



***Vale
of White Horse***

A Study of Village Facilities in the Vale

Your Vale - Your Future

July 2009

هذه الوثيقة متاحة باللغة العربية عند الطلب.
Arabic

এই ডকুমেন্ট অনুরোধে বাংলায় পাওয়া যায়।
Bengali

ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਲਿਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ।
Punjabi

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Urdu

本文件可以應要求，製作成中文 (繁體字) 版本。
Chinese

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Contents

1.0 Introduction2

2.0 Policy Background2

 National Policy for Development2

 in Rural Areas

 Draft South East Plan3

 The Local Plan 20113

3.0 Methodology3

 The Scoring System3

4.0 Results and Conclusions4

Appendix 1- Facility Scoring5

Appendix 2- Scores for each Settlement6

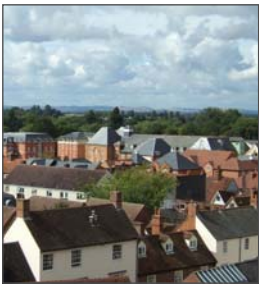
Appendix 3- Settlement Hierarchy8

“Sustain healthy economic activity and the viability of village communities”



1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the background work on the Local Development Framework, the District Council has investigated the most sustainable locations for future development in the Vale. In accordance with national and regional guidelines, most new development should be concentrated in the existing main urban areas. In the Vale, this includes the five main settlements of Abingdon, Botley, Faringdon, Grove and Wantage. Development will also take place on the western edge of Didcot. However, it is recognised that limited development should be permitted in certain villages in order to, "Sustain healthy economic activity and the viability of village communities" (PPG 7, para 3.19).
- 1.2 In order to assess the relative sustainability of individual villages in the district, the Council carried out a wide ranging survey of village services and facilities. This study updates the previous study undertaken in 2004 as part of the background work to the adopted Local Plan. The findings from this study will enable decisions to be taken on the most appropriate locations for development up to 2027 and guide the policy framework for future development in the rural parts of the district. This background paper will ensure that the Council is able to make these decisions on a sound evidence base.



“
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that new houses
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”

2.0 Policy Background

- 2.1 To set the context for the study, it is useful to look at existing policy. Although Government guidance says that the main focus for development should be within urban areas, it also recognises the need for limited development in rural areas.

National Policy for Development in Rural Areas

- 2.2 PPS1 'Delivering Sustainable Development' promotes urban and rural regeneration to improve the well being of communities and to create new opportunities for the people living in those communities (PPS1, para 27 ii).
- 2.3 PPS3 'Housing' gives guidance on providing high quality, affordable housing in rural areas which should ensure the continuing development of sustainable, mixed and inclusive rural communities (PPS3, para 30).
- 2.4 PPS7 'Sustainable Development in Rural Areas' states that development should occur near to local service centres where employment, housing, services and other facilities can be provided together. This could be a town, a large village or a group of villages (PPS7, para 3). Small scale development in rural areas can also help to meet local business needs and maintain the vitality of the community (PPS7, para 4).
- 2.5 PPS7 suggests that there is a need for up to date information on rural communities and recommends that local authorities commission surveys to gather such data (PPS7, para 2). This report has sought to carry out such a survey, researching village services and facilities. The data collected will be used to produce a settlement hierarchy that will form part of the evidence base to propose the most sustainable locations for new development in the Vale.

Draft South East Plan

- 2.6 As demand for housing in the UK continues to grow, the draft South East Plan requires the Vale to provide 11,500 new homes by 2026. The Panel who considered the draft South East Plan has recommended the figure be increased to 11,550. Although 2,750 of these will be located on the western edge of Didcot in the Vale and 3,400 will be in Grove and Wantage, there is a need to find suitable locations for the further homes to be built in the rest of the district.

- 2.7 Policy H3 of the South East Plan recommends that new houses should be developed in locations which have the necessary infrastructure, services and community provision or where this provision is planned.

The Local Plan 2011

- 2.8 The Council's adopted Local Plan 2011 contains policies that divide the villages into three groups. Policy H11 covers larger villages where appropriate developments of up to fifteen dwellings on sites of no more than 0.5ha may be permitted. Policy H12 covers smaller villages where suitable developments of up to four dwellings could be considered. Other development outside the built up areas of towns and villages is described in policy H13 where only one or two new dwellings will be allowed as infill or if required to meet the needs of an essential rural business. Policy GS3 covers villages in the Green Belt where limited infilling may be permitted.

3.0 Methodology

- 3.1 In order to create a settlement hierarchy, it was necessary to collect comprehensive and consistent data for all settlements. Extensive internet research was carried out in order to gather as much information as possible about the facilities in each village. Site visits were then carried out in order to verify the data that had been collected and fill in any gaps in the information. For survey purposes, an audit sheet for each village was used on the site visits to make it easier to collect the necessary information. Once completed, a copy of the relevant survey sheet for each village was sent to each parish council for verification. 47 out of the 64 parish councils responded.

The Scoring System

- 3.2 So that the villages could be put into order according to the level of services and facilities available, a scoring system was devised which can be found in appendix 1. Explanations of exactly what is included within each category is also in this appendix.
- 3.3 The scoring is based on the relative importance of each facility, in that some services are more essential and used more frequently than others. For example, a primary school or a supermarket selling a good range of food are important facilities that reduce the need to travel by car and support the vitality of the local community. Other facilities such as a village hall or a recreation ground add to diversity and help build communities but do not score so highly because it was considered that they do not contribute as significantly to people's day to day needs and therefore the sustainability of the village.
- 3.4 Where a facility can be found within the built up area of the village, points are scored irrespective of the exact location of the facility. Where an adjacent village can make use of a facility, i.e it is within walking or cycling distance, that village can also score points for that particular service. For example, West Hanney scores points for having access to a primary school even though the school is located in East Hanney. Furthermore, some facilities are located quite a distance from any village but could still count if within walking or cycling distance. For example, the Snooty Fox Inn is located on the main road by-passing Littleworth but because the pub is within 400m of the village, it counts for scoring purposes. Distances are based on guidelines provided by Barton, Davis and Guise in their book entitled 'Sustainable Settlements: A Guide for Planners, Designers and Developers' (1995) and are measured along roads. Distances are set out on the scoring sheet in appendix 1.

“
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4.0 Results and Conclusions

- 4.1 Having gathered information for all the settlements and given an appropriate score to each facility, it was possible to calculate a total score for each settlement. A table showing all of the scores can be found in appendix 2.
- 4.2 Using the totals, the settlements were put into order and, for comparative purposes, colour coded into which policy they are placed under in the adopted Local Plan 2011. This list can be found in appendix 3.
- 4.3 The hierarchy produced as a result of this research can now be used as evidence to guide decisions about the most sustainable locations for future development in the rural areas.

“
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”



Appendix 1

Facility Scoring

Facility	Explanation	Score
Primary School	Primary School within 600m of village No primary school within 600m of village.	3 0
Post Office/ Banks/Shops	Supermarket selling a good range of food including meat, fruit & vegetables and bread. 3 or more day to day shops 2 day to day shops 1 day to day shop (Maximum score of 6) Day to day shop - Post Office/Village shop/ butchers/hairstylist/newsagents/food store/bakers All must be within 800m of village.	3 3 2 1
Places of worship	3 or more places of worship within 1km of village 1 or 2 places of worship within 1km of village	2 1
Food/Drink outlets	3 or more outlets within 400m of village 1 or 2 outlets within 400m of village	2 1
Medical	Doctors or dentists surgery within 1km of village open at least 8 sessions/week Doctors or dentists surgery within 1km of village open less than 8 sessions/week (including visiting doctors) Session - morning/afternoon/evening	2 1
Library	Permanent Library within 800m of village. Visiting Library	2 1
Village Hall	Any hall, irrespective of quantity or type within 1km of village	1
Bus Services from settlement	Hourly service to 2 or more main centres Hourly service to 1 main centre Daily service to at least 1 main centre Bus route must be within 400m of village.	3 2 1
Rail Services:	Hourly service to 2 or more main centres Hourly service to 1 main centre Daily service to at least 1 main centre	3 2 1
Recreation:	Pitch and equipped play area/youth area Pitch (Playing field must be within 800m, playgrounds must be within 400m)	2 1
Employment:	Employment site within 1.5km of village Employment site within 5km of village <i>Employment site - areas protected for employment as marked on the Local Plan 2011.</i>	2 1
Proximity to main settlement:	village within 5km of main settlement by nearest road route. <i>main settlements are Abingdon, Botley, Didcot, Faringdon, Wantage and Grove and Swindon.</i>	1

“ Small scale development in rural areas can also help to meet local business needs and maintain the vitality of the community ”



Appendix 2

Scores for each development



“ As demand for housing in the UK continues to grow, the draft South East Plan requires the Vale to provide 11,500 new homes by 2026 ”

Settlement	Primary School	Post Office/ Bank/Shop	Places of Worship	Food/Drink Outlets	Medical	Library	Village Hall	Bus Service	Rail Service	Recreation	Employment	Proximity to main Settlement	Total
Appleford	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	6
Appleton	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	13
Ardington	0	2	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	1	13
Ashbury	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	10
Baulking	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	3
Bayworth	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Besselsleigh	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	6
Blewbury	3	3	1	2	1	1	1	3	0	2	0	0	17
Boars Hill	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	4
Bourton	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	5
Buckland	3	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	7
Buscot	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	6
Carswell Marsh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charney Bassett	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	7
Childrey	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	2	1	0	15
Chilton	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	8
Coleshill	0	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	9
Compton Beauchamp	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cothill	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	4
Cumnor	3	3	2	1	0	1	1	3	0	2	1	1	18
Denchworth	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	5
Drayton	3	6	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	2	1	1	20
Dry Sandford	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	7
East Challow	3	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	2	2	1	14
East Hanney	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	2	0	0	14
East Hendred	3	2	1	2	0	1	1	3	0	2	1	0	16
Eaton	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	4
Eaton Hastings	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Farmoor	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	2	1	1	12
Fernham	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	6
Frilford	0	3	1	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	10
Fyfield	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	8
Garford	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	4
Ginge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Goosey	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Gozzards Ford	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	4
Great Coxwell	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	7
Harwell	3	3	1	2	0	1	1	3	0	2	0	1	17
Hatford	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Hinton Waldrist	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	4

Settlement	Primary School	Post Office/ Bank/Shop	Places of Worship	Food/Drink Outlets	Medical	Library	Village Hall	Bus Service	Rail Service	Recreation	Employment	Proximity to main Settlement	Total
Idstone	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Kennington	3	6	2	2	0	2	1	3	0	2	1	1	23
Kingston Baguize/Southmoor	3	3	1	2	1	1	1	3	0	2	2	0	19
Kingston Lisle	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	7
Kingstone Winslow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Letcombe Bassett	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	5
Letcombe Regis	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	8
Little Coxwell	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	1	1	9
Littleworth	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	0	1	1	1	9
Lockinge	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	4
Longcot	3	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	10
Longworth	3	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	10
Lyford	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Marcham	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	2	1	1	16
Milton	0	6	1	2	0	1	0	3	0	2	2	1	18
Milton Heights	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	2	0	10
Netherton	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
North Hinksey	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7
Pusey	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Radley	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	3	3	2	1	1	19
Rowstock	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	7
Shellingford	3	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	8
Shippon	0	4	1	1	0	1	0	3	0	2	1	1	14
Shrivenham	3	6	1	2	2	1	1	3	0	2	2	0	23
South Hinksey	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	0	1	1	9
Sparsholt	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
Stanford in the Vale	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	2	0	19
Steventon	3	5	1	2	0	1	1	3	0	2	2	0	20
Sunningwell	3	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	12
Sutton Courtenay	3	6	1	2	0	1	1	3	0	2	2	1	22
Tubney	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	4
Uffington	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	2	0	14
Upton	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	9
Watchfield	3	6	1	2	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	0	20
West Challow	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	4
West Hanney	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	7
West Hendred	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	1	1	0	9
Woolstone	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
Wootton	3	6	1	2	1	1	1	3	0	2	2	1	23
Wytham	0	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	10


“ This background paper will ensure that the Council is able to make these decisions on a sound evidence base ”





Appendix 3


Settlement Hierarchy


Key to policies in Adopted Local Plan

 Policy H11
(larger villages, up to
15 dwellings permitted
on sites up to 0.5ha)

 Policy H12
(Smaller villages,
up to 4 dwellings Policy)

 H13
(villages mentioned
in text, 1 or 2 dwellings
within built up area
permitted)

 Policy GS3
(Limited infilling)

 Villages not mentioned
in Local Plan

Kennington	23	Shellingford	8
Wootton	23	Buckland	7
Shrivenham	23	Charney Bassett	7
Sutton Courtenay	22	Dry Sandford	7
Drayton	20	Great Coxwell	7
Steventon	20	Kingston Lisle	7
Watchfield	20	North Hinksey	7
Kingston Baguize & Southmoor	19	Rowstock	7
Radley	19	West Hanney	7
Stanford in the Vale	19	Appleford	6
Cumnor	18	Besselsleigh	6
Milton	18	Buscot	6
Blewbury	17	Fernham	6
Harwell	17	Bourton	5
East Hendred	16	Denchworth	5
Marcham	16	Letcombe Bassett	5
Childrey	15	Boars Hill	4
East Challow	14	Cothill	4
East Hanney	14	Eaton	4
Shippon	14	Garford	4
Uffington	14	Gozzards Ford	4
Appleton	13	Hinton Waldrist	4
Ardington	13	Lockinge	4
Farmoor	12	Sparsholt	4
Sunningwell	12	Tubney	4
Ashbury	10	West Challow	4
Frilford	10	Woolstone	4
Longcot	10	Baulking	3
Longworth	10	Hatford	3
Milton Heights	10	Bayworth	2
Wytham	10	Goosey	2
Coleshill	9	Netherton	2
Little Coxwell	9	Compton Beauchamp	1
Littleworth	9	Eaton Hastings	1
South Hinksey	9	Ginge	1
Upton	9	Idstone	1
West Hendred	9	Lyford	1
Chilton	8	Pusey	1
Fyfield	8	Carswell Marsh	0
Letcombe Regis	8	Kingstone Winslow	0