

Browns Wood

Caldecotte

Old Farm Park

Wavendon Gate

Tilbrook



WALTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
2016-2026
November 2016

Towergate



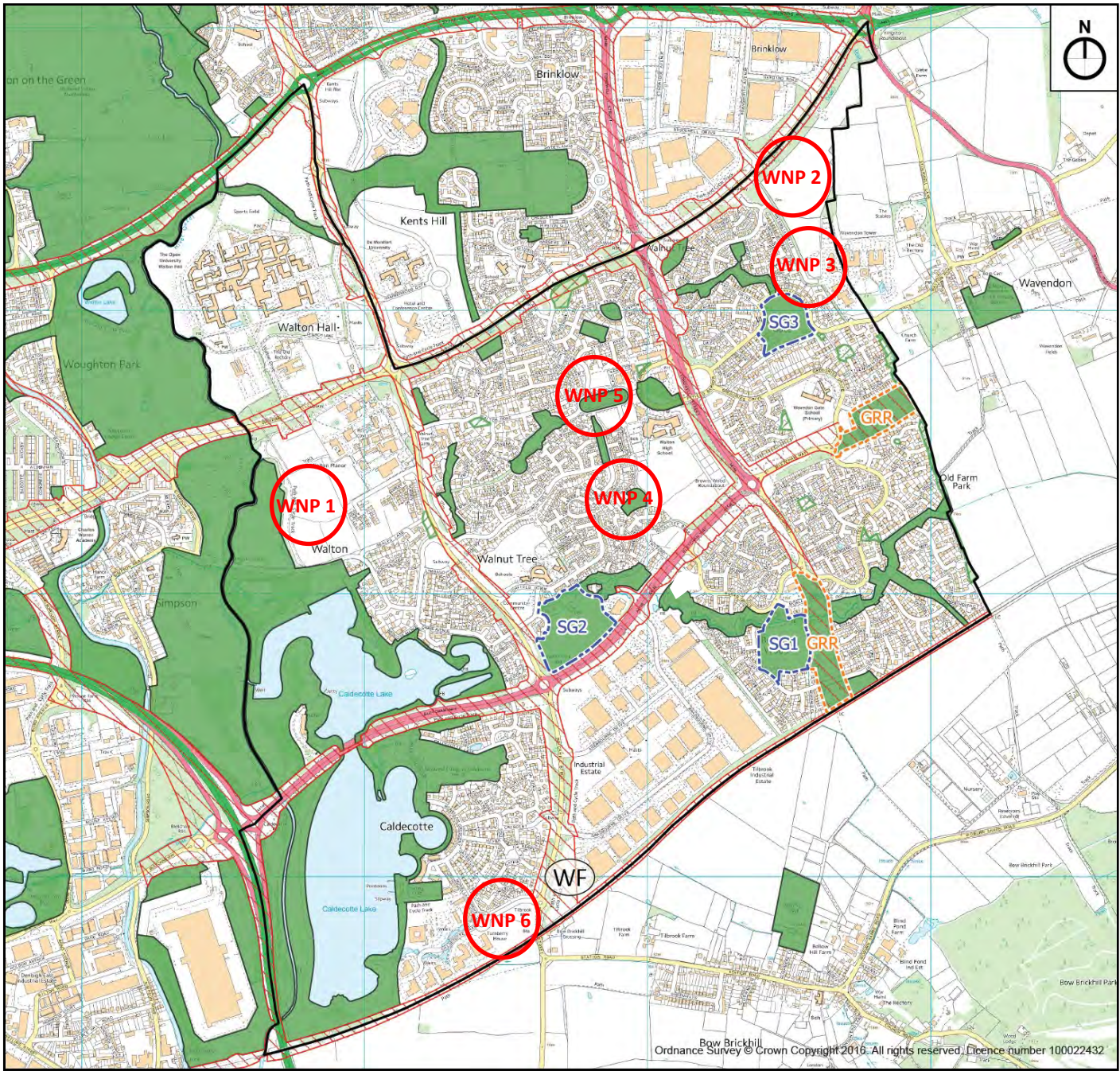
Walnut Tree

Walton Park

Walton

Walton Grange

Walton Hall



Site Specific Policy Locations

- WNP 1—Walton Manor
- WNP 2—Towergate
- WNP 3— Land at Hewlett Packard
- WNP 4—Land at Bergamot Gardens
- WNP5—Land at Hindhead Knoll
- WNP 6—Caldecotte Site 'C'

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FOREWORD - A RESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Stuart Copeland



My name is Stuart Copeland and I have been a resident of Shuttleworth Grove in Wavendon Gate since 1992. I live here with my wife and two sons, who were both born in Milton Keynes General Hospital, and we enjoy Milton Keynes very much and have very deep roots here.

We have seen the Walton area grow sustainably and sensibly with house and industrial building and new community facilities. All of this development was driven by the Milton Keynes Master Plan that had 'infrastructure before expansion' built into it.

In my opinion, Milton Keynes has, in recent years, drifted away from those principles. The city has also been under pressure to meet national housing targets without the ability to build infrastructure in advance, or in some cases, at all. This leads to poor development and the locals have to live with the negative consequences for ever.

Luckily, the residents of Walton have an opportunity to ensure that our voices are heard when planning decisions are taken – we are the experts about our community after all. The Localism Act enables local communities to establish a 'Neighbourhood Plan' which allows us to set out development plans and principles for our area.

This has to be in line with the higher level plan for Milton Keynes, which is fair enough, but planners and developers have to take into account our Neighbourhood Plan in all future development.

As a resident, I am convinced that this is a way to increase our say in the future of this area. It is why I agreed to chair the Walton Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

The group as established in September 2013 comprised local residents, representatives of Walton Community Council and supported by officers of Milton Keynes Council.

The six Ward Councillors who represent the Danesborough & Walton and Monkston wards, have been kept informed of progress and attended meetings periodically throughout the preparation of the Plan.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has contributed to the development of the plan. This group includes the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, Walton Community Council and its employed team, CRP Consulting and Local Council Support Associates. In addition, thank you to residents and local organisations that have completed surveys, attended events, written to us or agreed to meet us.

FOREWORD - COMMUNITY COUNCIL PERSPECTIVE

Cllr Terry Reynolds, Chair



Walton Community Council (WCC) is the first level of Local Government representing all 12,000+ residents of Walton Parish. WCC comprises 10 elected Councillors who all live locally and who are all passionate about promoting, protecting and improving the experience of living and working in the Walton Community.

For 25 years we have always had to be vigilant about threats to our local community from those who wish to adversely affect us by, for example, reducing local services or proposing unsustainable development. It was therefore an important step forward when Central Government in 2012 laid the foundations for the creation of enforceable Neighbourhood Plans as part of the Localism Act. Neighbourhood Plans will now give local communities like Walton the power through a democratic process to set a policy framework that will have to be considered and adhered to by service providers, town planners, land owners and developers.

In 2013, following a feasibility study, we initiated the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) and importantly invited local residents to participate and take the lead in steering our Neighbourhood Plan project towards a successful outcome. This we knew would depend on extensive consultations with residents, use of professional advisors, and our own creative thinking with the goal of producing a policy document that would protect the interests of all residents for many years to come.

We are therefore extremely grateful to Stuart Copeland for his project leadership and all the residents, councillors and staff that have worked so hard to create this excellent policy document.

Your Community Council is therefore 100% committed to the contents of this plan and we commend it to all residents. We hope that you will also enthusiastically support your plan by an superb turnout at the ballot box when the referendum occurs in November 2016.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY **Background**



1. In 2012 the Government introduced the Localism Act, which gave local communities the power to prepare Neighbourhood Plans for their neighbourhood which set out the vision and policies to guide the future development of the area. Walton Community Council (WCC) has embraced this opportunity and prepared this Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan) in consultation with local residents.

2. The Plan will form part of the overall Development Plan for Milton Keynes and will be an important consideration for developers wanting to build within the area, and also for Planning Officers at Milton Keynes Council (MKC) when they are determining applications for the development of sites in the Neighbourhood Plan area, (The Plan area is that area covered by the Parish of Walton and administered by Walton Community Council. It includes the areas of Browns Wood, Caldecotte, Old Farm Park, Tilbook, Towergate, Walnut Tree, Walton, Walton Grange, Walton Hall, Walton Park and Wavendon Gate), over the next ten years.

Neighbourhood Plan Policies

3. The Neighbourhood Plan has been constructed in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), full details can be found in the Basic Conditions Statement.



National Planning Policy Framework	✓
Planning Practice Guidance	✓
Milton Keynes Local Plan	✓
Milton Keynes Core Strategy	✓

4. The document sets out 19 policies to guide development in the Plan area. The first nine of these policies are site specific and related to particular areas of land within the Plan area, including undeveloped new town land allocations at Walton Manor and Towergate, and Community Foundation Reserve Sites. These policies do not change the proposed use of sites, as is proposed in the Local Plan for Milton Keynes prepared by MKC, but seek to shape in more detail the form of development on site so it fits in with the character of the area and provides the facilities to adequately support growth in the local resident population.

5. These policies will see the delivery of around 500 new homes across the Plan area by 2026, with the potential for limited additional homes through windfall development on unallocated sites.



6. These policies also seek to ensure existing community facilities are protected, and provide guidance to ensure these facilities can expand to cope with a growing population. This includes protection for the two community hubs in Walnut Tree so services continue to be provided and can expand, as well as setting out the options for the future development of the seven Community Foundation Reserve Sites in the Plan area.

7. The other 10 policies are topic based and cover issues including infill housing, transport and design. These policies cover the whole of the Plan area and aim to address important issues raised by the community during consultation on the plan. These policies will shape all future development across the Plan area ensuring development fits in with the existing character of the area, which is so important to local residents.

Delivery of the Plan

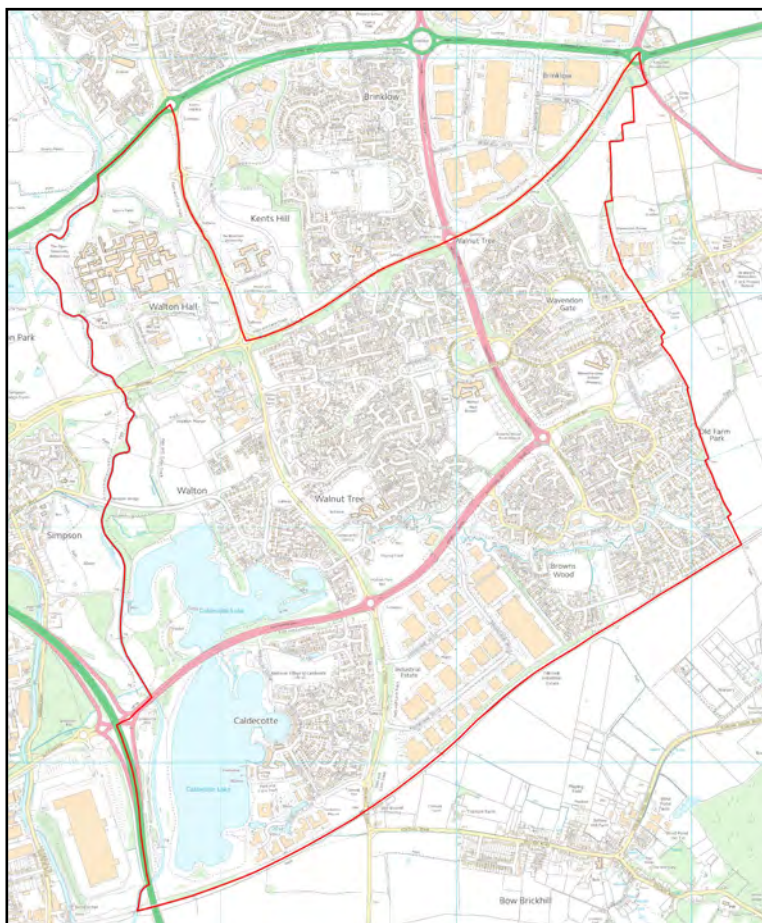
8. Each of the policies within the Plan has a section on how it will be delivered. This includes a number of commitments made by WCC to ensure the objectives of the Plan are realised.

Action Plan

9. At the end of the document, an issue based Action Plan is included which sets out in more detail who will be responsible for addressing some of the non-planning based issues raised during the consultation, including maintenance of the area, highways, community facilities, crime and community safety.

10. Although there is some overlap with the delivery of the policies of the Plan, this section of the plan is important as it shows WCC's commitment to addressing those problems and challenges which are important to the local community but which are not directly linked to planning matters.

1. INTRODUCTION



The Neighbourhood Plan Area—The Parish area covered by Walton Community Council

11. WCC has prepared this Plan to guide development in the Plan area to 2026. Although the Community Council have led the production of the Plan, local residents have, from the outset, helped shape the Plan and the issues it addresses. The Plan is therefore a reflection of the wishes and desires of the local community.

12. The Plan area contains pockets of historic interest, such as the medieval village in Caldecotte. However, as with many areas of Milton Keynes the majority of the Plan area is relatively new with most of the development having taken place in the 1990s. There remain pockets of land ‘allocated’ for development across the Plan area, with specific land uses identified in the Milton Keynes Council Local Plan.

Why we need a Neighbourhood Plan

13. The Localism Act enables local communities to establish a ‘Neighbourhood Plan’ which allows us to set out development plans and principles for the area. The residents of Walton have an opportunity to ensure that our voices are heard when planning decisions are taken – we are the experts about our community after all.

14. The Plan identifies the areas of land, where the majority of change is likely to take place over the next 10 years to 2026. The Plan seeks to ensure that they are developed in a way which protects the character of the area and that their development makes a positive contribution to the lives of existing and future residents.

15. The Plan identifies a number of community needs that could be funded by monies derived from development through ‘planning gain’.

16. The Plan seeks to protect the existing character and features of the WCC area, which residents have identified as being key to life in the area. Aspects such as the open spaces and the provision of community services are therefore addressed in the Plan.

17. The Plan identifies those areas adjacent to the WCC area where sites are allocated by MKC or there is scope for development. The Plan seeks to encourage planners to look at these areas in a long term and holistic way and to ensure that the right level of infrastructure and facilities are constructed at the right time. This will ensure that the development we need in Milton Keynes does not negatively impact the people living in the Plan area.

18 The Plan needs to be read alongside the existing policies of MKC, as set out in the Local Plan (2005), and Core Strategy (2013), as well as the policies of the emerging Site Allocations Document and Plan:MK. The development of this Plan had regard to the policies of these documents to avoid any conflict. Once ‘made’ the Neighbourhood Plan will form part of the Development Plan for Milton Keynes and will be a material consideration in determining planning applications in the area.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

19. Integral to any plan is the vision and objectives that it is seeking to achieve. As is set out in the next section, the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) has listened to the local community and established a vision as follows.



Neighbourhood Plan Vision

By 2026 Walton Parish will become an even more attractive place to live and work, close to the city centre and University, supporting Milton Keynes' character, identity and cultural life. Walton Parish will be known for its strong community, attractive streets, green open spaces and thriving natural environment. It will be safe and enjoyable for people to move around, by whatever means they use, and remain well connected to the rest of Milton Keynes and beyond by public transport.

20. To focus the policies of the Plan and to enable the success of the Plan to be monitored, a simple set of objectives have been prepared. These are:

Neighbourhood Plan Objectives

- 1. Improve the natural and built environment of the Parish*
- 2. Support and maintain community facilities and services within the Parish*
- 3. Deliver the types of development which meet the needs of the community*
- 4. Limit the impact of traffic and to encourage sustainable transport*

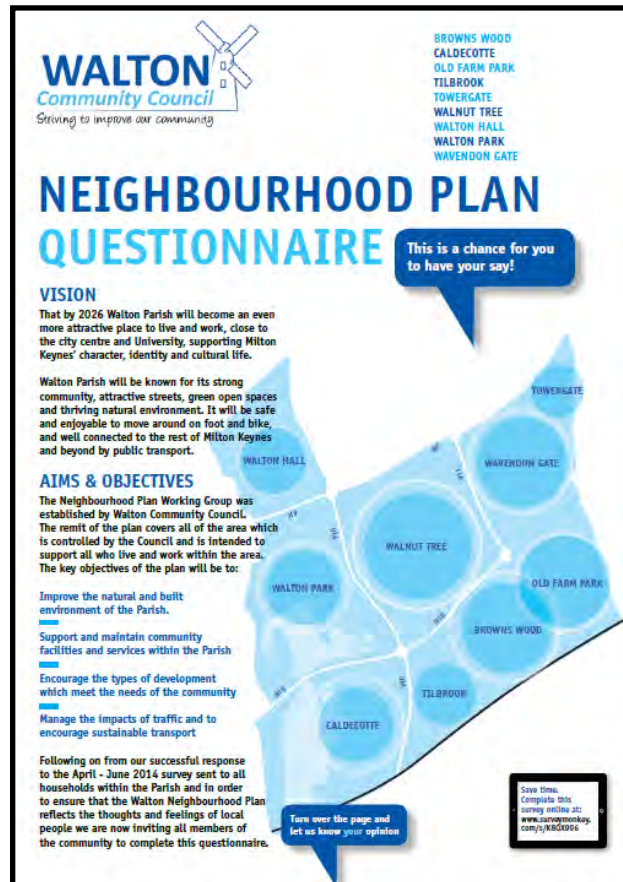


21. The policies that follow in the Plan have been developed to ensure these objectives are met and that the vision for the Parish can be achieved. For clarity, each of the policies refers to the objective it is intended to help achieve.

3. CONSULTATION

Background

22. Several rounds of consultation have taken place to understand the issues that are important to the local community. This consultation has included targeted ‘formal’ consultation and periods of ongoing engagement. A full review of the findings of the consultation process is provided in the accompanying Consultation Statement, but it is important to highlight the stages that have been followed.



Consultation Timeline																
Event	Sept 2013	Jan 2014	April 2014	June 2014	Feb 2015	March 2015	April 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2015	Dec 2015	Jan 2016	Feb 2016	April 2016
NPWG formed	■															
NP Champions forum		■														
Stage 1 Survey			■	■												
Engagement Events				■												
Stage 2 Survey					■	■										
Young People's Survey					■	■										
Annual Parish Meeting							■									
Issues and Options Workshops							■	■								
Ward Councilor Consultation									■							
Business, Education, Community Group Consultation										■						
Autumn Fayre											■					
Parish Walkabouts												■	■			
Landowner Consultation													■	■		
Targeted Consultation														■		
Pre-submission Consultation															■	■

Surveys

23. Responses were received from 710 households to the initial, high level survey in June 2014. This highlighted a number of key areas of importance to local people and characteristics they felt it was essential to maintain/address:

1. Level of crime
2. Parks, open spaces and access to nature
3. Level of pollution
4. Education provision
5. Traffic problems

24. The survey also highlighted the following areas of concern and in need of attention:

1. Roads, redways and pavements
2. Cleanliness of the area
3. Health services
4. Local job prospects

25. Early feedback from the initial consultation was provided to the local community at events, including at the Launch of the Trim Trail in 2014 and the Wavendon Gate School Fete. These events also provided an opportunity to continue to promote the Neighbourhood Plan to residents.

26. A second survey took place in February/March 2015, building on the feedback of the initial consultation. This survey, which asked 58 questions based on a number of key themes, received 953 responses. In addition, a condensed questionnaire for younger residents was completed by a further 310 people, making 1,263 responses in total.



27. Key points emerging from the second survey highlighted the following concerns which have formed the basis for the Plan policies and recommendations that follow.

Parks, Open Spaces & Access

- Improve maintenance
- Maintain standards
- Diversify opportunities/types of open space

Getting Around

- Maintenance of redways & pavements
- Need safe crossing of V10
- Congestion around schools
- Poor bus service
- Maintain grid road system

Health

- GPs at capacity
- Lack of NHS dentist

Housing

- Keep current design and mix
- Concern regarding impact of future development
- Need more affordable
- Need for retirement/sheltered housing

Future Needs

- Protect and maintain existing community facilities
- Ensure capacity to expand facilities in line with growth
- Need more and different specialist sports facilities

28. In summary, the consultation showed a view that people are happy living in the area believing it is generally safe with good facilities and access. The overall view is that the original design and density of housing should be maintained and that new development should be in keeping with the existing look and feel of the area.

29. There was a definite concern that community infrastructure is at capacity, particularly in relation to health services, community facilities and schools.



Workshops

30. The feedback from this consultation fed into a series of facilitated workshops that tested, reviewed and refined the outcomes of the consultation. This highlighted issues around the level and quality of open space, key walking routes, parking and the provision of health services. It also generally highlighted that people like the area and want to see its existing qualities maintained.

Wider consultation

31. The full detail of our consultation process is in the Consultation Statement, which accompanies the Plan. However, to summarise we used many methods to reach out to people including:

- Walton Matters – the WCC magazine
- Facebook and Twitter – the WCC pages
- One to one contact via letter, email and face to face meetings
- Open meetings and events such as the Autumn Fayre

32. We also contacted:

- Residents
- Businesses
- Schools
- Community Groups
- Sports Groups



4. ABOUT THE AREA

33. The Plan area is home to approximately 12,000 residents across the existing residential grid squares of Browns Wood, Caldecotte, Old Farm Park, Walnut Tree, Walton, Walton Park, Walton Grange, and Wavendon Gate. These grid squares contain around 5,100 houses, with 174 new homes built from 2011 to 2016. The Plan area also includes the employment area of Tilbrook

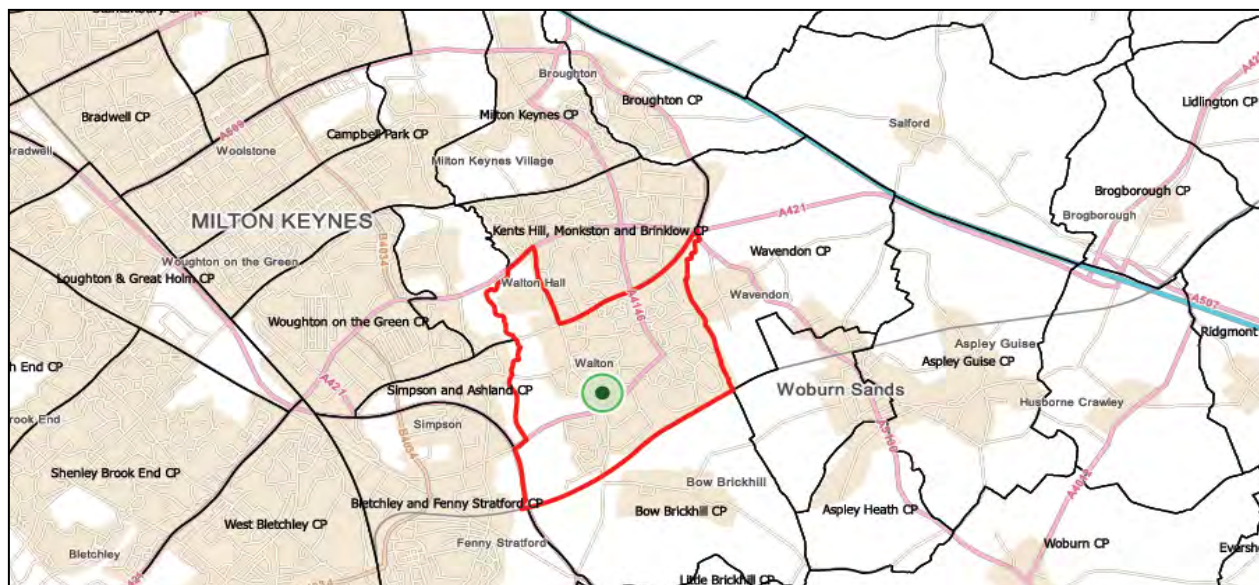


34. Walton is adjacent to the following areas and Parish Councils

- East** - Wavendon Village,
- North** - Kents Hill and Monkston, Old Woughton
- West** - Simpson, Ashlands, East Bletchley
- South** - Bow Brickhill

35. The area contains a number of businesses located at:

- Tilbrook** – notably Red Bull Racing and T-Systems
- Caldecotte Business Park** – a number of smaller office based businesses
- Walton Hall** - the Open University, one of the largest employers in Milton Keynes
- Walnut Tree Local Centre** – a range of small service businesses
- Wavendon Tower** – adjacent to the area owned by Hewlett Packard in the former Development Corporation Offices.



Walton and surrounding Parish Councils



Open space and landscape

36. Open space and leisure is a key aspect of the character and appearance of the area. As well as important playing fields in each of the residential grid squares, in the west of the Plan area is Caldecotte, which contains a large lake with a range of related leisure facilities, and the Ouse Valley Linear Park which snakes across the area. These spaces, as well as serving the local area have strategic importance to the green infrastructure of Milton Keynes, contain important community and recreational facilities, including the sailing club. The Caldecotte Brook Linear park also passes through the area. These parts of the Plan area are the only areas at risk of flooding, with the area to the north of the lake in the undeveloped Walton Manor, providing an additional area to offset flooding.

37. There are three public playing fields across the Plan area. The playing fields at Walnut Tree and Wavendon Gate are served by changing facilities, but the field at Browns Wood is underused due to the lack of adequate facilities.



Community facilities and schooling

38. Walnut Tree is the largest of the residential estates in the Plan area. The estate is home to Walton High, the secondary school serving the area. The school forms part of a community hub, which also contains The Venue Theatre and a local centre where the local shops, doctors' surgery, vets and a range of other services are located.

39. Two of the three primary schools in the Plan area are also located in Walnut Tree, emphasising the role the estate plays at the centre of the Parish. Two of these schools are located in the south-west corner of the estate off Lichfield Down, which is also home to a second smaller local centre including a local shop, takeaway and community centre.

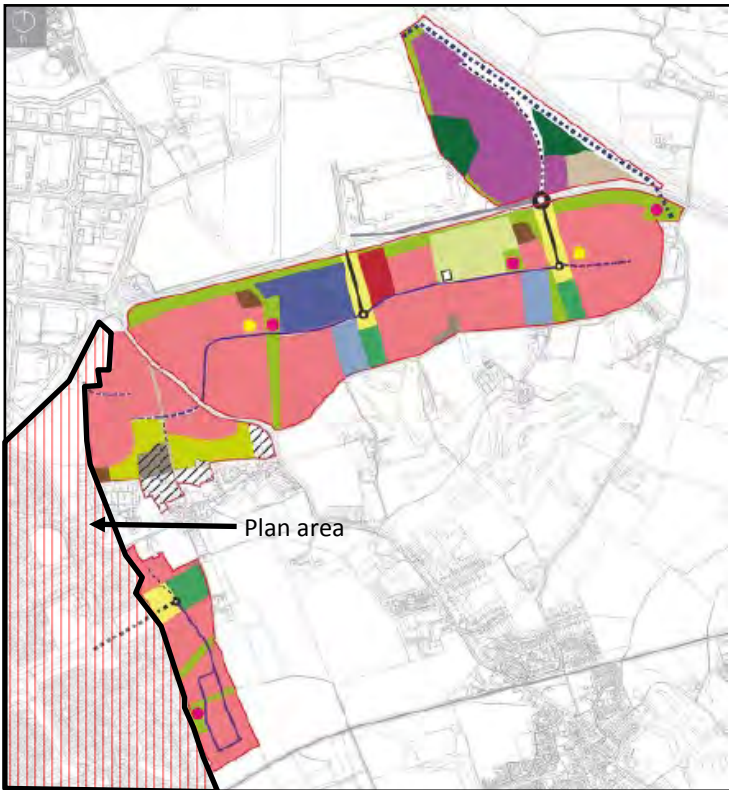
40. There is a lack of community facilities outside of Walnut Tree, with Wavendon Gate Primary School and the pavilion being the main facilities. Therefore, there are large areas of the resident population with limited access to day-to-day amenities.



Heritage

41. As set out in the introduction, much of the Plan area is under 25 years old. However, there are pockets of historic interest. There are nine listed buildings in the Plan area, including St Michael's Church, Walnut Tree Farm House and the Old Rectory. There is also a Scheduled Monument, the shrunken Medieval Village of Caldecotte, which lies adjacent to the southern lake in Caldecotte. These sites and buildings offer a contrast to the modern nature of much of the development across the Plan area and as such are an important element of local character.

42. It is essential that future development will protect and enhance the significance of the local heritage assets. The Neighbourhood Plan will work to conserve and enhance the historic built environment of Walton.



Strategic Land Allocation—Development Framework Diagram

Source: SLA Development Framework

Arts

43. Milton Keynes supports the wealth of practicing artists and arts organisations across the Borough that represent many different forms including dance, visual arts, music, contemporary art, drama, poetry, design, craft, festival, carnival arts, digital media and sculpture.

44. Works of art can be great enhancements to public spaces and make a positive contribution to the built environment. High quality public art not only adds visual interest, it can make the area a more attractive place to work and visit and promotes the cultural profile of the area and Milton Keynes as a whole.

45. Although there are some facilities within the parish, art in public spaces could be improved and opportunities should be taken to showcase art, such as at roundabouts.

Development sites

46. There are several sites across the Plan area which have remained vacant since the designation of the new town in 1967. These include significant sites at Walton Manor and Towergate which have long been identified for employment development.

47. There are also numerous smaller development sites in the area including seven Community Foundation Reserve Sites. These sites are controlled by the Milton Keynes Community Foundation (MKCF) and are reserved to meet future unforeseen demand for community facilities. However, these sites have remained undeveloped for many years and consideration needs to be given as to how they will be developed in the future.

48. In addition, there are other potential development opportunities, including an unused site at Bergamot Gardens. Although originally intended for allotment use it has not been used for this purpose and has remained unutilised for many years. The Neighbourhood Plan provides an opportunity to identify these sites and shape their future development.

The wider context

49. Beyond the boundaries of the Plan area to the south and east are areas of open countryside. The area immediately adjoining Wavendon Gate and Old Farm Park, called Church Farm, is already allocated for housing development in the Milton Keynes Core Strategy (2013), with access to be taken directly from the Plan area via the grid road reserve area, currently used as a paddock.

50. There is the possibility of further fields on the edge of the Parish being allocated for development given the ongoing pressure for growth in Milton Keynes and the initial thoughts of the Council in a recent draft consultation on their new Local Plan, Plan:MK*. As is set out the plan cannot control development outside its boundaries, but it can make sure that any growth is sensitive to the needs and desires of the local community and that direct impacts on the area are managed.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN POLICIES

Overview

51. The Plan consists of 19 policies, written to help shape future development in the area up to 2026. At the outset, there are nine policies covering the detail of development on specific sites. These policies are followed by ten general policies, which seek to protect and enhance the key characteristics and functionality of the Parish as a whole.

52. This Neighbourhood Plan has been constructed in line with the NPPF, full details can be found in the Basic Conditions Statement.

53. The policies in the Plan should be read in conjunction with the existing policies of the Milton Keynes Local Plan (2005) and the Core Strategy (2013) which continue to be in force. The Policies of this Neighbourhood Plan supplement these existing policy documents and are in conformity with their relevant strategic policies.

Site Specific Policies

54. Across the Plan area there are several sites, which have remained undeveloped since the designation of the new town in 1967. In line with the planned nature of the new town, these sites are designated for specific uses in the Milton Keynes Local Plan.

55. This Neighbourhood Plan does not seek to alter these allocations, or those emerging through the Council's Site Allocations process. Rather, it seeks to ensure that when these sites are developed, the form of development reflects the aspirations of the local community and is in keeping with the existing character and nature of Walton.

56. As well as undeveloped sites, there are also other parts of the Plan area where change is likely over the plan period. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to identify these and ensure that policies are in place to positively manage change.

57. The site specific policies set out the specific criteria against which applications for development on each site will be assessed.

Delivery of Site Based Policies

58. The site based policies each set out a number of design criteria, which should be taken into account by applicants when developing proposals.

59. Applications will be expected to meet each of the policy criteria. The requirements will be implemented through the normal development control processes of Milton Keynes Council.

60. It is expected that applicants will clearly set out in their Planning Statement how their proposals satisfy each of the policy criteria. Where it has not been possible to meet a requirement, it should be set out in their Planning Statement why this is the case and why, on balance, the applicant considers the proposal is acceptable.

General Policies

61. The 10 general policies cover topics and issues which affect the whole Neighbourhood Plan area. They cover topics such as transport and open space, with the aim of the policies being to ensure that any general applications for development within the Parish protect and enhance the key characteristics of the area.

Key Commitments

62. After certain policies, key commitments of Walton Community Council are set out in green boxes. These set out how WCC will address key issues which cannot be addressed by policies in the Plan, either as they relate to areas outside the Neighbourhood Pan area or they are not planning issues.

Action Plan

63. After the general policies, there is a final chapter of the Plan which includes a detailed 'Action Plan'. This summarises the key actions which will be undertaken by WCC and partners to help deliver the Plan as well as setting out how the non-planning issues raised through consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan will be addressed. Such issues include maintenance of open space and dealing with crime.


6. POLICY SUMMARY

Below is a list of all of the Neighbourhood Plan policies

Policy Reference	Category	Title
WNP 1	Site	Land at Walton Manor
WNP 2	Site	Land at Towergate
WNP 3	Site	Land at Hewlett Packard
WNP 4	Site	Land at Bergamot Gardens
WNP 5	Site	Land at Hindhead Knoll
WNP 6	Site	Land at Caldecotte known as Caldecotte C
WNP 7	Site	Community Foundation Reserve Sites
WNP 8	Site	Walnut Tree Community Hubs
WNP 9	Site	Caldecotte Lakeside
WNP 10	General	Housing - Infill
WNP 11	General	Housing – HiMO Development
WNP 12	General	Grid Road Corridors
WNP 13	General	Parking Enhancements
WNP 14	General	Location of Facilities
WNP 15	General	Key Links
WNP 16	General	Design Principles
WNP 17	General	Open Space and Leisure
WNP 18	General	Sports Ground Enhancements
WNP 19	General	Infrastructure Delivery

Site Specific Policies

7. WALTON MANOR

Location	
Size	9.5ha
Current Use	Open field, allocated for employment use on the Local Plan Proposals Map –but briefed for housing by Milton Keynes Council
Proposed Use	Residential led mixed-use development
Objectives met	1, 2, 3

Context

64. The site at Walton is the largest of the vacant development sites in the Plan area at 9.5 hectares. It is currently allocated for employment use on the Local Plan Proposals Map. However, the site is identified as potentially suitable for mixed-use in the Milton Keynes Council Site Allocations Plan Preferred Options. Therefore, although the Neighbourhood Plan does not alter the existing allocation, this policy has been prepared to support Milton Keynes Council's emerging designation of the site, which is likely to be residential led.

65. The site has a number of constraints, including flooding in the south west corner of the site adjacent to Caldecotte Lake. The area to the east of the site has already been developed for housing, with an area of employment to the north, which is home to Invervet UK Ltd, and an older residential development to the south which overlooks the site.

66. The site already benefits from a road stub from H9 Groveway to the north but there are also opportunities to access the site from the south via Simpson Road, and to connect into the recent residential development to the east.

67. Integrating the development with the rest of the Parish will be important, particularly given that the size of the site is unlikely to support its own community facilities. Providing opportunities to link to Kents Hill, to the north (another future development area outside of the Plan area) and to Walnut Tree to the east will be key.

68. However, the site is somewhat isolated from the nearest local centre in Walnut Tree, therefore it would benefit from the provision of at least a local store to serve new residents and those of Walton Park to the south.

69. The site does benefit from the location next to the linear park at Woughton. As well as providing an attractive setting to the site, this provides a range of leisure opportunities, including a new Neighbourhood Play Area, which will be easily accessible to new residents of Walton Manor.

*MKC Development Brief can be seen here: <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/urban-design-and-landscape-architecture-udla/adopted-development-briefs>



Walton Manor lies 600-800m from the nearest local centre



Policy WNP 1 Walton Manor

Proposals for a mix of residential and employment uses or for residential use at Walton Manor will be supported where:

- Primary access is created from H9 Groveway with no additional access to the existing employment area from this gateway. No vehicular access will be created to new residential development from Hullwell Gate,
- Development outwardly faces the eastern, western and southern boundaries of the site,
- Housing density does not exceed 35 dwellings per hectare (net) across the site,
- All existing hedgerows (including those within the site) are safeguarded and incorporated into the layout of the development,
- Development avoids the area of flood risk in the south west corner of the site,
- Existing redway routes are protected and a new redway connection is provided to Hullwell Gate,
- Access to no more than 20 dwellings is taken from Simpson Road, with no link road created to H9 through the development,
- A new footpath link to be provided to Simpson Road,
- The main spine road is tree lined with each property having a defined front garden,
- Minimum requirement for Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP) to be provided on site located a minimum distance of 20 metres from residential boundaries and 30 metres from the nearest road,
- A local centre, containing a shop as a minimum is provided, subject to viability, appropriate to the scale of the development, and
- Materials proposed for construction should avoid introducing design elements out of keeping with the historical brick and stone vernacular of the Plan area, as set out in policy WNP 16. Features, such as the blue boarding should be avoided.

8. LAND AT TOWERGATE

Location	
Size	5.6ha
Current Use	Open field allocated for employment use on the Local Plan Proposals Map – but proposed for allocation as a residential site in the Milton Keynes Site Allocation Plan
Proposed Use	Residential
Objectives met	1, 2, 3

Context

70. The land at Towergate covers 5.6 hectares. It is currently allocated as an employment site on the Local Plan Proposals Map, but is identified as a 'potentially suitable' site for residential development in the Milton Keynes Council Site Allocations Plan Preferred Options. Therefore, as with the Walton Manor policy, although the Neighbourhood Plan does not formally alter the allocation, this policy has been prepared to reflect the likely change in designation of the site by Milton Keynes Council.

71. The Plan supports this change but seeks to ensure that the future residential development is part of a cohesive, well planned proposal for the 'Wavendon Triangle' which also includes the Hewlett Packard site (see policy WNP 3) and the Fairfields development, allocated for development in the Milton Keynes Core Strategy, which falls outside the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan, but forms part of the wider development area.

72. The Towergate site provides an opportunity to link the Core Strategy Strategic Land Allocation (SLA) into the grid road system, taking some pressure from Kingston Roundabout to the north. It also provides the opportunity to provide some facilities for the northern part of the Plan area, which are currently somewhat isolated from the main local centre of facilities in Walnut Tree. The analysis of the distribution of local amenities shows a gap in this area, as shown in the diagram on the next page.

73. To integrate the site into the Plan area it will be key that new redways are created and connected into the existing network. Equally, it will be important that access on to Ortensia Way is limited, otherwise the development in combination with the Hewlett Packard development, has the potential to have an adverse impact on traffic levels in the area.



Towergate lies 800m from the nearest local centre




Policy WNP 2 - Towergate

Proposals for a residential-led development at Towergate will be supported where:

- The development takes account of proposals on the adjacent sites in the ‘Wavendon Triangle’ that includes the land at Hewlett Packard (WNP 3) and the Fairfields development to the east,
- Primary access is taken from H9 Groveway, with the main estate road providing connection through to the Fairfields development,
- Any additional access taken from Ortensia Drive is secondary and provides access to no more than 50 dwellings,
- Footpath and redway connections are provided to Ortensia Drive, the Fairfields development and the Hewlett Packard site to the south (if developed),
- The extensive tree belt to the northern and western boundaries of the site are retained,
- Housing density does not exceed 35 dwellings per hectare (net) across the site,
- A local centre, containing a shop as a minimum, is provided appropriate to the scale of development and subject to viability, and
- A Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP) to be provided on site located a minimum distance of 20 metres from residential boundaries and 30 metres from the nearest road. Contributions will be sought to secure the provision of a NEAP in the wider Wavendon Triangle area.

9. LAND AT HEWLETT PACKARD

Location	
Size	2.35ha
Current Use	Redundant car park, woodland and yard identified as employment land on the Local Plan Proposals map
Proposed Use	Residential
Objectives met	1, 3

Context

74. As referred to previously, a site at Hewlett Packard has been granted consent for residential development. This site of approximately 2.35 hectares lies to the east of Ortensia Drive and comprises an area of disused car park and woodland. The wider site straddles the WCC and Wavendon Parish areas.

75. The site sits between the existing office complex, with an open field to the east (outside the Plan Area) which meets the southern edge of the Core Strategy Strategic Land Allocation (SLA), for which a Development Framework has already been prepared. The Development Framework identifies the field adjacent to the site as a green buffer to Wavendon village and the Stables, with part identified as an allotment.

76. In March 2016 MKC resolved that, subject to the completion of a S.106 planning agreement, outline planning permission be granted (application ref: 15/02337/OUT) for housing development of the site, including the land to the east. Although MKC considered the principle of housing development on the site to be acceptable, the application was accompanied by an indicative masterplan, which was not deemed acceptable by the Council. Therefore, matters of detail design and layout are still unclear and the Neighbourhood Plan can help shape design to ensure that it meets the aspirations of local residents.

77. The fifth criterion of policy WNP3 sets out the requirement for a LEAP. Part of the wider planning application site (15/02337/OUT) is inside the Plan area and part of it is outside the Plan Area. The precise location of the required LEAP will be a matter for Milton Keynes Council and the applicant to resolve through the planning application process. The criterion safeguards the need for such provision in the event that it is not provided elsewhere in the application site.



Policy WNP 3 - Hewlett Packard

Detailed proposals for the residential development of the site will be supported subject to the following criteria being met:

- Development does not exceed 35 dwellings per hectare (net),
- A landscaped buffer is maintained to Ortensia Drive,
- The redway network is extended into the site and beyond to the SLA,
- A suitable crossing is provided on Ortensia Drive to enable safe access to the existing redway network, and
- A Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP) is provided at a minimum distance of 20 metres from residential boundaries and 30 metres from the nearest road. Contributions will be sought to secure the provision of a NEAP in the wider Wavendon Triangle area.


The final proposal should give due consideration to plans and policies for the 'Wavendon Triangle' that includes the land at Towergate (WNP 2) and the Fairfield development to the east.

Key commitment

In addition to the above, the Neighbourhood Plan and WCC support the implementation of the SLA Development Framework as prepared by Milton Keynes Council. The Development Framework supports the delivery of a green buffer between the SLA and Wavendon Village, which at March 2016 was proposed for development.

WCC will make representations to Milton Keynes Council objecting to the current proposal to build on this buffer, and any future proposals which undermine the policy commitment. The non-implementation of this policy would have a knock-on impact on the Plan area in terms of traffic flows and use of local facilities, which are key concerns for the local community.

10. LAND AT BERGAMOT GARDENS

Location	
Size	0.45ha
Current Use	Unused allotment
Proposed Use	Residential
Objectives met	3



Context

78. Walton Community Council owns a 0.45 hectare site off Bergamot Gardens in Walnut Tree. This site is allocated on the Local Plan Proposals map for use as an allotment, but is no longer needed, and has never been used for this purpose. As part of wider plans to improve community facilities across the Plan area (see policy WNP 18), it is proposed to release the site for residential development and use the proceeds to fund project work. This is in line with the emerging Milton Keynes Site Allocations Plan which identifies the site as the most suitable alternative across Milton Keynes to release for residential development.

79. Consent has been granted from the Secretary of State for disposal of the site in support of the proposed community projects, namely the building of a sports pavilion at Browns Wood playing field.

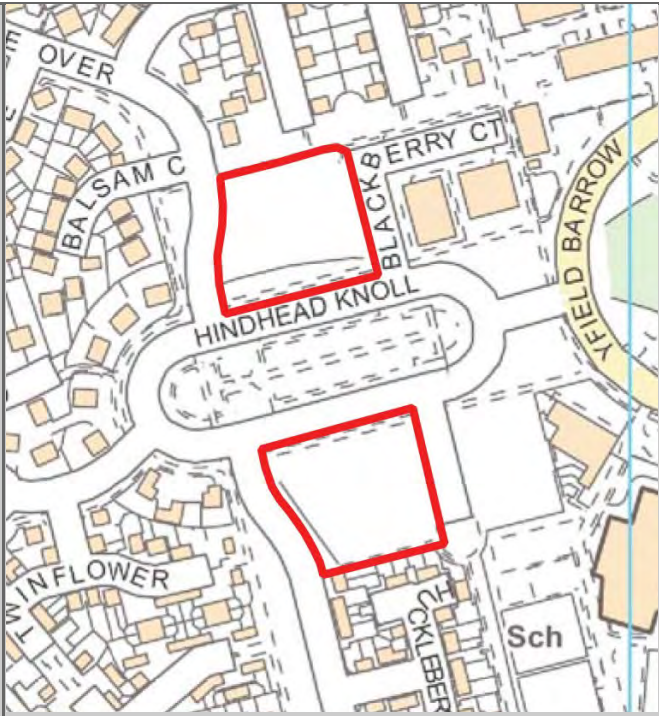
80. The site already has an access road, which is currently fenced off. The site is bounded to the east by a redway, which connects Bergamot Gardens to Spearmint Close, beyond which is the playing field of Walton High. The site is bounded to the south and east by existing residential development, with four homes backing on to the site. It is important from both an aesthetic and surveillance perspective that the development of the sites provides a positive, active frontage to the redway and school playing field

Policy WNP 4 - Land at Bergamot Gardens

Residential development of the site will be supported where:

- Development does not exceed 35 dwellings per hectare (net) (15 units), and
- Development provides an active frontage, where possible, to Bergamot Gardens and the school playing field, and
- Units adjacent to existing residential properties provide acceptable set back distances (minimum 22 metres as specified in the MKC Residential Design Guide) and avoid overlooking, and
- The proposed design and materials are in keeping with neighbouring properties. This will include the use of red/orange brick construction and dwellings being no more than two and a half storey.

11. LAND AT HINDHEAD KNOLL

Location	
Size	0.5 ha (south) / 0.38 (north)
Current Use	Grass/scrub allocated for residential development on the Local Plan Proposals Map
Proposed Use	Residential
Objectives met	3

Context

81. The site at Hindhead Knoll is split across two parcels, north and south of the central park area. These sites are allocated for residential development on the Local Plan Proposals Map and are in the ownership of the Milton Keynes Development Partnership (MKDP), who are looking to dispose of the site for this purpose.

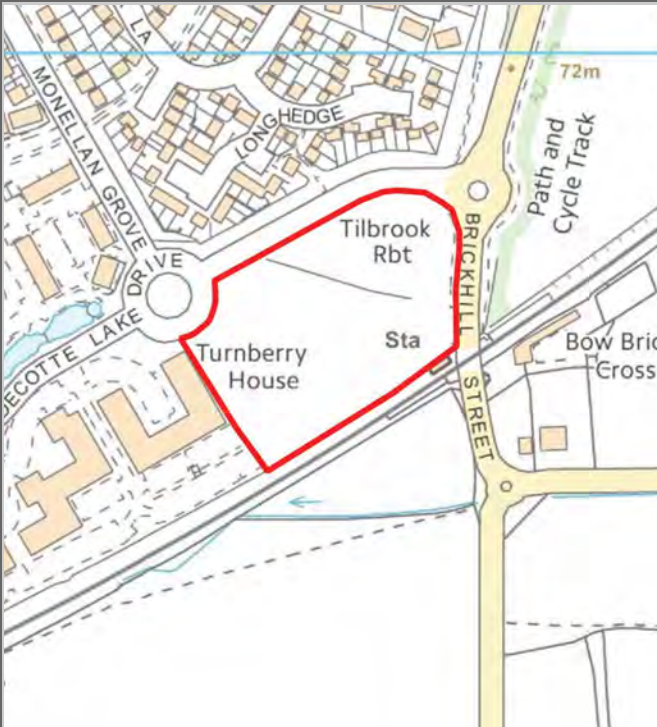
82. The sites frame a busy entrance area into Walnut Tree and it is therefore vital that they provide a positive first impression. East of the south site is an area of car parking, which is used by visitors to the school and other local facilities. The retention of this parking should form an essential part of any future development of the area, to avoid knock on consequences for the availability of much needed parking spaces.

Policy WNP 5 - Land at Hindhead Knoll

The land at Hindhead Knoll is allocated for residential development. Applications for residential development will be approved where:

- Development does not exceed 35 dwellings per hectare (net), and
- Development provides active frontages to Hindhead Knoll, and outward facing development to Highgate Over and Lichfield Down, and
- No access is taken directly from Hindhead Knoll, and
- The mature trees which line Highgate Over and Lichfield Down are retained, and
- Existing public parking within the two sites is retained, and
- Development on each parcel respects the character and scale of the neighbouring residential properties, and
- Existing footpath and redway links are retained and enhanced.

12. CALDECOTTE 'SITE C'

Location	
Size	1.9ha
Current Use	Open grass, scrub and woodland, allocated for employment use on the Local Plan Proposal map
Proposed Use	Residential led, mixed use
Objectives met	3

Context

83. This site is another part of the land bank owned by MKDP. The site is adjacent to the railway line and is potentially required to facilitate a bridge that will replace the nearby level crossing as part of the East West Rail upgrade. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that they have engaged with East West Rail as part of their preparation and submission of an application on the site. A Planning Statement should identify how the proposal will not preclude the delivery of a new railway crossing.

84. However, irrespective of the bridge issue, at least part of the site is likely to be available for development in the plan period. The site is allocated for employment use on the Local Plan proposals map, originally envisaged as an area for expansion of the Caldecotte Business Park. However, this expansion is looking unlikely and alternative uses are now being considered.

85. The site may be suitable for residential development, given its relationship with the residential area to the north. It also has good public transport connections, including access to Bow Brickhill train station. However, the southern area of Caldecotte is an eclectic mix of uses with employment, residential and leisure uses all in close proximity. Therefore, the site could be suitable for a range of uses, without harming the character of the area. The Neighbourhood Plan therefore does not specify a particular use for the site but does set out a series of place shaping principles that any development should adhere to.

Policy WNP 6 - Caldecotte 'Site C'

Residential, commercial or leisure uses on the Caldecotte site C site will be supported. Development proposals will be expected to adhere to all of the development principles below:

- Residential proposals should not exceed 35 dwellings per hectare (net),
- Development proposals should safeguard and incorporate the hedgerow frontage to Caldecotte Lake Drive into the layout of the development,
- Highway access to be taken from a new arm off Water Mill Roundabout – no highway access will be permitted directly to Caldecotte Lake Drive,
- An enhanced planting buffer to be provided to the railway line boundary to mitigate visual impact, and
- All proposals should be designed so that they do not preclude the delivery of a preferred solution for a new railway crossing.

Provision of off street parking to address the current issues on Caldecotte Lake Drive, in addition to parking provision in line with Milton Keynes Council standards to serve the new development, would be supported and should be provided where possible.

13. COMMUNITY FOUNDATION RESERVE SITES

Location	See plan overleaf
Size	Various
Current Use	Areas of open grass/scrub allocated as Community Reserve sites on the Local Plan Proposals Map.
Proposed Use	Various
Objectives met	2, 3

Context

86. As noted earlier in the Plan, across the Plan area there are seven sites, which are identified in the Milton Keynes Local Plan as Reserve Sites. These are relatively small areas of space, which were deliberately left vacant so over time any unmet community needs could be provided in areas where they were needed.

87. These sites were gifted by Milton Keynes Development Corporation with the intention to ensure they remain protected for the benefit of the community in perpetuity.

88. However, the take up of these sites has been limited due to the need for them to be built out by non-profit organisations. The MKCF is therefore considering the release of some of the sites across Milton Keynes for alternative uses to support funding for community facilities on other sites.

89. The Neighbourhood Plan supports this approach but is very clear about which reserve sites should be retained for community use and which could be released for housing. This is set out in Policy WNP 7 below.

Policy WNP 7 - Community Foundation Reserve Sites

The Reserve Sites are identified on Figure 1 overleaf. On these sites the following uses will be supported, subject to meeting the other policy requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan and the Milton Keynes Local Plan:

Walnut Tree 6 (WT6) – Lichfield Down

- A nursery to complement the adjacent schools and community centre.
- A mixed scheme with housing will be acceptable providing the development provides a nursery.
- Any additional car parking provided on site shall be for shared use with the school drop off/pick up time (also see policy WNP 8 – Walnut Tree Community Hubs).
- Off street lorry parking for deliveries is encouraged.
- Retirement/Sheltered Housing.

Walnut Tree 10 (WT10) – Hindhead Knoll

- Reserved for community facilities as part of the northern community hub (see policy WNP 8).

Walnut Tree 7 (WT7) - Hockliffe Brae and Twyford Lane

- Retirement/Sheltered Housing.
- Housing will be supported, if no suitable community use is identified.

Wavendon Gate 1 (WG1) - Isaacson Drive/Wavendon Tower

- Retirement/Sheltered Housing.
- Housing will be supported, if no suitable community use is identified.

Wavendon Gate 2 (WG2) - Fyfield Barrow

- Reserved for community use as part of the northern community hub (see policy WNP 8).

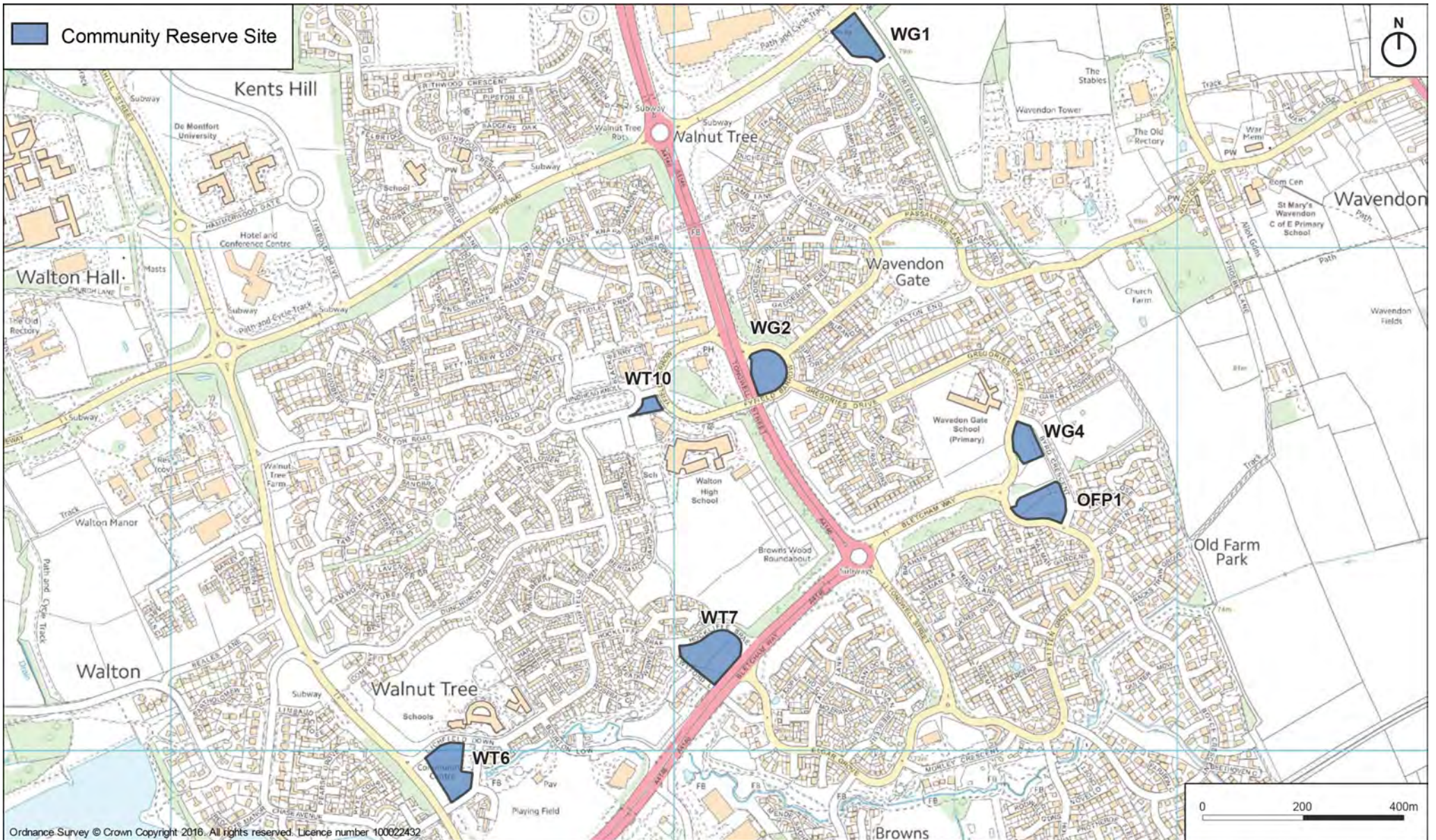
Wavendon Gate 4 (WG4) - South East of Wavendon Gate

- Reserved for extension of the grid road corridor (see policy WNP 12). The provision of overflow car parking for Wavendon Gate School will be supported on any surplus land.

Old Farm Park 1 (OFP1) – South of Bletcham Way

- Retirement/Sheltered Housing.
- Housing will be supported, if no suitable community use is identified.
- Any development shall not preclude the future development of an extension of H10 Bletcham Way to the standards set out in policy WNP12.

Figure 1 Reserve Sites in Neighbourhood Plan Area



14. WALNUT TREE COMMUNITY HUBS

Location	
Current Use	Community uses – including health, community centre and shops
Proposed Use	Protection and enhancement of existing facilities and expansion and provision of new facilities
Objectives met	1, 2, 3, 4

Context

90. As identified in the background section, Walnut Tree is the largest of the grid squares in the Plan area with the greatest range of facilities. These are largely grouped in two locations to the north and south of the estate. The larger northern parcel contains a large local centre, which includes the doctors' surgery and the Tawny Owl Pub, and is adjacent to Walton High School.

91. The southern parcel contains a community centre and a local shop and is adjacent to the primary school.

92. Both of these areas have vacant parcels of land within them, which are likely to be subject to development pressure over the plan period. It is therefore important that the Plan provides a framework to guide development and protect the roles of these areas as community hubs for the expanding local population.

93. In addition to the protection and enhancement of the community hubs in Walnut Tree, it is recognised that there are deficiencies in service provision in the 'outer' areas of the Plan area, including potential sites at Towergate and Walton Manor, as well as in Caldecotte. These deficiencies are addressed in other policies of the Plan, with policies WNP 1 and WNP 2 supporting the provision of new local shops.



The majority of homes in the Plan area are within 800m of a local shop

Policy WNP 8 - Walnut Tree Community Hubs

Walnut Tree Community Hubs will be protected from any development or redevelopment which could diminish their roles as service centres for the Neighbourhood Plan area.

- Within the Northern Hub, development of parcel A for the expansion of the health centre only will be supported. Any development proposals for alternative uses will not normally be supported.
- The expansion of retail uses in the local centre onto parcel B will be supported if no need has been identified for any community use on the site. A new Community Civic Centre will be supported on parcel B.
- Non-community uses, including residential, will only be supported when they are ancillary to community use, for example at first floor level above ground floor community facilities (or in accordance with policy WNP7).



Key commitment – Assets of Community Value

In addition to the protection of Community Hubs, WCC is keen to ensure the protection of the individual buildings and spaces of value to the local community. These are defined in Government legislation as ‘Assets of Community Value’. These assets can include cultural, sporting or recreational interests, pubs and parks.

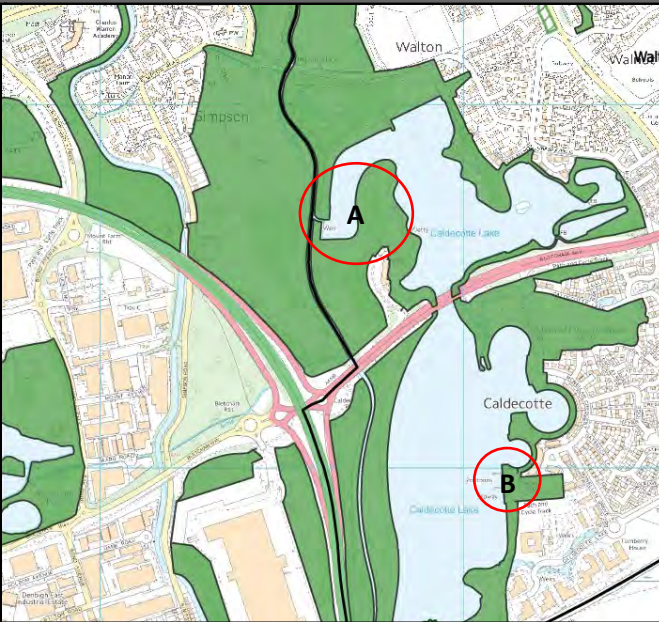
There is a statutory (non planning) process to follow to identify and designate Assets of Community Value which can support the aspirations and policies of the Neighbourhood Plan. After an asset has been identified and listed, when it comes to be sold, and therefore potentially lost to the community, a moratorium on the sale (of up to six months) may be invoked, providing WCC with an opportunity to raise the necessary finance, develop a business plan and make a bid to buy the asset on the open market.

WCC will actively pursue the designation of the key assets, listed below, which will provide an opportunity to acquire land or buildings in the interest of the local community, where that asset is under threat of being lost.

Assets of Community Value within the Plan area, which WCC will pursue for designation are:

- Heronsbrook Meeting Place
- Wavendon Gate Pavilion & Playing Fields
- Caldecotte Arms
- Tawny Owl Public House
- Britten Grove Community Centre
- Walnut Tree Playing Fields & Pavilion
- Local and Neighbourhood Play Areas
- Sailing Club
- Walton Farm
- Browns Wood Sports Ground
- Paddocks (excluding those identified as grid road reserves—see page 39).
- St Michael’s Church
- Walton Hall
- Nurseries—Monkey Puzzle, Morley Crescent, Kiddi Caru, Caldecotte and Walnut Tree
- Shops at Britten Grove and Wadesmill Lane
- Doctors Surgeries
- Schools

15. CALDECOTTE LAKESIDE

Location	
Current Use	Open space
Proposed Use	Limited infill to support new community facilities
Objectives met	1, 2, 3,

Context

94. Caldecotte Lake and its surroundings are one of the most important areas of open space in the Plan area. The lake and the surrounding areas are already identified as open space for leisure and recreation in the Milton Keynes Local Plan, as can be seen on Figure 2. These areas are therefore offered protection from development.

95. However, as has already been noted, within Caldecotte there are a lack of community facilities, which the Neighbourhood Plan can help to address. Also, there are opportunities to enhance existing facilities for local residents and residential of Milton Keynes as a whole. Therefore, the Neighbourhood Plan has made provision to allow some additional development at appropriate locations around the lakeside, as set out below.

Policy WNP 9 - Caldecotte Lakeside

The areas of open space around Caldecotte Lake will be protected from development in accordance with the Milton Keynes Local Plan. Limited development will be permitted on the approximate site identified on the plan opposite, providing the proposals satisfy the criteria below:

- Development of a water based sports facility north of the Premier Inn at Caldecotte (general location identified as site A) will be supported, provided the scale and design is in keeping with the existing built form and the detailed design protects the landscaped character of the site.
- Further expansion of the Sailing Club / Rowing Club (Site B) will be supported provided its scale and design is in keeping with the existing built form of the facility.
- Proposals for a community facility / refreshment facility on land near to the lake in the vicinity of Site B will be supported provided that the use would be ancillary to the main use of the area as a sports club. Any proposal in the area will need to demonstrate it is compatible with existing uses in the area with particular regard to:
 - ◇ Car parking,
 - ◇ Safety and security,
 - ◇ Ecology, and
 - ◇ Hours of operation.



General Policies

16. HOUSING INFILL

Objectives met: 1 and 3

Context

96. The Plan area covers a number of mainly residential new town grid squares including Browns Wood, Caldecotte, Old Farm Park, Wavendon Gate, Walton, Walton Park and the largest, Walnut Tree. These estates and communities have each been planned and developed with their own character, which this Neighbourhood Plan seeks to protect.

97. In terms of housing, it is recognised that there is an ongoing need for housing provision across Milton Keynes. However, given the planned nature of the estates in the Plan area, aside from the undeveloped parcels already covered in the previous chapter, there are likely to be limited opportunities for infill development.

98. It is recognised though that over time, the area will evolve and there may be opportunities for infill development or the redevelopment of redundant buildings and sites. The Plan, therefore, seeks to set out where new, unplanned infill housing will be acceptable.

Policy WNP 10 - Housing Infill

Windfall residential development on infill sites not specifically identified in this plan will be supported where it:

- Does not lead to the loss of open space identified in Figure 2 (page 41),
- Is of a scale and design, including materials and design features, in keeping with neighbouring properties. Materials out of keeping with the traditional brick and stone facings of the majority of the Plan area, including multi-colour wood boarded facades will not generally be acceptable,
- Performs positively against Building for Life Standards (BFL12) (for schemes over 10 units only) and
- Complies with other policies in the Neighbourhood Plan and the Milton Keynes Local Plan.

Delivery

Policy WNP 10 will be implemented through the day to day development management procedures of Milton Keynes Council.

Walton Community Council will consider all applications when they are received and respond in writing to Milton Keynes Council, detailing any policy objection (or support) for a proposal. This will include highlighting any particular local infrastructure deficiencies to be addressed via planning obligations.

Developments will be assessed against the 12 questions in Building for Life (12) or its replacement. Developments will not be expected to score 12 out of 12 green ratings but should achieve a minimum of 9 unless it can be demonstrated that there are practical reasons why this cannot be achieved. It is expected that this will be reviewed by Milton Keynes Council as part of the Development Management process.

17. HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Objectives met: 1 and 3

Context

99. A particular challenge for many estates in Milton Keynes is the increase in Houses in Multiple Occupation (HiMO). Milton Keynes Council has an existing general policy on HiMO development in the Local Plan, which seeks to mitigate the impact of HiMOs on the surrounding area. This is supported by the HiMO Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

100. At the current time there is no specific problem identified in the Plan area. However, to ensure the estates in Walton are protected from the potential damaging impacts of HiMO development, as the pressure for their development grows, the Neighbourhood Plan sets out a series of requirements to which HiMO developments will be expected to adhere.

101. This policy complements the existing Milton Keynes Council policy and ensures that should the Council policy be deleted and not replaced in the emerging Plan:MK, the key requirements are retained in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Policy WNP 11 - Houses in Multiple Occupation

Planning applications for HiMO developments will be supported where they meet the following criteria:

- They provide sufficient parking, usable and accessible amenity space including outside clothes drying space,
- For semi-detached or terraced houses, a noise assessment demonstrates that the proposal can be satisfactorily accommodated without having an unacceptable impact on the residential amenities of neighbouring properties,
- There is adequate and well designed bin storage, (i.e. storage at the front of a property, insecure storage, or storage too close to a neighbouring property is avoided),
- They do not detrimentally affect the overall character or appearance of the immediate locality, and
- Proposals do not significantly alter the character and appearance of the building and its curtilage.

Delivery

Policy WNP 11 will be implemented through the day to day development management procedures of Milton Keynes Council. The criteria for assessing the acceptability of HiMO applications will be based on the more specific detail set out in the Milton Keynes Council HiMO Supplementary Planning Document.

Walton Community Council will hold a register of potential HiMOs identified by Parish Councillors or reported to them by residents. These will be shared with the Planning Enforcement Team to ensure policy compliance.

18. GRID ROAD CORRIDORS

Objectives met: 3 and 4

Context

102. Milton Keynes has been developed on a very distinctive and recognisable grid pattern. The grid allows for ease of movement around the city, with the majority of people using the car to move around the city.

103. The city grid roads in the Plan area are largely complete. However, there are reserve areas through both Wavendon Gate and Browns Wood, where there is potential for the grid to be extended. A recent appeal decision has permitted a standard estate road through the Wavendon Gate/Old Farm Park Grid Road Reserve to serve a development at Church Farm. In the future, there is the potential for further development beyond Church Farm and should this go ahead it will be important for the permitted estate road to be upgraded to meet the grid road specifications, ensuring the day to day lives of residents in the plan area are not compromised. This equally applies to development in the grid road corridor through Browns Wood/Old Farm Park to the south, where any extension to serve development outside the Plan area needs to ensure the amenity of residents is protected and connectivity is maintained.



Policy WNP 12 - Grid Road Corridors

The grid road corridor, and landscaped transport corridor reserve areas identified on Figure 2 (page 41) will be protected. Any development, which would compromise the delivery of a grid road through the area, through inappropriate design and introducing noise sensitive development in the vicinity of the reserve areas will not be supported.

Any future extension of the grid road network through the reserve shall be planned in accordance with the original principles of the grid road system. Development of any new highway should include the following:

- Grid road corridors to be maintained at 80 metres wide, in line with the principles from the MK Planning Manual for the layout of the city, to accommodate landscape acting as a sound and pollution buffer, and
- New highway to be centred appropriately in corridors, and
- Grade separated crossing for pedestrians and cyclists, (i.e. bridges or underpasses in line with the grid system principles established in MK), and
- Reserves for potential future dualling.

Proposals which adhere to these principles will be supported providing they are in accordance with the other policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Delivery

Policy WNP 12 will be implemented through the day to day development management procedures of Milton Keynes Council as the requirements of the Core Strategy and Strategic Land Allocation Development Framework are implemented.

It is expected that any significant, as yet unplanned, expansion of Milton Keynes, beyond that planned in the Core Strategy, would be plan led and be the subject of a detailed Development Framework document. Walton Community Council will work to ensure where this is the case, the principles outlined above are picked up in the policies of Milton Keynes Council.

It would be expected that the Parks Trust, as the organisation responsible for maintaining structural landscaping, would contribute to the design of any proposals to ensure continuity in design character.

19. PARKING ENHANCEMENTS

Objectives met: 2 and 4

Context

104. There are particular issues, such as parking around schools, which it is felt could be mitigated through future development proposals. These could be dealt with through increasing levels of parking provision locally and improving the use of existing spaces.

105. Within estates, the high level of car use means that there are also localised issues with congestion and highway safety. As set out in the Action Plan, WCC are committed to trying to address areas of concern with the relevant partners, including Milton Keynes Council and the Police.



Policy WNP 13 - Parking Enhancements

Subject to meeting the other relevant policy requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan, applications that deliver increased levels of parking in the following general locations will be supported:

- Hindhead Knoll/Lichfield Down
- Wavendon Gate 4 (reserve site)
- Walnut Tree 6 (reserve site)
- Walnut Tree Local Centre
- Browns Wood sports ground
- Tilbrook employment area

Proposals for new parking areas should give consideration to the potential for shared use of the spaces throughout the day and appropriate design and surface treatments to mitigate against any loss of open space.

Lighting at Walnut Tree Local Centre Car Park will be supported provided it is limited to shop opening hours.

Provision for dedicated lorry parking/laybys will be supported adjacent to the two Local Centres in Walnut Tree. Any provision should ensure measures are agreed to avoid over night parking.

Delivery

Policy WNP 13 will be implemented through the day to day development management procedures of Milton Keynes Council.

WCC will investigate the delivery of parking at these locations, working with Milton Keynes Council, schools and the landowners to assess the issues and support delivery of solutions, as set out in the accompanying Action Plan.

Walton Community Council will also seek to work with the owners of the Local Centres at Walnut Tree to encourage the delivery of enhancements to both the level and quality of the car parks, including the points of entry/exit, which will need to deal with increased traffic flows as Milton Keynes continues to

20. LOCATION OF FACILITIES

Objectives met: 2, 3 and 4

Context

106. The movement of people around the area is affected by the location of key facilities such as schools, doctors' surgeries, shops and community facilities. Many of these facilities are already planned into the estates but in the future the need for new or expanded facilities may emerge.

107. The general role of the main community hubs has already been set out in policy WNP 8. However, to ensure new and enhanced facilities are in the most appropriate locations and aid their accessibility for local residents, the Neighbourhood Plan identifies the preferred location for new individual community facilities. It also identifies key linkages, which need to be enhanced to ensure all residents have good access to facilities.



Policy WNP 14 - Location of Facilities

The development of the following community facilities will be supported on the identified sites:

- **Health:** expansion of the existing health centre at Walnut Tree.
- **Shops:** expansion of the Walnut Tree Local Centre, within the Walton Manor development, and within the Wavendon Triangle*.
- **Childcare:** Lichfield Down, Walnut Tree Reserve site 6.
- **Community Centre:** Browns Wood Sports Ground, as part of wider leisure enhancements. Refreshment facility near to the Sailing Club.
- **Neighbourhood Play:**
Tilbrook; east of V10 Brickhill Street (identified on figure 2, page 41 as WF) where a wheeled sports/play facility would be supported.

Browns Wood; Enhancement of Browns Wood Sports Ground.

Where a specific site has been identified above, applications not in accordance with the preferred uses will not normally be supported unless it can clearly be demonstrated why delivery of the preferred use is not achievable.

Where proposals for the key facilities set out above are proposed on sites not listed above, these will not be supported unless it can clearly be demonstrated why the preferred site is not available.

Delivery

WCC will continue to liaise with local service providers and land owners to understand and influence future expansion plans. The delivery of facilities on the sites identified above will be a priority in these discussions.

Any applications received will be dealt with by the day to day development management procedures of Milton Keynes Council.

* Within the Neighbourhood Plan area of the Wavendon Triangle

21. KEY LINKS

Objectives met: 4

Context

108. Movement across the Plan area by foot and bicycle is a key part of ensuring a sustainable place. The Plan area is well served by the redway network and local footpaths, but there are key links missing or in need of upgrading.

109. These missing links have been identified where clear 'desire lines' have been established as a result of a lack of paths around key facilities.

110. They have also been identified where new development, both within and outside the Plan area, is likely to lead to new trips between key points of interest. This includes trips to schools and shops, which ideally should be undertaken on foot rather than the car.



Policy WNP 15 - Key Links

Proposals which deliver the new priority links set out in this policy will be supported, providing all other policies of the Neighbourhood Plan and Milton Keynes Local Plan are adhered to:

- Redway link from Walton to Walnut Tree via an underpass at V10 Brickhill Street.
- Upgrading existing footpath to redway standards and provide the missing redway link along the established desire line from Walton Hall to Kents Hill Park.
- Redway links to Church Farm development from Old Farm Park.
- Enhancements to Ortensia Drive footpaths and redway, including a safe crossing point to Hewlett Packard development.
- New pedestrian access to Walnut Tree Local Centre.
- New pedestrian access at Tilbrook.

Delivery

Where key links relate to a development site in the site specific section of the Neighbourhood Plan, it will be expected that any development proposal will adhere to the requirement to provide the identified link, either on site or through a financial contribution.

Where a Development Framework or Masterplan is prepared and adopted for a site, Walton Community Council will ensure that the policy requirement is considered as part of the development process.

The links are included in the list of priority infrastructure (policy WNP 19). Funding through section 106 (s106) contributions and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) (if adopted in Milton Keynes) will be targeted where appropriate, at delivery of these links.

As set out in the Action Plan, WCC will work with partners seeking support and funding for the delivery of the links.



Key Commitment - Transport Management

Consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan identified several issues relating to management of traffic and transport. These are important issues for the Plan to consider, however, they are largely non-planning related so are not subject to specific policies in the Plan.

The Community Council recognises these issues and is committed to addressing them over the upcoming years. Specifics are set out in the accompanying Action Plan, however, for clarity the issues the Community Council are committed to addressing are:

- Ensuring better signage and maintenance along redways and some paths to improve safety and make them feel more inviting.
- Localised issues relating to inappropriate traffic speeds, parking problems (particularly outside schools) and inadequate public transport.
- Problems at recognised traffic related trouble spots. We need ways to discourage rat runs and speeding through housing areas.
- Challenging assumptions made in Transport Assessments submitted as part of major applications to ensure they properly address local concerns and existing traffic issues.
- Ensuring development proposals of whatever nature make adequate provision for off-street parking and comply with Milton Keynes Council's Parking Standards. It is not acceptable for developers to assume that users of any new development can use existing parking facilities.
- Managing the potential noise and visual impacts of East West Rail of residents and the environment.

22. DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Objectives met: 1

Context

111. The character and feel of the Plan area is something that is very important to local residents. Each of the estates that make up the area has its own particular character, which residents believe should be protected.

112. To ensure the character of the area is protected, policy WNP16 sets out a range of high level design criteria which development should adhere to. These criteria relate to all development with additional, specific criteria relating to residential developments. They support the existing requirements of the Residential Design Guide adopted by Milton Keynes Council.

113. Aside from residential development, there are other uses that contribute to the character of an area, including shops and businesses. Poorly designed, or located facilities, can have a detrimental impact on the street scene which the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to avoid.



Policy WNP 16 – Design Principles

All development should be designed to comply with the following key principles:

Residential development:

- The density of development in the immediate vicinity of the site should be respected,
- New primary residential streets shall be tree lined with suitable species, with each new dwelling having an area of front garden,
- Tandem car parking spaces shall be avoided, and
- Rear courtyard parking shall be avoided. Where courtyard parking is necessary due to design constraints, courtyards shall serve a maximum of 5 properties, be properly lit and designed to Secured by Design standards.

For all new developments:

- Design and materials shall be in keeping with neighbouring properties and those in the vicinity of the site, with the introduction of new features, such as coloured cladding being avoided,
- Redway and existing footpath links shall be left unconstrained and extended where practical, and
- New signage proposed on or near to shops, employment buildings and community, which requires planning consent, shall be of a scale and design appropriate to its setting.

Any development which does not meet the key design principles will not be supported.

Delivery

The policy principles are also reflected in the site specific policies of the Plan.

Where a standalone application is submitted for consideration, Officers at Milton Keynes Council will take the policy requirements into account in determining whether a development proposal is in keeping with the location.

WCC will provide written comments on applications to provide Milton Keynes Council with a local view of policy compliance.

23. OPEN SPACE AND LEISURE

Objectives met: 1 and 2

Context

114. As has already been acknowledged in various sections of the Plan, open space is a key characteristic of the Plan area. One of the defining features of Milton Keynes are the linear parks, which provide a green network across the new town. Two of the linear parks cross the Plan area, incorporating Caldecotte Lake as well as the playing fields at Walnut Tree and Browns Wood.

115. These areas are protected from development by the strategic policies of the Milton Keynes Local Plan, as are some smaller areas of open space, which are important for local play or of amenity value, and the landscaped grid road corridors, which are a defining feature of Milton Keynes.

116. The Neighbourhood Plan process provides an opportunity to look more closely at the character of an area, and the importance of all open spaces across the estates. Therefore, building on the policies of the Milton Keynes Local Plan, the Plan sets out a robust framework of open spaces across the Plan area, which will be protected from inappropriate development, helping to protect the character and functionality of the area. This includes specifically identifying existing areas of important amenity open space, which although offered protection by the Milton Keynes Local Plan, are not specifically identified on the Local Plan Proposals Map.

117. Other policies, including WNP 14, identify certain sites where appropriate development will be allowed within the park area. These sites have been identified on the map which accompanies this policy.

Policy WNP 17– Open Space and Leisure

All open spaces, areas of landscaping (including transport corridors) identified on Figure 2 (page 41) will be protected from built development.

Development that is required for the enhancement of community facilities as identified in Policy WNP9 and for the delivery of additional parking spaces will be supported.

Any development should support the increased use or functionality of open space and be of an appropriate scale and design for the local area.

Applications for increasing parking in areas of open spaces should be supported by a robust parking survey demonstrating the need.

Any proposal which would result in the loss of a tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order, will not normally be supported unless it is essential to the delivery of other policies of this Neighbourhood Plan. In that case replacement planting of a similar species will be required to mitigate the loss of an important tree.

Delivery

Any applications received will be dealt with by the day to day development management procedures of Milton Keynes Council. When new facilities are proposed in the parks system, WCC will provide a response to Milton Keynes Council clarifying the community view on whether the proposal is in line with the policy requirements.

In assessing the need for additional parking spaces at key points across the Plan area, WCC will seek to identify locations which avoid the development of important areas of open space and landscaping.

WCC do not have the legal authority to make or enforce Tree Preservation Orders as this responsibility lies with Milton Keynes Council. However WCC will take steps to identify those trees which are valuable to the local area and will formally request Milton Keynes Council to make a Tree Preservation Order, helping to ensure their protection.

In addition WCC will endeavour to ensure that all significant areas of open space within the area are well maintained and their value to the local community maximised.

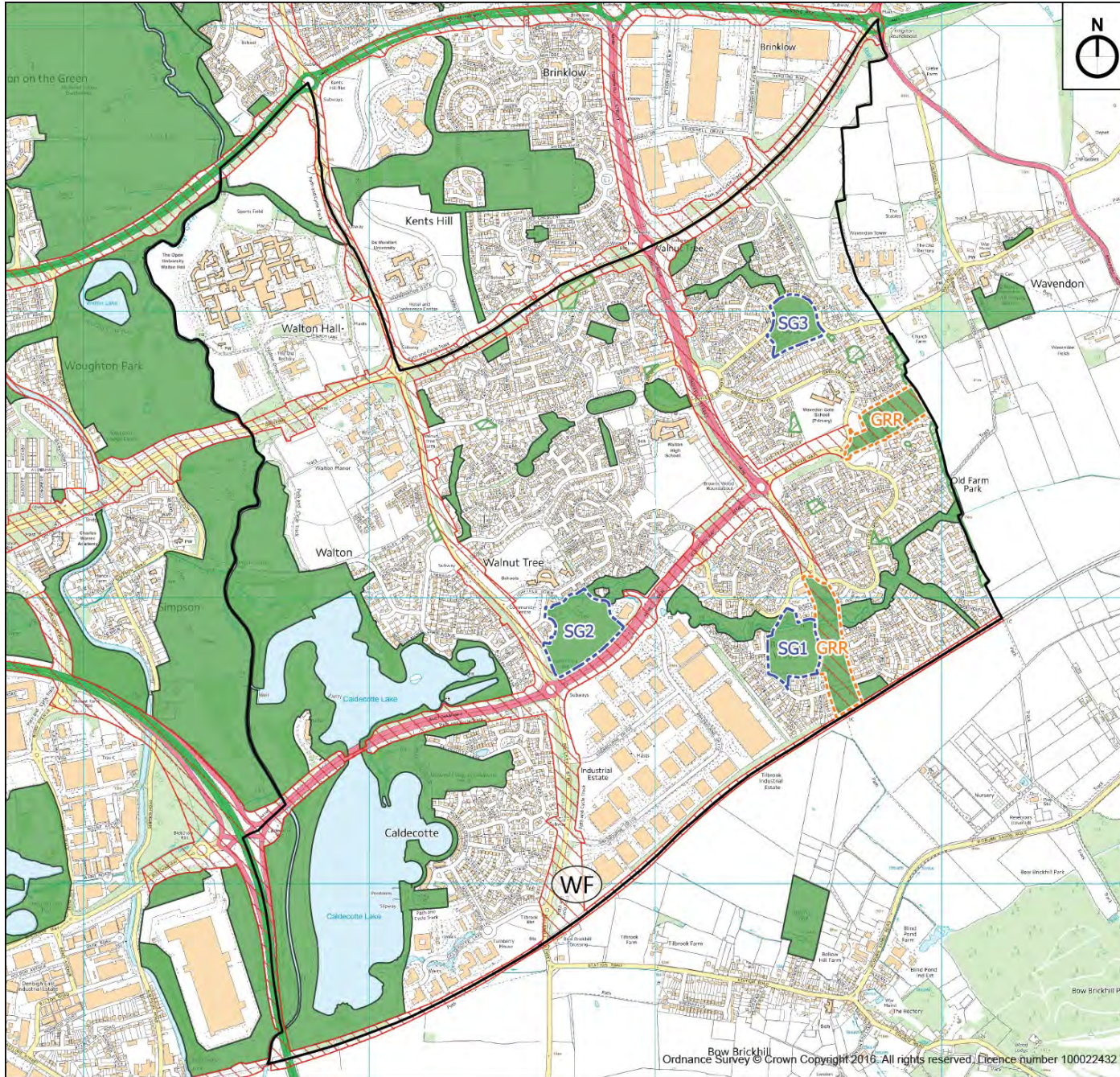


Figure 2:
Open Space and Leisure Map

- KEY**
- Local Plan Open Space
 - Important amenity open space identified in the Neighbourhood Plan (Policy WNP 10, 14, 17)
 - Landscaped transport corridors (Policy WNP 12,17)
 - Grid Road Reserve (Policy WNP 12)
 - Sports Grounds (Policy WNP 18)
 - Wheeled Facility (Policy WNP 14)
 - Boundary of the Parish / WCC Area

Bow Brickhill
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24. SPORTS GROUND ENHANCEMENTS

Objectives met: 2 and 3

Context

118. The continued viability of sports provision is important to the local community. Often, sports grounds can fall into disrepair due to a lack of investment and upkeep. It is therefore accepted that to ensure the sports grounds are retained in good condition, there may be a need to see some form of development to maintain their viability. The Neighbourhood Plan, therefore, sets out what form of development near to sports grounds will be acceptable.



Policy WNP 18 – Sports Ground Enhancements

There are three sports grounds across the Neighbourhood Plan Area:

- Bourton Low, Walnut Tree (SG1)
- Elgar Grove, Browns Wood (SG2)
- Isaacson Drive, Wavendon Gate (SG3)

The location of these facilities is identified on Figure 2 (page 41). To support the viability and quality of these sports grounds, additional built leisure related development will be supported provided that development proposals:

- Result in no net loss in playing pitch or play area provision,
- Demonstrate that there will be a net gain in biodiversity through creation of new areas of habitat,
- Maintain wildlife corridors identified on the Milton Keynes Council Local Plan Proposals Map, and
- Are proportionate to the scale of the sports ground concerned and the existing built facilities.

In addition, where new buildings are proposed (excluding those for storage only) these will only be supported where schemes:

- Demonstrate an enhancement, both in size and quality, to existing facilities, and
- Are in keeping with the character of neighbouring properties.

Delivery

Any applications for built development received will be dealt with by the day to day development management procedures of Milton Keynes Council.

As set out in the Action Plan, WCC will use any proceeds from the sale of land at Bergamot Gardens to support the delivery of enhanced facilities at Browns Wood Sports Ground. WCC will work with partners to secure additional funding to deliver a community asset for the wider community.

WCC will work with the landowners and partners to secure the enhancements of other facilities over the plan period.

25. INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY

Objectives met: 1, 2, 3 and 4

Context

119. Throughout the Neighbourhood Plan, a number of pieces of infrastructure and a range of facilities that are needed to support a growing community and improve the area as a place to live have been referred to, as identified through the consultation process.

120. The delivery of these enhancements will rely on funding being available for them to be delivered as part of larger development proposals.

121. Development of sites of over 10 residential units, or 1,000 m² of non residential floorspace, will be required to pay Section 106 (s106) contributions to Milton Keynes Council and/or direct provision on site (i.e. affordable housing, footpath/redway links) to mitigate the impact of development on the local area. This will include funding for school and health expansion, as well as more site specific improvements, such as footpaths and road crossings.

122. If a Community Infrastructure Levy is introduced then these items remain a priority for delivery.

123. S106 payments will often not be able to deliver all improvements deemed necessary in an area. Therefore, it is important that the Neighbourhood Plan sets out which pieces of infrastructure are a priority for the area.

Policy WNP 19 – Infrastructure Delivery

For developments in the Neighbourhood Plan area, once on site needs have been met and viability allows, the following pieces of infrastructure should be prioritised in any s106 negotiations with landowners and developers. These are not listed in priority order.

- Funding for increased school place provision.
- Provision of affordable housing.
- Funding for expansion of Walnut Tree Surgery.
- Provision of any new highways within the grid road corridors shall provide grade separated crossings.
- Redway link from Walton to Walnut Tree via an underpass at V10 Brickhill Street.
- Upgrading existing footpath to redway standards and provide the missing redway link along established desire line from Walton Hall to Kents Hill Park.
- Redway links to Church Farm development from Old Farm Park.
- Enhancements to Ortensia Drive footpaths and redway, including a safe crossing place.
- Funding towards new community and leisure facility at Browns Wood Sports Ground.
- Provision of lay-by at Lichfield Down opposite Heronsgate School.
- Provision of a lay-by for delivery lorries at Walnut Tree Local Centre.
- Widening of access to Walnut Tree Local Centre.
- New footpath link to Walnut Tree Local centre.
- New footpath link at Tilbrook.
- Provision of a Neighbourhood Play Area (NEAP) in the Wavendon Triangle area.

Delivery

WCC will engage with Milton Keynes Council to promote the delivery of the priority schemes via s106 negotiations.

If a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule is adopted in Milton Keynes, the Community Council will promote the inclusion of the relevant priority schemes on the list of infrastructure to be funded through CIL.

It will be expected that Milton Keynes Council will also seek to ensure the delivery of these priority pieces of infrastructure through effective engagement with landowners and developers from the beginning of the pre-application process.



Key Commitment - Infrastructure Development

In regard to new development adjacent to the Plan area that potentially impacts on local residents, WCC will ensure that it makes appropriate representations to Milton Keynes Council (or other decision making body e.g. The Planning Inspectorate) in respect of planning applications or policy proposals to ensure that the comments submitted are taken into account. This includes representations on the need for essential infrastructure required within the Plan area to mitigate the potential harm of the development or the potential loss of facilities such as open space, food retail, employment facilities and community facilities.

Comments from WCC have to be taken into account by Milton Keynes Council in determining any planning applications or proposed changes to policy in this area, and also applies to any other development site adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan boundary where it has a potential impact.

In particular, in considering the impact of proposals outside the Plan area, and the opportunities it brings, WCC will work with relevant partners to seek:

- Appropriate measures are taken to reduce traffic speed limits, parking and 'rat running', through existing developments particularly adjacent to existing schools and through housing estates
- Reduction in congestion at identified trouble spots
- Improvement of bus services, particularly with regards access to the Milton Keynes General Hospital and services in the evening

Action Plan, Delivery and Monitoring

26. ACTION PLAN, DELIVERY AND MONITORING



What is the Action Plan

123. Throughout the Neighbourhood Plan, there are individual delivery sections which set out how the individual policy requirements of the Plan will be implemented. There are also a number of 'Key Commitments' set out which highlight steps that will be undertaken by Walton Community Council to address issues outside the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan, which is focused on town planning issues within the Plan Area.

124. The key points from the delivery sections of the plan are summarised in the following Action Plan, which is structured around the key issues outlined in the introduction to this Plan.

125. The Action Plan also addresses how WCC will work with partners to ensure non-planning issues are addressed. Such issues include addressing crime and community safety, maintenance and community activities.

126. The Action Plan sets out how and when the delivery and success of the Neighbourhood Plan will be monitored and reviewed. Understanding whether the Plan is helping to address the issues raised by the local community is essential and will help WCC consider whether policies need to be amended or additional measures are needed to see Walton develop as the local community expects.

Walton Community Council Strategic Plan

127. WCC has a Strategic Plan, which is reviewed annually and revised every five years having regard to the priorities identified by the community and the financial resources available. The Strategic Plan will take account of the commitments of WCC set out in this Neighbourhood Plan and consider the implications emerging from monitoring delivery of the Plan.

128. Projects and developments which require local (WCC) funding or support from grants and other contributions will require careful budget planning and financial risk assessment to ensure they deliver value for money and present minimal risk regarding affordability for WCC.

129. Walton Community Council will ensure that where there are opportunities to seek funding from developer contributions under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for example by means of Section 106 Planning Obligations and/or the Community Infrastructure Levy it will act to maximise benefits to the community and linked to the aspirations of this Plan.

Action Plan

Maintenance of the Area

Throughout the development of the Neighbourhood Plan it has been highlighted that maintenance of the area is essential for residents to continue to value the environment in which they live and to promote a sense of well-being.

Work has already commenced to address some of the issues highlighted from the consultation, covered in the table below.

WCC commits to continue to work closely with partner organisations including the Parks Trust, Milton Keynes Council and appointed contractors on a programme of maintenance to meet local need.

	Issue	Related NP Objective	Possible solution/action	Responsible for implementation	Monitoring including assessment against policy
1	Better quality landscape maintenance required of open space and the streets	1, 2	Negotiate a programme of works to include opportunity for increased specification in areas of identified need	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, Parks Trust	Annual review – Continuous Improvement Programme
2	Improve directional signage and waymarkers	1,2	Introduce a sign replacement programme	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, appointed contractors	Annual review
3	Improve quality of public realm (lighting, footpaths, seating, bollards)	1,2	Introduce a programme of streetscape enhancement works to include painting of bollards	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, Warden patrols
4	Improve quality of public rights of way	1	Work with partners to ensure timely repairs and maintenance to the highways, redways, footpaths, bridleways and other public areas	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, appointed contractors Parks Trust	Warden patrols, monthly reports to Operations Committee, Annual review
5	Grit, recycling and dog poo bins	1, 2	Warden to monitor, report and action any problems with local provision	Walton Community Council	Warden Patrols, monthly review at Operations Committee
6	Rat problems	1,2	Warden to monitor and report any issues with rats across the plan area. Action to be taken in conjunction with the appropriate partners	Walton Community Council and partners	Warden Patrols, monthly review at Operations Committee

Highways

The importance of being able to get around easily whether travelling by vehicle, bicycle or on foot is a key feature of Walton and Milton Keynes. Throughout the production of the Plan it became clear that whilst residents feel that access in the WCC area is good, there were a number of areas where it was felt improvements could be made.

Many of the comments raised through public consultation cannot be dealt with by planning policy. Where there are existing deficiencies, WCC will work with partner organisations to seek improvement.

	Issue	Related NP Objective	Possible solution/action	Responsible for implementation	Monitoring including assessment against policy
7	Localised parking initiatives	1, 4	Work with partners to introduce lay-bys at local centres for delivery lorries	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, landowners	Annual review
8		1, 2, 4	Seek to work with the owners of Walnut Tree Local Centre to encourage the delivery of enhancements to the level and quality of car parks	Walton Community Council, Landowners, Hornbeam Associates	Annual review
9		1, 2, 3, 4	Investigate the delivery of parking at key locations within the Plan area, working with Schools, MKC, landowners	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, Milton Keynes Community Foundation, Schools	Annual review
10	Public Transport	2, 4	Work with partners to seek improved public transport in evenings and to MK General Hospital	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, Arriva	Annual review
11	Key footpath and redway linkages	1	Seek support and funding for the delivery of key links to be introduced as evidenced by desire lines and new development	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, appointed contractors	Annual review
12		1, 4	Provision of an underpass between Walton Grange and Walnut Tree	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review
13	Street furniture and signage	1	Work with Milton Keynes Council to 'de-clutter' the area	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review
14	Traffic Management	4	Reduction in congestion at identified trouble spots	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review
15		4	Work with partner organisations to identify key streets for environmental enhancements to reduce and slow traffic, improve safety and enhance the streetscape, particularly adjacent to existing schools and local centres	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, SaferMK, Roads Policing	Annual review

16	Transport management	3, 4	Pursue and challenge where necessary, details of any transport assessments in relation to new planning applications	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, monthly review of planning applications
17	Grid Road System	3, 4	WCC commit to monitor all planning applications and pressure for principles of grid roads to be maintained	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, monthly review of planning applications
18	Noise pollution	1	WCC to monitor and engage with future east west rail consultation to ensure any impacts of the project, particularly noise pollution, are mitigated.	Walton Community Council	Monthly review at Projects Committee

Community Facilities

Responses to the Plan consultation showed that whilst there is a variety of open space, community and leisure facilities within the area, it would benefit from a diversity of offer. WCC commits to continue to protect local assets, whilst exploring opportunities to introduce new facilities and service provision to meet the needs of the whole community.

19	Community Right to Bid	1, 2	WCC will register with MKC and actively pursue Assets of Community Value in the Parish	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review
20	Community Asset Transfer	1, 2	WCC will explore the potential to acquire and manage assets within the Parish offered by MKC through the Community Asset Transfer programme	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, monthly review at Projects Committee
21	Sports Ground Enhancements	2, 3	Develop a coordinated approach to sports facilities to ensure that provision meets the need of existing clubs, current and future residents	Walton Community Council, Sports Clubs,	Annual review
22		1, 2, 3	WCC will work with partners and landowners to secure funding to support expansion of existing and/or introduction of new facilities	Walton Community Council, landowners,	Annual review
23	Trim Trail Extension	1, 2	Introduce additional outdoor gym equipment at Caldecotte Lake and explore opportunities elsewhere within the Parish	Walton Community Council, Parks Trust	Annual review, monthly review at Projects Committee
24	Browns Wood Pavilion	1, 2, 3	Build a community pavilion at Browns Wood Sports Ground to increase sporting and leisure opportunities for the whole community	Walton Community Council	Annual review, monthly review at Projects Committee
25	Play parks	1, 2	WCC commits to review ongoing maintenance and refurbishment of existing play areas and consider opportunities for additional provision	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, monthly review at Projects Committee
26		2	Explore potential to acquire play parks from Milton Keynes Council where provision is at risk	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, monthly review at Projects Committee

27	Broadband	2, 3	WCC to monitor strategic framework developments to ensure future proofed fibre optic connections.	Walton Community Council	Annual review, monthly review at Projects Committee
28	Community Hubs	1, 2, 3	WCC will liaise with local service providers, including GPs, and landowners to influence service provision and expansion plans within the existing community hubs in Walnut Tree	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, NHS Milton Keynes CCG, Milton Keynes Development Partnership	Annual review
29		2, 3	Support the proposal for a Walton Civic Centre at the Walnut Tree Local Centre	Walton Community Council	Annual review

Open Space

A major feature of the development of Milton Keynes as a New Town has been the provision of landscaped and open spaces, including open areas adjacent to highways. These are important to the character of the area and provide a valuable resource for biodiversity whilst contributing to the well-being of local residents.

In addition to the Plan policy protecting key areas of open space, it is recognised that further opportunities to enhance open space within Walton should continually be explored. Concern was raised during consultation with regard the decline of some areas within the Parish, which cannot be addressed through planning policy. This includes issues such as maintenance and planting strategies, which are dealt with below.

	Issue	Related NP Objective	Possible solution/action	Responsible for implementation	Monitoring including assessment against policy
30	Better quality landscape maintenance required of open space	1, 2	Work with voluntary organisations to improve the environment of Walton from management of the natural environment to the introduction of newly landscaped areas	Walton Community Council, Community Payback, The Conservation Volunteers	Annual review, monthly review at Operations Committee
31	Tree Preservation Orders (TPO)	1	WCC will identify any trees to request designation of a TPO by MKC	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes council	Annual review
32	Street Tree Planting	1	Identify key streets to focus on and establish a tree planting campaign	Walton Community Council, The Conservation Volunteers, local volunteers	Annual review

Employment

Although unemployment levels in Milton Keynes remain lower than the national average it is important to maintain opportunities for a diverse range of employment. The Plan supports new businesses, home working and social enterprises that benefit the community. Encouraging local jobs and enterprise also assists in moving towards a sustainable, low carbon economy.

Other matters of concern or suggestions raised during consultation that are not planning policy matters but are considered to be important to the local community are

33	More jobs for residents within the Plan area	2	WCC will support local businesses to advertise employment opportunities through the WCC website	Walton Community Council, local employers	Annual review
34	More work opportunities for young people within the Plan area	2	WCC will work with local businesses to open doors for youth employment experience and opportunities	Walton Community Council, local businesses	Annual review
35	Local enterprise	2	WCC will explore the opportunity to run features on the website and in Walton Matters newsletter to promote local enterprise	Walton Community Council	Quarterly review

Crime & Community Safety

During the consultation process, crime was highlighted as a priority concern for residents. It was acknowledged that the Plan area has a low crime rate and is a safe place to live, however residents wished to ensure this was maintained.

The policies within the Plan ensure that all development will endeavour to 'Design out Crime' by applying the principles of Secure by Design. Responsibility for ensuring these principles are applied sits with Milton Keynes Council as the local Planning Authority.

WCC further commits to review all planning applications in line with the Neighbourhood Plan policies and submit comments to support robust approaches to Secure by Design principles in all aspects of the development.

	Issue	Related NP Objective	Possible solution/action	Responsible for implementation	Monitoring including assessment against policy
36	Crime reduction initiatives	2	WCC will continue to work in partnership with Thames Valley Police (TVP) about community engagement opportunities and attendance at relevant WCC	Walton Community Council, Thames Valley Police	Annual review
37	Crime reduction initiatives and community safety awareness	2	TVP to regularly attend WCC Operations Committee	Thames Valley Police	Quarterly review
38	Crime reduction and community safety	2	WCC & TVP to share all crime & community safety news via website, Facebook & Twitter	Walton Community Council, Thames Valley Police	Annual review

40	Fear of crime	2	WCC will promote the use of the Thames Valley Police Alert Scheme to residents and businesses across the Parish	Walton Community Council, Thames Valley Police	Annual review
41	Safe access routes	1, 2, 3	WCC to work closely with partners to ensure safe routes across the Parish are maintained through monitoring and reporting defective lighting and/or landscaping. Joint Warden patrols with Police Community Safety Officer	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, appointed contractors	Annual review, monthly review at Operations Committee

Community Activities

Consultation has indicated a wish for additional activities within the area to provide greater opportunities for social interaction between all age groups but with a particular focus on the elderly and young people.

WCC commits to work in partnership with statutory bodies and voluntary groups within the area to review provision and enable wider participation across the community.

	Issue	Related NP Objective	Possible solution/action	Responsible for implementation	Monitoring including assessment against policy
42	Social activities	2	Provide holiday activities for children and young people residing in the Plan area	Walton Community Council, Partnership organisations	Annual review
43	Community Events	2	Continue the provision of events similar to Autumn Fayre, Christmas Celebration and coach trips plus explore additional events throughout the year	Walton Community Council	Annual review
44	Social activities & community events	2	Promote externally organised community events within the Parish via Walton Matters, WCC website and Facebook	Walton Community Council	Annual review

Community Engagement

Walton Community Council recognises the value of feedback from residents and commits to an ongoing programme of consultation. The Continuous Improvement Programme will help to monitor the success of the Neighbourhood Plan whilst continuing to identify priorities for additional projects and budget setting in relation to the precept.

	Issue	Related NP Objective	Possible solution/action	Responsible for implementation	Monitoring including assessment against policy
45	Resident consultation	2	Introduce a regular programme of resident consultation.	Walton Community Council	Annual review
46	Resident online hub	2	Explore opportunity for the development of an online hub specifically for residents within the area	Walton Community Council, residents	Annual review

Development Management

The delivery of the majority of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan are reliant on decisions made by Officers and Members of Milton Keynes Council. These decisions can be influenced by comments made by Walton Community Council.

	Issue	Related NP Objective	Possible solution/action	Responsible for implementation	Monitoring including assessment against policy
47	Planning Applications	1, 3	WCC will continue to provide written comments on all planning applications both within the Plan area and external to the Plan area where they have potential for impact including issues relating to build materials, parking, noise and light pollution etc.	Walton Community Council	Annual review, monthly review at Regulatory Committee
48	Traffic Management	4	Work with relevant partners to seek appropriate measures are taken to reduce traffic speed limits, inappropriate parking and rat-running at identified hotspot locations	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council, Safer Roads Team	Annual review
49	Traffic Management	4	Reduction of congestion at trouble spots	Walton Community Council	Annual review
50	Strategic Planning	2, 4	Respond to Plan:MK	Walton Community Council	Annual review
51	Towergate Development	3, 4	WCC will monitor and press to ensure development plans for Towergate relate to the Hewlett Packard site and Fairfields Site regardless of timing of applications	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, monthly review at Regulatory Committee
52	Hewlett Packard Development	3, 4	WCC will monitor and press to ensure development plans relate to Towergate site and Fairfields Site if applications have not already been approved by the time of the Neighbourhood Development Plan being approved	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, monthly review at Regulatory Committee

53		2, 3	Monitor all planning applications and highlight infrastructure deficiencies to be addressed via Planning Obligations.	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review, monthly review at regulatory
54			Work with Wavendon Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Group to ensure the landscape buffer between the SLA area and Wavendon Village is retained	Walton Community Council, Wavendon Parish Council	Annual review
55	Houses in Multiple Occupation	1, 3	WCC will ensure all HiMO's identified within the Parish are reported to MKC to ensure it is registered.	Walton Community Council, Milton Keynes Council	Annual review

Consultation/Policy Index

Walton Neighbourhood Plan Consultation/Policy Index	
Issue	Reference in Plan
Parks, Open Spaces & Access	
Improve maintenance	WNP17 p40 Action Plan p47
Maintain standards	WNP17 p40 Action Plan p47
Access with buggies, wheelchairs	Action Plan p47
Diversify opportunities/types of open space	WNP14 p36 WNP17 p40 WNP18 p42 WNP19 p43 Action Plan p49
Safety/lighting	Action Plan p47 p52
Getting Around – Roads, redways, pavements, traffic & transport	
Potholes and poor pavements/redways	WNP15 p37, WNP19 p43, Action Plan p47
Speed bumps	Action Plan p53
Parking on pavements	Action Plan p48, p53
Lack of parking	WNP13 p35, Action Plan p48
School congestion	WNP13 p35, Action Plan p48
V10 crossing	WNP15 p35, Action Plan p48
Grit bins	Action Plan p47
Poor bus service	WNP15 p37 Action Plan p48
Health Services	
Lack of NHS dentist availability	WNP19 p43
GP at capacity	WNP19 p43
Hospital at capacity – concern re impact of future development	WNP 19 addresses Health in general, however the Plan is unable to address hospital capacity issues.

Local Job prospects	
Jobs for young people	Action Plan p51
Part time jobs	Action Plan p51
More local professional jobs	Action Plan p51
Housing	
More affordable for young people	WNP19 p43
Keep current design and mix	WNP16 p39
Infrastructure before expansion	WNP19 p43
More retirement/sheltered housing	WNP7 p26
Crime & Community Safety	
Safety on redways/underpasses	Action Plan p52
Burglary	Action Plan p51
Lighting	Action Plan p52
ASB	Action Plan p52
Level of Pollution	
Traffic noise	WNP12 p34
Rats	Action Plan p49
Lighting	Action Plan p53
Neighbour noise	Action Plan p53
Cleanliness of the Area	
Dog Poo/bins	Action Plan p47
Rubbish/bins	Action Plan p47
Future Needs	
Cafe	WNP9 p30
More sports facilities	WNP9 p30, WNP18 p42 Action Plan p49
Activities for elderly	Action Plan p52
Youth provision	WNP14 p36, Action Plan p52
Pub	WNP8 p29

Glossary

Active frontage

The part of a building or development that contains windows and doors, fronting a street or open space.

Amenity open space

A small area of green space within a built up area provided to enhance the character of an area

Assets of Community Value

A building or land in an area can be listed as an asset of community value if the current primary use of the building/land or use of the building/land in the recent past furthers the social well-being or social interests (cultural, recreational or sporting) of the local community.

Building For Life

The industry standard for the design of new housing developments. It is a tool for assessing the design quality against a clear set of criteria.

Community Hub

Several social and community facilities, such as libraries, schools, shops and community centres, clustered together in an easily accessible core area.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

A term used for the contributions required from a developer/landowner to support the delivery of strategic infrastructure across a Planning authority area.

Community Civic Centre

A civic centre describes a building which is prominent within a community, constructed to be it's focal point or centre. In this Plan the Civic Centre would be home to the Community Council and will provide additional facilities for the community.

Community Use/Facilities

For the purposes of land development, the term community use describes a wide range of facilities such as schools, colleges, hospitals, libraries, sports centres, community centres, doctors' surgeries, places of worship, police & fire stations and many other uses.

Conservation Volunteers

An international volunteering organisation supporting conservation initiatives in the UK and overseas.

Core Strategy

Part of the Development Plan for Milton Keynes which provides strategic policies to guide development in the Borough up until 2026. This includes annual housing targets and the designation of land for employment use.

Desire line

A path that pedestrians take informally, rather than taking a footpath or set route; e.g. a well-worn ribbon of dirt that one sees cutting across a patch of grass or paths to create a shorter distance between two points.

Development Management

The procedures of Milton Keynes Council for the processing, consideration and determination of planning applications submitted to the Council.

Glossary

Development Framework

A set of documents prepared by Milton Keynes Council which set out the spatial planning strategy for Milton Keynes. They address the needs and opportunities for housing, the economy, infrastructure and amenities.

Development Plan for MK

Contains documents which set out the planning policies for Milton Keynes. Documents include the Local Plan (2005) and Core Strategy (2013).

East West Rail Upgrade

East West Rail is a major project to establish a strategic railway connecting East Anglia with Central, Southern and Western England. It includes upgrade of the line between Bletchley and Bedford. This line runs along the southern boundary of the WCC area.

Grid Road Corridors

Grid corridors comprise two elements, which are Grid Road Reserves and Landscape Transport Corridors:

- **Grid Road Reserves**

Areas of land which have been reserved for the future extension of the grid road network.

- **Landscape Transport Corridors**

Land adjacent to existing grid roads, or intended extension to the grid road. Landscaping typically includes trees, shrubs, grass bunds and/or fences, to protect the amenity of adjacent residential areas.

Grade separated crossing

Grade separation is the term given to a method of aligning a junction of two or more flows of traffic to provide a safe way to cross the junction. This can be done with bridges, and/or underpasses and may be designed for use by pedestrians and/or other forms of transport.

Hectare

A metric unit of measurement which is equivalent to 10,000 square metres or 2.47 acres.

HiMO

A House in Multiple Occupation is defined as when a house is rented out by at least 3 people who are not from 1 household (e.g. a family), but share facilities like the bathroom and kitchen.

Historical brick and stone vernacular

The term 'vernacular houses' refers to those houses built in the main from locally available materials.

Landscape Buffer

A natural or planted system to screen or mitigate against undesirable environmental impacts e.g. noise, wind.

Local centre

A local centre comprises a small grouping/limited range of facilities which can meet the day-to-day shopping needs for the local communities they serve. They typically feature a newsagent and/or small convenience store and may include other shops and units including hairdressers, post office and fast food outlets.

Glossary

Local Open Space

Public Open Space is defined by categories according to their size, facilities and local importance. Local Open Space refers to areas of public land which serves a catchment area of up to 600 metres.

Local Play (LEAP)

Local Equipped Area of Play for unsupervised play close to home, which caters mainly for children up to 8 years of age and generally consists of 5 pieces of equipment.

Masterplan

A formal planning tool designed to ensure that the development of the site is integrated and best use is made of the land. A masterplan document sets out a vision for the entire site, but is not intended to dictate the detailed planning of every element.

MKCF

Milton Keynes Community Foundation is a local charity supporting and funding the MK charity sector. MKCF have 48 plots of land across Milton Keynes available for local charities to develop, including reserve sites identified in this Neighbourhood Plan.

MKDP

Milton Keynes Development Partnership is an independent legal entity wholly owned by Milton Keynes Council to facilitate Milton Keynes' continued growth and economic success, by promoting the development of its land assets in line with the Council's Corporate Plan and Economic Development Strategy.

Neighbourhood Play (NEAP)

Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play for all children but with the emphasis on aged 8+. Approximately 8 items of equipment which can include ball games and larger more adventurous equipment.

Net density

Measured as dwellings per hectare, net density is the number of dwellings within one hectare of land. It excludes uses not directly linked to the development, such as schools and strategic open spaces and buffer strips.

NHS Milton Keynes CCG

The Milton Keynes Care Commissioning Group is a consortium of GP practices in Milton Keynes. The role of the CCG is to commission local health services and ensure that local people have access to effective high quality services.

NPPF

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out planning policy for England and how they are expected to be applied. It provides guidance for local planning authorities and decision takers, both in drawing up plans and making decisions about planning applications.

Paddock

The Parks Trust's property portfolio includes permanent and temporary paddocks, both of which are in the Plan area. The paddocks vary in size and accommodate horses, with a waiting list for use. The temporary paddocks are sites which are situated within the "grid road extension corridors". This land would be handed back when and if an extension to the grid road system takes place.

Parks Trust

An independent charity that cares for many of Milton Keynes' parks and open spaces including river valleys, woodlands lakesides, parks and landscaped areas alongside the main roads.

Glossary

Plan:MK

A document which outlines details of the production of a new Local Plan for the Borough which will review and replace the Core Strategy (2013) and Local Plan (2005).

Planning Gain

A general term used to refer to the contributions a developer/landowner makes to mitigate the impact of development on infrastructure in an area. This includes s106 and CIL contributions.

Planning Obligations

Private agreements made between local authorities and developers, which can be attached to planning permission. Developers may be asked to provide contributions for infrastructure in several ways to assist in mitigating the impact of the development, which benefits local communities and supports the provision of local infrastructure.

Planning Statement

A statement prepared to support a planning application, which outlines the planning justification for a proposal.

Primary Residential Street

The main through road within a new development from which other streets and cul de sacs take access. Examples in the Plan area include Gregories Drive (Wavendon Gate), Lichfield Down (Walnut Tree) and Britten Grove (Old Farm Park).

Public Open Space

For the terms of the Plan Public Open Space is taken to mean all open space of public value. This includes rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can also act as a visual amenity.

Reserve Sites

Land which has already been identified as having the potential for development by the local planning authority. Allocated for a range for community based uses in the Milton Keynes Local Plan.

Residential density

Residential density requirements are set by the local authority and refer to the land covered by residential development, including the garden and other spaces that are physically included within it. The requirement relates to the number of residential properties which can be built within an area and is defined as the number of new homes per hectare.

Residential Design Guide

The aim of the residential design guide is to serve as a development management tool in assessing planning proposals and provide clear direction to developers as to what the Council expects in terms of design quality in residential developments. It provides guidance regarding the character of new development, streets, parking and detailed design appearance of buildings amongst other design elements that make up residential neighbourhoods.

SaferMK

Safer MK is the Community Safety Partnership for Milton Keynes, which works together with partner agencies to reduce crime and the fear of crime in the borough of Milton Keynes.

Glossary

Section 106 (S106)

A term used for the contributions required from a developer/landowner under a legal planning obligation to mitigate the impact of the development on the area. This includes affordable housing provision and financial contributions to offset impacts on services and facilities.

Secured by Design

The official UK Police initiative combining the principles of ‘designing out crime’ with physical security.

Site Allocations Process/Plan, preferred options

A plan being prepared by Milton Keynes Council to identify and allocate small to medium sized sites to ensure we have enough residential development land to deliver the number of houses needed to meet the Core Strategy house building target for the next five years.

Strategic Land Allocation

The Strategic Land Allocation covers an area of approximately 150 hectares on the south-eastern flank of Milton Keynes. It comprises three parcels of land:

Land to the east of Magna Park

Land to the south of the A421

Church Farm

These areas are to be developed as a sustainable urban extension to Milton Keynes, including 2,900 new homes and supporting services, including schools and open space, and new employment buildings.

Tandem Parking

Driveway parking where one car parks behind the other, as opposed to being able to park side by side.

Wavendon Triangle

This refers to the land at the North-east corner of the parish which is mainly undeveloped. The land is bounded by the H9 Groveway, Newport Road and Ortensia Drive. The triangle comprises parcels of land owned by three separate landowners, namely Hewlett Packard, The Fairfield's Partnership and the Homes & Communities Agency.

