development

- Improved/controlled traffic flow by non-local traffic/inappropriate size/speed
- Traffic calming

Q5.3 If you would like to see more action to develop facilities within the parish, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help

- "We need to address large lorries & trucks driving at speed through the village
- "STOP rat run to Aylesbury via the village!! Make it 20 MPH through – enforced!

Q7.1 Favourite Views - please elaborate below if you wish

- We are concerned at the speed of traffic leaving Cublington towards Aston Abbots. [And the amount of traffic and lack of footpaths deters us from walking along the road]

Q9.1 If you would like to see more action to encourage alternative energy, please provide suggestions/ideas that you think will help:

- Reduction in traffic by restricting use of cars and HGVs; by financial measures if necessary

Q9.2 Please add anything else you think has not been covered and that you think should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan:

- "Cublington Road has very fast traffic which is unsafe due to the number of horse riders, cyclists and walkers.
- Drop the speed limit to 40mph and the village to 20mph.
- No safety signs in Cublington road for pedestrians in the road (no footpath) and horse riders. This should be a priority.
- I would like to see an improvement to footpaths in the village and traffic calming measures
- "Traffic calming if it falls within this remit
- Making our roads safer for pedestrians - young and old alike"
- The infrastructure and nature of the parish is being damaged by the disproportionate amount and size of traffic which are not delivering/visiting locally. The village is being used as a high speed cut through from the A418 to the A413 without entering/leaving Aylesbury. The noise generated by high "revving" cars and motorbikes is distressing, constant and invasive. The continuous drone of oversized HGV engines trying to save time and the damage caused to infrastructure when two oversized vehicles try to pass is unacceptable in my view but is condoned by Bucks CC complacency to place enforcement/traffic regulations as part of their freight strategy.
- HGV traffic:
 - More signs, light the signs
 - Narrow entrance to "cut through" road to Lines Hill (opposite Humphries Close

- AA has become a "rat-run" and a diversion route during the rush hour, and a route for the A418 and A413. I think this issue should be addressed by the NP. This also leads to road safety issues for all vulnerable users such as cyclists, wheelchair users, children, prams and horse riders etc.
- Reduction in HGV lorries coming through the village and using it as a rat-run to avoid A418 and to the A roads,
 - Traffic calming measures
 - Discourage Council from diverting traffic though Aston Abbots when roadworks are being carried out"
- The footpaths in the village are cracked and broken and unsuitable for those with mobility problems, especially those using walkers. The recreation ground is also unsuitable for mobility aids.
- When planning permission is granted all new homes should be built with parking facilities off road. The village is more like a car park with so many vehicles parking on footpaths
- The footpath to Wingrave and A418 Wingrave Road is too narrow for buggies and adjacent to fast flowing traffic. It is poorly lit. It is the only walk to a shop/school and needs to be more accessible. "
- Like most villages with small roads, there needs to be some way of tackling the size and amount of the lorries that come through the village, at time at an alarming speed.
- Some type of speed calming through the village.
- Traffic too fast through the village
- Action needs to be taken to stop roads through the village being used as the 'Aylesbury By-Pass', by both cars, vans and lorries of all sizes.
- *Traffic* - the increase in traffic through the village
- Measures to restrict heavy goods vehicles passing through the village.

3. Examples of Heavy Goods Vehicles Issues

The Chronicle is the local village newsletter. Over the years, it has reported on numerous incidents and concerns over heavy goods vehicles causing damage and raising safety concerns. Examples of recent Chronicle articles are shown in Figure 1. An example of a post on the Aston Abbots Email Postbox is shown in Figure 2.

A more detailed article was published in the March Issue of The Chronicle, which is reprinted in full in Appendix A. This includes a report of a meeting between a Parish Councillor and Buckinghamshire Council Freight Team which discussed in detail the recently introduced Ivinghoe Freight Zone.

As can be seen from that report, Buckinghamshire Council is not receptive to expanding the zone to include the area between the A418 and A413 in which our parish resides. When the topic was discussed during the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting, there was general frustration that Aston Abbots is not included in such a Freight Zone. It is, therefore, believed that inclusion of Aston Abbots in a similar strategy should be a long-term aspiration of the Parish Council.

Thanks to everyone for getting in touch regarding the trucks getting through and getting stuck in our village. I was informed that this one below got stuck and eventually delivered to the chicken farm, Norduck.



April 2023
Extract from Page 3



The Chronicle



November 2022 Issue 430

Under threat again from a serious increase in HGVs through Aston Abbots






See Waste Company's appeal against expansion decision, next to our village. In News section on Page 3

November 22
Front page

Campaign to rid villages of HGVs

A plan to get HGVs off country lanes has been proposed by Bucks Council.

Diana Blamires (Conservative Councillor for Aston Abbots) has joined the campaign and supported 'Anti Truck' signage at each end of the village.

We have done much by protesting to the truck companies to stop their drivers using Aston Abbots as a cut through. With the Councillor, the Parish Council and villagers working together we will improve the reality of reducing heavy trucks through our village.

February 2024
Extract from Page 3

News

Lockharts Farm

Buckinghamshire Council lost its appeal to prevent an increase in commercial activity at Lockharts Farm.

This makes the serious increase in HGV traffic through Aston Abbots a reality.

The Parish Council hope to soon have a discussion with Unitary Councillors on what, if any, measures can be taken to mitigate the effects of an increase in HGV traffic through the village. (See Editors Comments)

July 2023
Extract from Pages 2 and 3

From the Editor

Losing the Lockharts appeal will cost Aston Abbots dearly.

Buckinghamshire Council has failed in its appeal to block the expansion of Lockharts Farm between Cublington and Wing. This will result in significant HGV traffic through Aston Abbots by possibly 80 per day.

There are time restrictions but these overlap children's school runs.

We must be alert to this and report any damage and/or violations of restrictions.

Plus the safety of our children is paramount.

Figure 1 - Examples of Chronicle Articles

Submission Stage (Issue 1)

6

0082-DAT

From: postbox[at]aston-abbotts.co.uk <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 01 February 2023 07:10
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: POSTBOX: Trucks thundering through Aston Abbots Village HP224LX

[copy of email sent to ['Enquiries' [REDACTED]]]

Over the last few days, your trucks have been coming through our village at speed and unsafe, it seems as a cut through to and from the A418.

Aston Abbots cannot cope with this sort of traffic and traffic signs clearly state this at each end of the village.

Children play out on the streets. If one of your trucks were to hit anyone, they wouldn't have a chance.

Collisions and near misses have occurred in the village concerning another haulage company which, wisely, avoids the village now.

We would ask you strongly to stop using Aston Abbots. The trucks are ruining the roads and an accident is just waiting to happen.

Peter Lucas
On behalf of Aston Abbots residents



Figure 2 - Example of a Post on the Aston Abbots Email Postbox

4. On-street Parking

The Figures on the following pages provide examples of the typical level of on-street parking around The Green in the centre of the village.

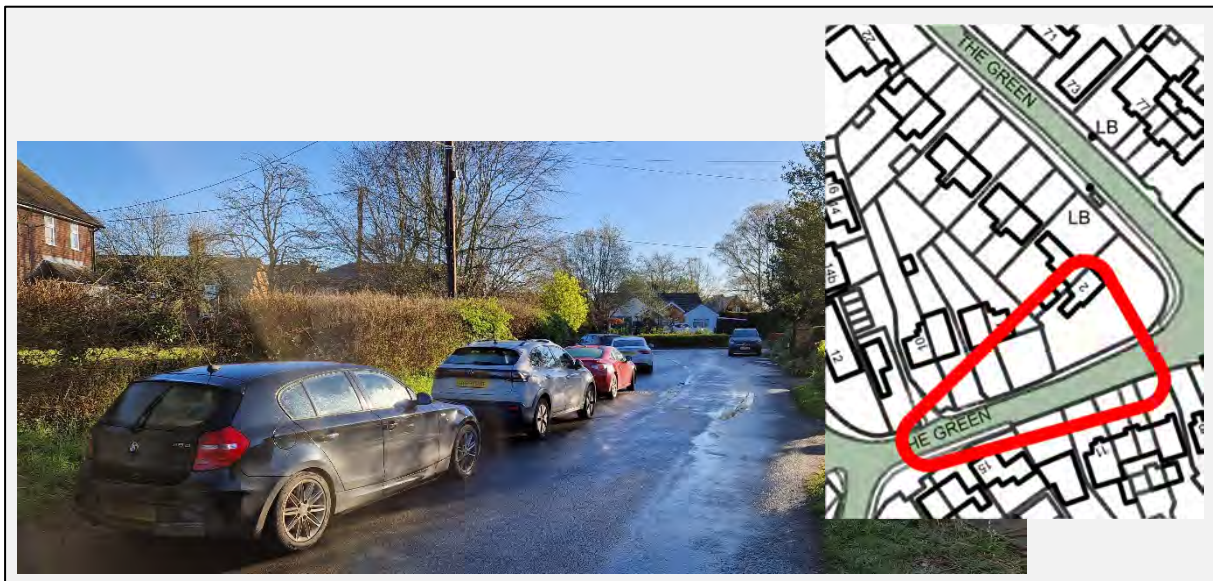


Figure 3 - Example of parking in the Village Centre



Figure 4 - Example of parking in the Village Centre



Figure 5 - Example of parking in the Village Centre



Figure 6 - Example of parking in the Village Centre

Appendix A Reprint of The Chronicle Article, March 2023

The Chronicle

March 2023 Issue 434

This damage has got to stop



On the verge at Lines Hill and another across the line approaching The Green. More on page 2



News

Two explosion sounding incidents took place in Wing and Aston Abbots. Residents of both villages were shaken as were some buildings with the noise intensity.

Both incidents were caused by HGV tyre blow outs, one by the bells in Wing. The other in Cublington Road Aston Abbots.

One resident commented, It sounded like it was coming from the road right outside our house! Our dog went berserk and men working on our barn said it made the whole building shake. very strange and extremely LOUD.



The truck in Aston Abbots was an 8 wheeler nearside tyre which blew. The driver stopped to check it out but then carried on to Wingrave.

And then this.

New scheme up and running to cut lorry traffic in Aylesbury Vale villages.

A new scheme aims to improve road safety and reduce air pollution in a group of Aylesbury Vale villages, by cutting down the number of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) travelling through them.

Buckinghamshire Council has introduced new traffic regulations, preventing freight vehicles weighing more than 7.5 tonnes from driving through:

- B440 Leighton Road between the junction with the A505 and the Travellers Rest roundabout with the B489.
- Dark Lane
- Tring Road
- Leighton Road
- Winslow Road
- Cheddington Road
- High Street
- B488
- Long Marston Road
- Horton Road
- Park Gate
- A4146
- Ivinhoe Aston
- Slapton
- Cheddington
- Wilstone
- Wilstone Green
- Little Tring
- Church End
- Pitstone
- Greatgap

- Horton
- Mentmore
- Crafton
- Wingrave (A418)
- Hulcott
- Puttenham
- Astrope
- Gubblecote
- Lower End
- Marsworth
- Startop's End
- Drayton
- Grove
- Little Billington
- Ledburn

(I note that Ivinghoe, Pitstone and Slapton to name three villages, have speed humps and width restriction and Crafton is a dead end. Why are they on the list? What about Aston Abbots?) Ed!

The Ivinghoe Freight Zone HGV restrictions are part of a pilot programme across five areas of Bucks. HGV traffic will be prevented from coming off main roads to take a shortcut through the villages.



Signs have been placed around the area making this restriction legally enforceable. HGVs that need to

service commercial and residential needs in the area will still be permitted.

Steven Broadbent, cabinet member for transport, said: "We're committed to making Buckinghamshire a more sustainable and pleasant place to live, work and visit. The approval of these new freight vehicle restrictions in the Ivinghoe area is an important step in that direction.

(As long as they don't send them in our direction) Ed!

"We believe the zone will help to reduce the impact of HGVs on the community, and address concerns about road safety and air quality in the area.

"We're proud to be leading the way in rebalancing the impact of HGVs in favour of residents within the freight zone, by keeping these vehicles on more suitable roads outside of the area."

(I've been told by the Chair of the PC that they have been looking into why Aston Abbots is not on the scheme. It seems some of the villages have canal bridge concerns. Also, the A418 was the boundary)

Sally Palmer sent a report to the PC regarding this issue. (Next page) Ed.

**REPORT OF MEETING WITH GRAHAM
HILARY FORM BUCKSCC FREIGHT
TEAM FRIDAY 25TH NOV**

In Jane's absence I met with Graham and Diane Blamires in Aston Abbotts for a meeting of 45 minutes to discuss ways to reduce the impact of HGVs on the village

During our meeting we did witness several vans turning into the inner green but only one lorry passing through via the Green and even that wasn't very big. This did not exactly help our case

His main point was that if we want anything done about this problem we have to prepare a detailed and strong business case to the Design team at the council setting out the problem and our preferred solutions. I said that I thought we had done this during our application for funds for the traffic calming scheme on Moat Lane but he was adamant we had not!

Diane is trying to get an example of such a plan from the relevant team at the council but broadly it would involve a traffic survey (that we could do ourselves by organising volunteers to count vehicles by type for at least one day but preferably a week). Also we would need photos and other documentary evidence. Graham indicated that an absence of any accidents was a major problem for any application!

If such an application were successful we would still have to fund any scheme and this is likely to be very costly for a small village such as ours. Yes we could apply for Community Board Funding but this has been cut back and we

would be competing with other villages. It seems highly unlikely to me that we could be in a position to make a successful submission within this financial year.

In deciding if we should spend time taking this idea forward the following points need to be borne in mind

- 1 Any HGV traffic arising from local facilities can ignore any restrictions so traffic from Lockharts will not be deterred
- 2 **Some** HGV signage is advisory
- 3 The council has to be convinced the problem is serious enough
- 4 The Council will resist any schemes that simply pushes a problem somewhere else.
- 5 We are a relief route if the A418 or A413 is closed and this will no doubt effect the Councils view.
- 6 We know that the existing signs are ignored

Graham also made the point that negotiation with particular companies might be more productive than just complaining, i.e. a more constructive and conciliatory approach.

I also asked about the Sat Nav system. Apparently ,councils map their areas and I believe sell the maps to commercial companies who modify them and sell on to various sat nav companies. There are specific trucking sat nav systems but many drivers also use their phones to access other systems that are often more detailed (i.e. show more roads and routes) so it is almost

impossible for us to get anything done with that.

My personal overall conclusion is that we are not going to succeed in doing much about this problem. After the meeting I took our blind lady I sometimes take shopping who was once an active councillor in Bishopstone and they prepared a detailed plan as suggested by Graham that was rejected by The Council.

One other point I took up with Graham is the extremely high cost of all these traffic measures. He was talking of £20,000 for a few signs. Apparently one Parish council got a quote to drop a pavement for £3000 but the council costed it at x12 times more at £36000.

I requested via postbox that all join me in writing to the Chair of the Ivinghoe Freight Project, Steven Broadbent to include Aston Abbotts within the scheme, and many have. Thank you.

However the short and bitter answer was NO! However he did say this;

The emails I have received this week have sought to include Aston Abbotts into the zone and/or seek guidance on how HGV restrictions and/or mitigation can be achieved for Aston Abbotts. The Ivinghoe Area Freight Zone is not a readily expandable zone given the statutory requirements of introducing such measures.

However, Buckinghamshire Council does have a clear section that outlines the process for Requesting a heavy goods vehicle (HGV) restriction on a public road on the council website, which should serve to assist your enquiry. Naturally a number of relevant criteria are included in such a process and it requires the input of the town/parish council and your local community board: [Requesting a heavy goods vehicle \(HGV\) restriction on a public road | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

I trust this information is helpful to you.

*Regards,
Steven*

After speaking to Diana Blamires, it was made clear that there was more mileage (No pun intended) in working with her lobbying to have the 'Community Board' (Board of Council and community groups) pay the majority for permanent 'Weight Restriction' Signs. It was her view that if the PC gets in quick with a contribution commitment of around £2k to £3k it has a fair chance of getting passed. However that is a big ask of the PC which has the budget already allocated for existing requirements.

Fixed Weight restriction signs are not a magic bullet but it will

reduce the number of trucks using Aston Abbotts.

***As for now we should revert to plan B, to report any HGV we see with dates & times and if possible the company names, to the said company asking them to cease the practice of using Aston Abbotts as a cut through. And copy reports to the PC;
clerk@astonabbotts-pc.gov.uk***

***We win when we stick together.
Ed!***



3WHealth Surgeries.

With effect from 1st March 2023 the Surgery opening times will be changing as follows:

All 3W GP Surgery Sites open doors and phone lines from 08:00-13:00 and 14:00-18:30. All 3W GP Surgery Sites will close at Lunchtime from 13:00-14:00. All 3W Dispensaries open counters from 09:00-13:00 and 14:00-18:00. Dispensary phone lines will be open from 09:00-12:00 and 14:00-17:00.

Village Hall Update

It took a very long time for the process to come to fruition but The Village Hall Trustees are pleased to report that we have finally completed negotiations with the solicitors representing the Church with regard to extending the lease to a period of 99 years.

This gives long term security for the village and will, we believe, encourage future investment in the hall.

The end of these negotiations has also led us to look at the profile of the existing Trustees. The current Trustees are all of a certain vintage and we would be keen to encourage some younger representation as we believe that this could lead to more ideas on how the hall could be used.

If you would like to know more please email me or talk to any of