

Milton Lilbourne Village Design Statement



March 2011

Milton Lilbourne Village Design Statement

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 What is a Village Design Statement?

The Village Design statement is a document that has been compiled in consultation with all parishioners within the Parish of Milton Lilbourne and in liaison with Kennet District Council. This process has enabled the people to share their views within this document, using local knowledge, of village history and surroundings. Although only an advisory document it clearly sets out the views of the Parish Council and parishioners on how the parish and village should be preserved and developed for the years to come. This document is to be used as an emerging supplementary planning document to the current Kennet District Council Local Plan 2011 as adopted April 2004.

A major function of the VDS is to interpret the policies of the local plan at a local level and to provide guidance of design issues on development which would be acceptable in principle.

1.2 Why produce a Village Design Statement?

The Village Design Statement describes the distinctive character of the village and surrounding countryside. Also it shows how the character of the village can be identified at three levels.

- The landscape setting of our village
- The shape of the settlement
- The nature of the buildings themselves

The Village Design Statement sets down design principles, based on distinctive local character. Production of a statement fosters working in partnership with Local Authorities. Also it promotes local understanding of current Planning Policies, and offers a chance to influence future Planning Policies in the future.

1.3 How were people Views Obtained?

People views have been collected both formally and informally by members of the VDS team. Meetings and workshops have been held since the concept of the project in spring of 2004. In the summer of 2004 a questionnaire was sent to all households in the Parish, and there was a response of nearly 40%. Please see appendix 3 for details

1.4 Acknowledgements

The VDS team would like to thank all members of the Parish for their considered views. The comments and the completed questionnaires have provided the backbone to our report. As the VDS team have always stated this is the Parish's report and we have hopefully reflected your views - Thank You

2.0 Executive Summary

2.1 Summary of Conclusions for Milton Lilbourne Parish Council

From the Questionnaire responses the following recommendations were made which the Parish Council are asked to endorse, in preparing the *Village Design Statement*.

- a) 97% of respondents are in favour of preserving the village's appearance and its conservation.
- b) Around 87% believe the character of the settlements is in sympathy with the surrounding countryside.
- c) Just over, 82% think that the number of houses in the Parish is "about right".
- d) Over 90% record that, where permitted, development should favour small cottages and first time buyers.
- e) Responses of 93% consider preferences should be given to planning applicants whose proposals conform to the broad wealth mix of existing house styles.
- f) Around 67% of people would like a shop/post office. The Parish Council believe this is unfortunately not viable.
- g) People are broadly in favour of improving the village infrastructure. However, on investigation this would be cost prohibitive at this time.
- h) Nearly half the respondents consider local transport acceptable. It is unlikely that any further improvements will occur in the foreseeable future.
- i) 4 out of 5 people believe existing rights of way are acceptable. It is noted that control of off road vehicles, which cause considerable damage, need to be carefully regulated.
- j) Over 60% do not believe signposts need improving. We should retain our heritage of finger posts.
- k) Nearly 80% consider utilities and waste disposal are adequate.
- l) Around 50% believe there should be more traffic calming. The Parish Council, in partnership with Wiltshire Constabulary, agree that speed limits should be enforced.
- m) 4 out of 5 people who responded were happy with the amenity provided by the Village Hall.
- n) Over three quarters believe that the Church should be an integral part of the village.
- o) Just fewer than 10% consider the playground should be improved. The Parish Council are committed to improve the playground facilities.

2.2 Main Recommendations

If there is one point that is repeated from our general discussion and surveys with people in the village, it is to maintain the character and appearance of the village. This character and appearance has evolved over many hundreds of years and its heritage is to be maintained with careful stewardship.

- a) Little or no increase in housing stock is the desired outcome, in line with policy HC24 housing and community facilities (see Appendix 2).
- b) Conserve the appearance of the Village. Support best kept village competition.
- c) Keep the character of the village settlement in sympathy with the surrounding countryside
- d) All buildings, to be in keeping with current usage of material's, primarily brick, sarsen stone, flint and tile.
- e) The Parish Council would be opposed to alterations in any changes of Rights of Way. We recommend private and commercial vehicles, except local farm vehicles, should be excluded from Rights of Way where it is legally possible to do so.
- f) Continue village support for local amenities, such as the Church, Village Hall and the Recreational Ground.
- g) The Garage Site located on the B3087 should be developed, with limited housing stock or returned to a recreational amenity

2.3 Questionnaire Results and Analysis

In the summer of 2004 we delivered a questionnaire to almost every household in the Parish in order to obtain feedback on the issues uppermost in residents' minds. The findings were wide-ranging, and valuable in informing the Village Design Statement team.

- Among the results, we found that over 97% of respondents were in favour of preserving the Parish's overall current appearance. Almost as many (87%) believed that the houses built within the parish in 2004 were in sympathy with the surrounding countryside, and that planning decisions regarding development should preserve that sympathy.
- More than 80% thought that the number of houses in the Parish was 'about right'. The Parish Council noted their desire to maintain housing stock at current levels, with some flexibility to consider the wishes of particular settlements within the Parish on merit. Within that overall desire to maintain numbers, it was noted that those who expressed a view on the nature of new buildings favoured small cottages and first-time buyer homes.
- As a result of feedback, the Survey recommended that the Parish Council should give preference to applications demonstrating conformance with existing styles. Those styles are, of course, quite broad as shown elsewhere in this VDS.
- Parishioners showed great interest in commercial and agricultural issues: around 67% wanted a shop or post office, and 45% wanted more agriculture. Whether these needs are viable was debated, however this VDS records the wishes.
- Another set of issues with questionable viability, but undoubted interest, included energy and transport infrastructure. People were slightly in favour of improving infrastructure such as mains gas, telecommunications and major transport links.
- Nearly half thought local transport provision was acceptable, but the Parish Council accepted that consultation with transport bodies would be useful. It remains to be seen whether this VDS can influence planning in such a way as to improve these services, but that is the wish of parishioners.
- Almost 80% believed existing rights of way to be acceptable, but that vigilance is needed regarding blockage or other abuse, as well as considering creating new ones. Over two-thirds of those

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responding didn't see a need to improve footpath signs, although fingerpost signs to Littleworth and other improvements are already in hand.

- Around half of the Parish believed there should be more traffic calming. Traffic surveys should be important and appropriate when considering planning applications.
- Over 80% were happy that the Village Hall provided a sufficient amenity to the Parish, and three-quarters considered the Church to be an integral part of the village. Some respondents to the Survey wanted a better children's playground, and a number of further amenities were requested. The Survey Report was accepted by the Parish Council at its 2005 AGM, and will figure alongside this VDS in future planning decisions, as appropriate.

3.0 The Parish Context

3.1 Geographical and historic background

Milton Lilbourne lies in the eastern part of the twenty mile long Vale of Pewsey, which has distinct areas of chalk, clay, greensand and gravels, creating patterns of topography and landscape features. There are huge reservoirs of water in aquifers under the Vale. The Parish is traversed from east to west by three water features; the Kennet and Avon Canal; the stream from Deane Water, flowing through New Mill and Milkhouse Water, and, south of the village, the stream originating on our boundary with Easton Royal, which flows through the hamlet of Fyfield. Both of these streams are the main headwaters of the Pewsey branch of the Salisbury Avon, joining the western branch at Upavon, and forming the main River Avon. One of the most bio diverse chalk rivers in the whole of Britain, supporting rich flora, fish and invertebrate fauna communities which are considered internationally threatened and it is a site of special Scientific Interest (SSI) and a special area of conservation. Milton is fortunate to play a small part in this great river flowing through Salisbury to Christchurch.



Milton Lilbourne looking north from Milton Hill

The Parish has six hamlets as well as the main village running North-South, as do many of the Vale villages. *Clench Common* was the most northerly part of the Parish, high on the flat land of chalk, clay and flints, but part of this was transferred to Savernake Parish in 1987, leaving the prominent Martinsell Hill as the most northerly. *Milkhouse Water* has been renamed several times since 1236, when it was called Mulecot, or cottages by the mill. A second mill was established later at *New Mill*, and a wharf was built here on the K&A Canal in 1807, and, later, in 1862, a large embankment took the extension of the railway across low wetlands, parallel to the canal, towards Pewsey. There are three other hamlets in the Parish, each with the prefix Little. Adjoining Pewsey parish, there is *Little Ann*, a corruption of little land, with originally five cottages, and further along the road, *Little Salisbury* which was the biggest of the three. Here was a slaughterhouse, a forge and a pub which is now closed the Three Horseshoes- as well as several cottages. *Littleworth* was tiny in 1850, having just three cottages, but a Wesleyan chapel was built in 1854, followed by a Methodist chapel in 1932.

The Parish of Milton Lilbourne has been, since the 3rd Century BC, an excellent place to settle and raise a family. The evidence for this is found on the hills in the form of Neolithic stone and flint implements, and, particularly, the 100-metre long Neolithic Barrow, first excavated in 1867, and aptly called the Giant's Grave. Although these hills are sparsely populated now, they were the most populated parts of the land four thousand years ago, in the Stone Age. Around 2000 BC, European immigrants arrived with their knowledge of using metals, and a Bronze Age culture was established on Martinsell and Milton Hill. These people did not use Long Barrows; they favoured the Round Barrows, and five were excavated in 1958 on Milton Hill. The Romans appeared around 42AD, but there appears to be only two sites of settlement in the Parish. A Romano-British settlement was discovered at the junction of Milton and Everleigh, and a Roman kiln, for firing pottery was later excavated in 1893, between Broomsgrove and Milkhouse Water. This pottery was quite distinctive, and was called Savernake Ware. At the most southerly point of the Parish, there is an Iron Age Barrow, strangely called Old Hat, where three parish boundaries meet.

After the Romans retired back to Europe, the Saxons appeared around 500 AD. Less than a mile from Milton's parish border with Pewsey, over a hundred Saxon graves, many richly furnished, were discovered in 1970, on Pewsey Hill. It was the Saxons who divided the country into "Hundreds", and all villages were grouped into these administration districts. Milton was included in the Hundred of Kinwardstone, which was the second most highly assessed in Wiltshire. The centre of this Hundred was a meeting point for discussion, and its position was marked by a large stone- the Kinward stone- situated at the boundary of

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Burbage and East Grafton. The land of Kinwardstone Hundred is generally fertile, and each of the fifty or so villages within it had its own set of open fields and common pasture land. Before the Norman Conquest, much of the land lay in four large Royal Estates, but most of it was granted away in the 12th century.

The name Milton originated around 800 AD, from the Old English, Middletun, where tun means a village. Hence, we have a “village in the middle”(of an Estate). As it was vital to identify your village, a suffix was usually added. Lilbourne comes from the family name of the owners of the Manor from the 12th to the 15th century, and refers to the family’s place of origin in France called Lillebonne, which is still a large town near Rouen. There is a massive amount of evidence connecting Milton with the de Lillebonne family, and it is certain that Milton Lilbourne took its delightful name from this original French family. The Domesday Book records that Middletun landowners included a priest, who sold his land to St Stephen’s Church, but most of the village eventually, became owned by Edward of Salisbury. Domesday in 1086 lists Middletun as having around 200 acres, and there was just one Lordship, two smallholders and a single villager, or villain, in the whole of Middletun, and the total value given was 100 shillings (£5).



St Peters Church

The list of clergy of St Peter’s Church goes back to 1290, and the 700th Anniversary was held in 1972, confirming 1272 as being St Peter’s established date. However, Cirencester Abbey records show that there were church buildings in Milton as early as 1180. In 1166, the Manor

was held by Walter de Lillebonne. It appears to remain in the de Lillebonne family for over 200 years, since Sir John Lillebonne sold it in 1408. There were two other Manors in the actual village, known as Milton Abbots and Milton Haveryng in the 14th and 17th centuries. Havering House was bought by Richard de Haveryng from the Earl of Pembroke in 1242. Richard was reputed to have been the Lord Mayor of London, circa 1247, and when he died it went, eventually, to Sir John de Lillebonne. The current Manor House was built circa 1720, when buildings opposite were demolished to improve the view. The Ferris family owned the Manor from 1870 to 1929, when George Ferris died, having donated the current Recreation ground to the village in that year.

The **adult** population has been recorded over the years since the Black Death in 1349, (which decimated a third of the country’s population) and is as follows:

Year	1377	1676	1801	1841
Population	107	362	573	709

Year	1881	1921	1979	1991
Population	599	507	469	484

Milton Primary School opened in 1878, and six years later, there were 65 children under 13 attending. It celebrated its Centenary in 1978 and finally closed in 1985. The 1881 Census returns show that there were 155 families living in the Parish, and that most of these families were employed within the agricultural industry. Family surnames of 1881 are repeated some 125 years later in the village, among them Head, Flippance, Haines and Wells.

3.2 The Parish in the last thirty years – recent history

It was in 1973, that the Charity Commission eventually agreed to amalgamate the two village charities, bringing the Hall and the Recreation Ground Committees together, and the new village Hall was built in 1974, with the help of donations, at a total cost of £14,000. Recent celebrations in the village have included the Silver Jubilee in 1977 and the Queen Mother’s 80th birthday in 1980.

The Millennium celebrations, included a new Church window, engraved by Simon Whistler, and paid for by public subscriptions; the Millennium Capsule, containing records of Milton and the parishioners, and which is buried within the Churchyard grounds for posterity. Also

included in the capsule was a photograph of most of the parishioners. The Parish Council arranged the installation, along the village street, of attractive lighting, which was also paid for by public subscription.

The village celebrated the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2003, and a flagpole and a new post box were installed. The village has entered the Best Kept Village Competition for several years, winning Kennet area three times, and all Wiltshire once. Parishioners have recently installed a new notice board outside the village hall in memory of Belinda Gentle, who was Chairman of the Milton Parish Council for the last 18 years of her 30 year tenure.



The Belinda Gentle Memorial Notice Board

3.3 The future of the Parish

There are plans for providing new equipment in the Recreation Ground and for saving or renewing some of the old fingerposts throughout the Parish. The Parish has changed in the last thirty years and it will continue to change. It has become more difficult for parishioners' children to find a house and stay in the Parish, and so there are an increasing number of newcomers to the village, and not all of them have either the time or the inclination to take part in rural village life. Only a very few Parishioners actually work in the Parish, and there are enormous changes in agriculture, forcing people off the land. Estate agents continue to say that Milton Lilbourne is one of the prime, most sought-after villages, in the Vale, and housing will be limited with so little building land available in the Parish. Our footpaths and

bridleways must be protected, in compliance with current legislation to protect our historical heritage.

4.0 Character of Landscape Settings

4.1 The Visual Character of the surrounding Countryside

The previous Kennet District remains a predominantly rural district with some outstanding areas of landscape and a high proportion of very attractive, unspoilt countryside. The high quality of its landscape is confirmed by the designation of a large part of the district within the North Wessex Downs area of outstanding natural beauty (a national designation) and by the inclusion of most of the remainder within the specials Landscape Area (a local designation). The Parish, from north to south, is almost rectangular, being 3 miles long by 4 miles across at its widest point from Fyfield to Bruce's Arms. This pattern is repeated throughout the Pewsey Vale, has high ground on both the north and south borders, a wide flat fertile valley, extending from neighbouring Pewsey to Easton Royal. The six hamlets are well separated from each other, mainly by pasture and arable farmland, but also by the B3087, which neatly bisects the parish. Although it is important to maintain the individuality of each hamlet, they must continue to blend into the surrounding countryside.



Milton Lilbourne Crossroads B3087 looking south

4.2 The relationship with countryside and village edges

In the village itself there are meadows adjoining the Street on the eastern side, along with the large Recreation Ground, which together endow the village with a strong rural character. To the south, Milton Hill rises above the scarp slope of Salisbury Plain, dominating the village, whilst the northern skyline is equally imposing with the graceful outlines of Martinsell Hill, at 289 meters, one of the highest points in Wiltshire.



Meadows above the village – Milton Hill

4.3 The relationship with special landscape features

Primarily, the chalk hills, their strip lynchets and the clumps of mature trees growing on the highest ground, are all very visible on both Martinsell and Fyfield Down, from anywhere within the parish. Other features, more hidden, are the two chalk pits situated at both ends of the parish. The flat valley is bisected by the Kennet and Avon Canal, which having been fully restored, forms a welcome tourist and wildlife attraction.

4.4 Buildings seen within the landscape

Much of this historic village extends along a single street, free of through traffic, where most of the former farmhouses and farmyard groups are situated at each end of the Street. Loosely lining the Street and the lanes are a variety of mainly detached houses and cottages, mostly of mellow red brick, and many of these are thatched. The lanes supplying the hamlets have houses on both sides of these lanes, whereas the houses at Little Ann and at Little Salisbury are all on the south side of the main road.



View showing mix of new house styles in village

5.0 Settlement Patterns

5.1 Overall Pattern of Village

The village of Milton Lilbourne sits aside the Burbage – Pewsey road (B3087) with a small settlement known as Littleworth to the north and the larger main village to the south. The main village road 'The Street' runs north/south with the main dwellings characteristics being plot positioning, distance from road which provides regular and irregular building lines with turnings off the village street, mainly to the west leading to small conurbations, the largest of which is The Severalls. In the hamlets, the housing is more loosely knit and scattered in general appearance.

5.2 Character of Streets and Routes



The Street

The Street has evolved over centuries and today it is a continuous ribbon settlement except for the area opposite the manor. The turnings off the street are mainly small roads and lanes leading to a scattering of small settlements. The only main route off The Street is Havering Lane which leads to The Severalls.



Havering Lane at the southern end of the street

5.3 Character and pattern of Open Spaces

The main public open space in the village is the 6 acre Recreation Ground. This lies behind the Village Hall. It represents a wonderful village amenity and adjoins farmland to the south which provides a vista from The Manor. Open space in the form of farmland surrounds the village, with many access routes to adjoining areas.



View above Village looking south

5.4 The Relationship between Buildings and Spaces

Milton Lilbourne is not a densely spaced village, in fact the whole parish has only circa 500 residents. Its character and heritage are derived from dwelling which stand within their own ground in proportion with the size of the plot. This creates a feeling of space within the village and the use of boundary hedges and trees add to its overall rural appearance.



The vista towards the Manor

6.0 Building and Space in the Village

6.1 Character of distinctive areas of building types

The village of Milton Lilbourne lies both sides of the B3087, with a small development to the north of the road. The main area of development lies south of this road and has evolved as a village development along a central street, which is in essence a no through road. There are a number of small roads and lanes off The Street. The character of the village has mainly a loose knit and scattered development either side of a road. The building types are numerous, ranging from brick with clay tiled roof, to brick / white painted render with thatched roof.

The Parish has 6 hamlets a number of scattered communities including Fyfield, Little Salisbury, Littleworth, New Mill, Clench and Milkhouse Water.



Milkhouse Water looking towards New Mill

In the main these hamlets reflect the building types found in the village of Milton Lilbourne. Within the village there are a number of large houses, most notable of which is The Manor. Situated on the west side of the street before the church, it enjoys uninterrupted views over the fields opposite the house, the only area along the street which has not been built on. There are a number of other large and distinctive houses within their own grounds which take up a prominent position. The hamlet of Fyfield has a large house which fits well into this loose knit and scattered development.

6.2 The height scale and density of buildings

Within the village the houses are mainly 1 or 2 storeys, but some of the larger houses have 3 storeys and help to define the village footprint. Because of the scattered development of the village no house looks out of proportion with its neighbour. Indeed the use of soft and hard landscaping allows properties to define their own footprint and identity. The scattered development of the village has allowed properties to be well spaced out, giving a low residential density. Where new houses have been built in clusters or individuals the same sense of spacing has prevailed. Milton Lilbourne is bounded by farmland which leads to open countryside, so all dwellings are contained within the village or hamlet footprint.

The Parish Council considers that all applications should be reviewed against their individual merits in line with overall design and outlook of the current village setting.



Mix of building heights

6.3 The mixes of sizes, styles & types of building

The mix of houses is many and varied. They range from terraced farm cottages to semi detached modern houses, detached houses and larger houses such as The Manor. Each house or group of houses make their own statements in size and style of property. Style is left much to the individual and in most cases fits in with the style of its neighbour. For example a thatched white rendered cottage would stand close to a brick house with a clay tiled roof and not look incongruous because the colouring would be compatible.

This non conformity and random positioning of property, some of which has evolved over time has produced the character that is distinctive of the village of Milton Lilbourne. The Parish Council considers that all applications should be reviewed against their individual merits in line with overall design and outlook of the current village setting.



Mix of styles & types

6.4 Hedges walls and fences

The soft and hard landscaping represented by the hedges and walls that bound properties are mostly 1 -2 meters in height. There are examples where hedges have been left to grow to provide noise or wind breaks on boundary edges.

The texture shape and height of hedges and walls are in the best examples of boundary definition produced to a scale relative to the property size height and elevation.



Typical well maintained boundary hedge

6.5 Distinctive village features, materials and building detail

Milton Lilbourne Parish has a wealth of large houses of character and distinction. Notable among these are The Manor, Kings Hall, Havering House, Lower Farm House and Fyfield Manor. The houses are situated on large plots of land, with extensive gardens and outbuildings. Materials and styles vary enormously and relate to the prevailing architecture of the period in which they were built.

6.6 Elevation treatment

Most properties in the village and hamlets have brick or brick and timber finishes to their elevations.



Typical thatched building

Many thatched properties have white rendered walls, and there are a few examples of hung clay tiles over brick. There are also a few examples of half timbered properties.

6.7 Building material

As described earlier most houses are built of brick and this produces an interesting characteristic in that although the colour of brick ranges from biscuit coloured to red/orange the brickwork is flecked with black bricks giving a mottled effect. This effect breaks up the overall tonal appearance of the brick to produce its own character and style.

The range of material used and its combinations is as diverse as the style and type of properties to be found in the parish. The only notable building that does not seem to conform is St Peters Church which is built of Sarsen stone and Flints, an unusual but pleasant use of this material.



Mixes of type & colour

Future styles and materials should mirror this format and relate to styles of neighbouring properties.



Types & colour of building materials

7.0 Relationship to Historic Features

7.1 Special Historic features

St Peter's Church stands impressively above the street, midway between the Manor House and Havering House. These are among the many listed buildings of the parish, most along the main street. The Manor House at Fyfield is also listed and the hamlet of Fyfield is a designated Conservation area on its own. The earliest properties date from the end of the 17th century, and those built, or rebuilt, in the 18th century include Forge Cottage; Milton Lodge; Upper Farm Cottage; Cumberland Lodge; The Manor; Westering House; The Old Bakery; King Hall; Fern Cottage; Havering Lane Cottage; Saddlers, and Havering House.



King Hall

Those properties built in the late 18th to mid 19th century include Lawn Farmhouse; the Drunge; Ivy Cottage; The Vinery; Manor Cottages; The Old Vicarage; Ivy House; Angel Cottage; The School; Lower Farmhouse; together with Abbey House and Havering Cottage. A group that includes King Hall, with its imposing 18th Century gateway, the Church, the Old Vicarage, the Manor House and its stables and coach house, the Old Bakery, Westering House, with its sarsen stone pavement, and the distinctive red Gilbert-Scott telephone kiosk are all of particularly high environmental quality.

7.2 Conservation

The map shows that the Area extends southwards from Forge Cottage and Milton Lodge to Havering Lane and Lower Farm Cottages. Within the Conservation Area, there are no real eyesores, with the possible exception of overhead telephone and electric supply cables and their poles. There is little to detract from the tranquil street scene, and now that the farm has its own access off the B3087, there is little sign of agricultural activity.



The Street

The roadside soft edge of grass verges is an intrinsic part of the rural character of the Street, and should be respected by drivers. Reinforcement with kerbs is definitely not an option as this would distract from the existing rural setting. Roadside walls and railings are an asset not to be breached to form additional vehicular access. The copings to walls of properties along the Street should be retained in their entirety and suitably maintained with matching materials. Railings should be repainted before rust sets in. In order to preserve the distinctive character of the village, its traditional and historic features should be maintained as existing. Some thatched properties have replaced the roof with tiles and slates, and further loss of thatch in and around the village would severely detract from its historic character.



Meadow land to the east of The Street

The importance of preserving the meadows as open space to the east of the Street and opposite the Manor cannot be over-emphasized. Likewise the Conservation Area should really include all of the Recreation Ground and the adjoining meadows.

8.0 Residential Impact

8.1 The impact on residential amenity

In considering all planning applications in line with Policy HC24 & PD1, it is the duty of the Parish Council to ensure that the needs of the present are met, without compromising the ability of future generations. It is important to provide an acceptable quality of life in a healthy and pleasant environment, and to facilitate the provision of affordable housing, whenever possible. The Parish Council aims to protect diversity and to strengthen local community and cultural identity.

Milton Lilbourne is classified by Kennet District Council as a “village without facilities”, and would not be allowed to provide additional housing *of any consequence*. However, the parish does have a large number of hamlets, unlike other Vale villages “with facilities”, and it may be possible to develop land, in a small way, in some hamlets, namely Little Salisbury (and possibly Milkhouse Water, Littleworth and Clench) in compliance with the Kennet local plan 2011. This was adopted in 2004, the Parish Council considers that there is no room for any further development including infill/backfill from the crossroads, south and throughout the village.

The Garage site located on the B3087 is in need of development and the only two options available are for limited housing or recreational facilities.

The PC is of the opinion that all new building should be in keeping with local architecture and should use suitable materials. The issues listed in PD1 should be addressed, and the PC should always take into account the size of adjoining properties, and the surroundings, and, also, the likelihood of the proposed development restricting the neighbour's privacy.



Littleworth road junction

8.2 Attractive and safe public realm

The parish lies within the Eastern Sector of the Wiltshire Constabulary. It is policed by the Pewsey section, which consists of two constables and two police community support officers. Milton Lilbourne has its own beat officer and PCSO who have several other parishes they also cover. The parish benefits from an exceptionally low crime rate and in the future the Parish Council will continue to support a continued *local* police presence.

8.3 Relationships to Historic features

It is important to protect historical features and areas, particularly listed buildings, and those within the Conservation Area. The sites of archaeological interest on Milton and Martinsell hills must also be protected, as must the Rights of Way.



Recreation ground and rear of village hall

The six-acre recreation ground, in a prime position within the village centre, is regulated by the Charity Commission, and, as such, cannot be let or sold, in perpetuity. In addition, there are many buildings, throughout the parish, which, although not listed, are worthy of careful consideration when extensions and alterations are proposed.

An independent survey, on behalf of the Parish Council has demonstrated a need for some affordable housing, particularly at Little Salisbury, and also there were requests for the garage site to be developed with a few affordable houses, through the application of an "exceptions policy HC33" in rural areas such as Milton Lilbourne. The Parish Council considers that there should also be consideration on a possible extension to the cemetery of St Peter's Church.

9.0 Highways and Traffic

9.1 Characteristics of local roads & Streets

The B3087, runs east to west through the parish, and is actively used, mainly by people living locally. Peak periods of use are early morning and early evening, although traffic is fairly light at other times. A section of this road is subject to a 40mph speed limit. In recent years there has been a considerable increase in the number of heavy goods vehicles that cause wear on highways surface and continual damage to verges by unsuitable traffic due to their length, weight, and width. Decisions on the future of the B3087 should be made in partnership with all four parishes that this road passes through. The Parish Council's view is that the use by heavy vehicles should be monitored and the possibility of weight and height restrictions be considered. In addition, converting the whole length of the B3087 to a 40 mph restriction would be beneficial to improve road safety and consistency with speed limits along this extended section of highway.



B3087 cross roads looking towards Burbage

The village street, running southwards from the crossroads, is currently governed by a 30 mph speed limit. In view of the fact that this area is within both the North Wessex Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and our Conservation Area, consideration could be given on reducing this limit to a 20 mph speed limit with appropriate rural street furniture to self regulate. To the north of the crossroads, a further 30mph speed limit encompasses the hamlet of Littleworth.

The rest of the parish and its hamlets are served by narrow rural lanes and some thought must be given to enhancing the quality of life for both parishioners and other road users i.e. horse riders in these areas, possibly by promoting the “quiet lanes” policy in partnership with other agencies, or by imposing weight restrictions allowing access only.

9.2 Footways, cycle ways and parking

There is a network of ancient footpaths and bridleways throughout the whole parish and Parishioners can assist the PC in reporting defects.

The County Council now maintains the condition of footpaths, stiles and signposts. Bridleways, originally designed for horses and horse-drawn traffic, can now be made open to all traffic. The PC intend to closely monitor any attempt by trail-bikers clubs, for example, to change the status of our bridleways. We would require a restriction against motorised vehicles on some of the bridleways. The cycleway in the parish is quite short, passing from Clench, through New Mill, to Milkhouse Water. The towpath of the Kennet and Avon Canal can also be cycled.



Access to open countryside

9.3 Street furniture, utilities and services

There is main drainage in most areas of the parish, excluding parts of Milkhouse Water and Clench and elsewhere. The village has no piped gas supply, but most properties have electricity and telephone. We now have just one bright red telephone box in the whole parish. There are many of the old fashioned wooden fingerposts in the parish which the PC believes should be retained and repaired, rather than be replaced with the modern metal signs. The yellow salt and grit bins are strategically placed in the parish, but not in the Conservation Area.

The Parish Council over several years are buying and installing small quality notice boards in many of our hamlets, which will enable those parishioners living away from the main village to have access to Parish notices and other information as per the new website which can be found at www.milton-lilbourne.com

Most of the parish is served by a fairly good transport system. In addition to services provided by Wilts and Dorset, mainly along the B3087, the Wiggly bus will visit our hamlets, if requested, as will Pewsey and District Link. Further connecting services are provided both in Pewsey and Burbage, to Salisbury and Swindon. We are fortunate to have both a National Express service and a main-line rail station available at Pewsey, two miles away. There is now no village primary school, but both primary and secondary school children are regularly bussed to Pewsey and Marlborough. There is no Shop or Post Office in the village.

Compiled and edited In memory of the late Colin White

Thank you.

The VDS team would like to thank the Parish of Milton Lilbourne for their help and support in the production of this document and for their valued comments.

VDS Team

- *Derek Ward*
- *David Hughes*
- *Paul Oatway*
- *Colin White*



Appendix

1:

Parish Map



Appendix 2:

Kennet District Council – Kennet Local Plan 2011 – Adopted April 2004

Planning
Policies:

Policy HC24

Villages with Limited Facilities:

Within the villages in the countryside listed in Table H5, which do not have defined limits of development, new housing development will be restricted to infilling, the replacement of existing dwellings or the re-use of existing buildings or the redevelopment of existing buildings provided that the development:

- a) *Is within the existing built up area of the village;*
- b) *Does not consolidate an existing sporadic, loose knit area of development; and*
- c) *The development is in harmony with the village in terms of its scale and character.*

All new housing proposals should conform to other policies of the Plan, including those that seek to protect local services (ED28) amenity (PD1) and employment or tourism uses (ED11, ED12) and promote affordable housing (HC32).

Policy PD1

Development and Design:

- **General Application**

A high standard of design will be expected in new developments, extensions or alternations to existing buildings, changes of use and in proposals affecting the landscape and environment, to ensure that the character, appearance and environmental quality of the Kennet area is maintained or enhanced and to promote safety and compatibility between adjoining lands uses.

- **Considerations**

In order to achieve high standards of design, all development proposals should adequately address the factors listed below, where they are relevant to the development under construction:-

- 1) *Sustainable design principles;*
- 2) *Scale, height, massing and density of development;*
- 3) *Relationship to townscape and landscape context and related ecology;*
- 4) *Layout, servicing and access arrangements and road safety;*
- 5) *How the development contributes to the creation of a well-used, attractive and safe public realm;*
- 6) *Landscape proposals;*
- 7) *Relationship to historic features;*
- 8) *Elevational treatment;*
- 9) *Building materials, colour and detailing; and*
- 10) *The impact on residential amenity, including that caused by reason of noise and disturbance*

Appendix 3:
Milton Lilbourne Village Design Statement Questionnaire
Overall response 38% (79 replies from 209 distributed)

How many years have you lived in the Parish of Milton Lilbourne?	0-10 yrs	10-20 yrs	More than 20 yrs
	48%	21%	31%

Which settlement within the Parish do you live?	Clench	Fyfield	Little Salisbury	Littleworth	Milkhouse Water	Milton Lilbourne	New Mill
	3	5	3	9	1	52	6

Do you want to preserve the village's appearance & conservation (i.e. through best kept village etc)?	Yes	No
	100%	0%

Is the character of the settlements within the parish in sympathy with the surrounding countryside?	Yes	No	Don't know
	95%	4%	1%

What is your view on the number of house within the parish?	About right	Increase	Decrease
	81%	19%	0%

If the housing stock with the parish were to grow, what percentage increase, would you consider acceptable?	0-5%	5-10%	Over 10%
	84%	16%	0%

If more homes were to be built what type should they be?	Yes	No
First time Buyers	89%	11%
Small cottages	91%	9%
Executive houses	23%	77%
Don't mind	52%	48%

If any new properties are built should they conform in the main to existing architectural styles?	Yes	No	Doesn't matter
	93%	0%	7%

Should there be more commerce within the parish?	Yes	No
Agriculture	72%	28%
Light Industry	29%	71%
Office space	19%	81%
Tourism	40%	60%
Shop/Post office	86%	14%

Should the infrastructure c the village be improved by the provision of extra services e.g. gas/fibre optics?	Yes	No	Don't Know
	46%	30%	24%

Does the transport system connection, from main towns need improving i.e. Rail link, coach link etc?	Yes	No	Don't Know
	39%	36%	25%

Do you think the transport infrastructure to & from th main towns is acceptable (i.e. wiggly bus)?	Yes	No	Don't know
	52%	16%	

Do the Rights of Way & footpaths within the parish give adequate access to the countryside?	Yes	No	Don't know
	82%	5%	13%

Do village direction signs need improving?	Yes	No	Don't know
	23%	70%	7%

In your area are the utilities and waste disposal facilities acceptable?	Yes	No	Don't know
	79%	20%	1%

Should more traffic calming be imposed around the village?	Yes	No	Don't know
	53%	39%	8%

Does the village hall provide a sufficient amenity to the Parish?	Yes	No	Don't know
	82%	5%	13%

Do you consider that the church is an integral part of the village?	Yes	No	Don't know
	80%	7%	13%

Are there any recreational facilities which you would like included? - Please specify	No comments	Comments rec'd
	57%	43%