

Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan 2022 - 2035



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Water Orton Parish Council

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(This does not form part of the Development plan)

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Section 1 – Executive summary

The Localism Act 2011 empowers local authorities to develop Neighbourhood Plans. In August 2019 Water Orton community set off on a journey to produce a Neighbourhood Plan which adheres to the 2012 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) defining the planning policies for Neighbourhood Plans to follow.

The National Planning Policy Framework provides three overarching objectives. The Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan takes from this framework key phrases and words as inputs to the development of the plan:

Social

To support strong, vibrant and **healthy** communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of **homes** can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and **safe** built environment, with accessible services and **open spaces** that reflect current and future needs and support communities' **health, social and cultural well-being**.

Environmental

To contribute to protecting and enhancing our **natural, built and historic environment**; including making effective use of land, helping to **improve biodiversity**, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and **pollution**, and mitigating and adapting to **climate change**, including moving to a **low carbon economy**.

Economic

To help build a strong, responsive and **competitive economy**, by ensuring that enough land of the right type is available in the **right places** and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the **provision of infrastructure**.



Section 1 – Executive summary

A Water Orton residents' meeting was held on the 28th January 2020 to discuss a Neighbourhood Plan. This resulted in significant risks, concerns and aspirations being expressed regarding:

- **Security**
- **Traffic and air pollution**
- **HS2**
- **Increase of traffic**

These concerns and aspirations were reflected further by the Governance Group and used as the basis for the Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan through the following sections:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Housing
- Recreation and Leisure
- Green Spaces and Community Areas
- Commercial
- Character, Heritage and Culture
- Transport
- Security and Safety

The Governance Group developed 38 objectives covering each of these sections above. The main body of the Neighbourhood plan considers each section independently and provides the supporting data for every policy listed.

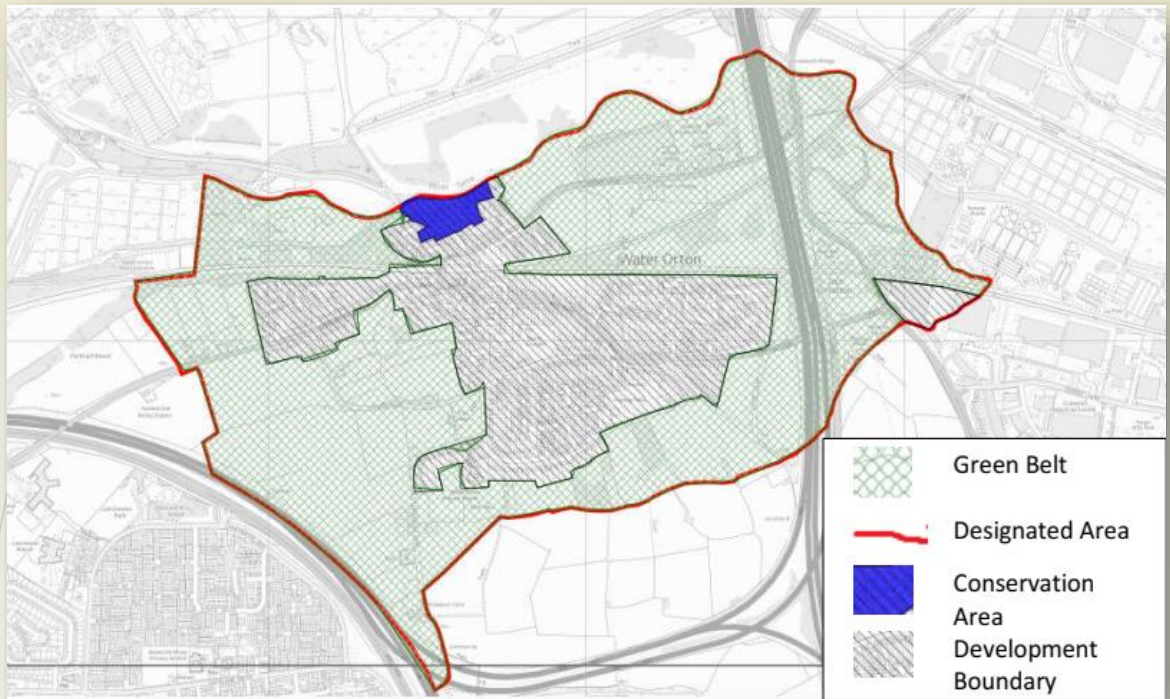
The external examination report was issued on 13 September 2021. One of the major recommendations from this report was that the objectives and policies were split into Land use and Local issues. This recommendation has been followed in full, local issues are detailed in the addendum of this report.

This document is to be reviewed and amended as appropriate at the annual Parish Assembly.



Section 2 - Introduction to the Plan

Water Orton Parish boundary



Ordnance survey licence number : 100062682

Note: The Conservation Area is shown in the character, heritage and culture section and is located on the Northern boundary of the Water Orton Parish Boundary.

Why does Water Orton need a Neighbourhood Plan?

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Water Orton recognised that it needed a Neighbourhood Plan in 2019, to allow a degree of planning to take place at a micro level. The plan attempts to manage the way social and economic factors complement one another in the local community and households; and considers the impact on the environment through loss of green spaces, pollution, natural 'disasters', energy production and use.

Water Orton is a village near the River Tame in the North Warwickshire borough of Warwickshire, England. It is located between Castle Bromwich and Coleshill and borders the West Midlands metropolitan county boundary to the North, West and South.

The development of this Neighbourhood Plan demonstrates aptly the way the Parish Council operates. The council listened to residents who expressed that there seemed little local control about the developments in Water Orton. The council then championed the development of a Neighbourhood Plan but delegated the drafting of the plan to the residents themselves. The Parish Council takes this plan as both a mandate and a 'to-do' list, delivering on wishes of Water Orton residents.

Section 2 - Introduction to the Plan

The history and geography of Water Orton

The oldest part of Water Orton is centred around Old Church Road. This is within a conservation area and contains buildings from the 14th and 17th centuries. This is also the area that may account for the Water Orton place name since it is on a high ridge of land overlooking the valley of the River Tame.

A Chapel of Ease was erected here in the 14th century to save the villagers walking through the often-flooded Tame Valley to the Parish Church at Aston. All that survives of the Chapel is the listed remains of a Medieval Cross with the graves in the churchyard. The chapel was replaced by the present Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, built in 1879. It had a fine spire, which unfortunately had to be dismantled in the 1980s because of atmospheric pollution.

Until the 1840s Water Orton was mainly an agricultural village, but this changed with the coming of the railways. The first was from Birmingham to Derby via Water Orton, Coleshill, Whitacre Heath and Tamworth. Later a junction was constructed, and another line was built via Kingsbury to Tamworth. The lines pass through the centre of the village. The present railway station dates from 1908 and is the second station. There were extensive sidings and much commercial traffic here, especially during and after the Second World War, until the railway review in the 1960s. An effect of the railway was to increase house building in the village. Commuters could now make the journey to Birmingham's Lawley Street and Curzon Street (later New Street) railway stations in a shorter time than by road. This made the village an ideal residential area for Birmingham professionals who wanted to get away from the city and live in the country. The railway also brought the meat industry here. There were large stock yards near the sidings and next to the Dog Inn Public House in Marsh Lane. Cattle were offloaded from rail wagons into pens, and then driven over two miles towards the butchers' slaughterhouses in Castle Bromwich, when meat was provided for nearby villages.

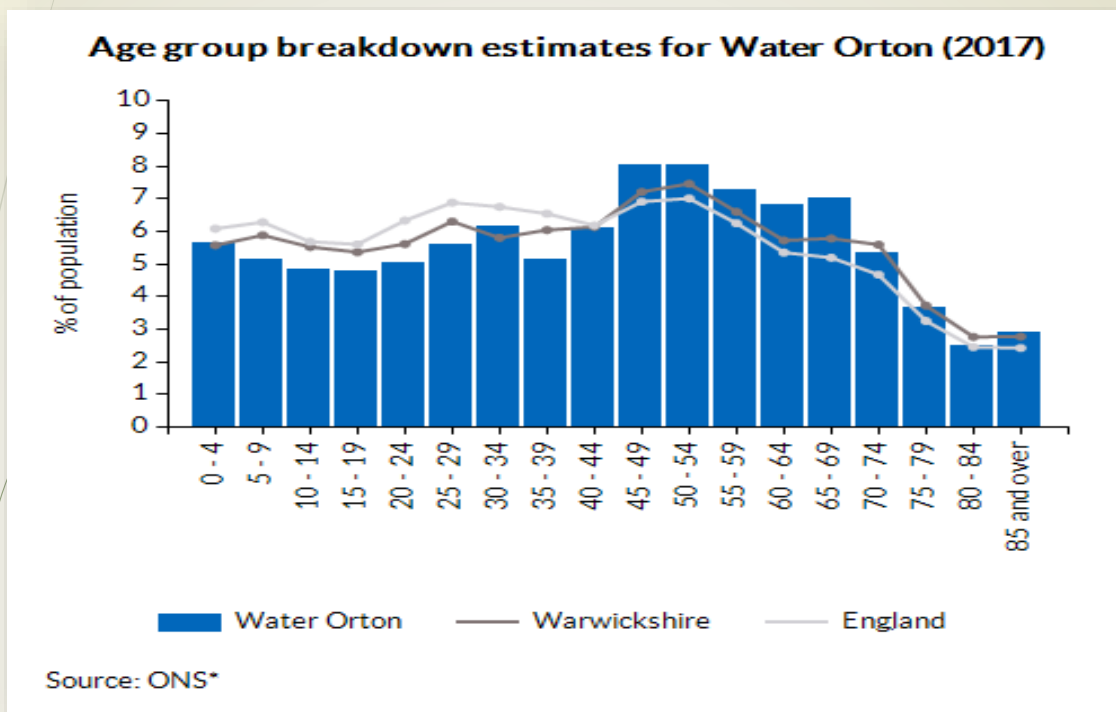
Vesey Bridge



Section 2 - Introduction to the Plan

Statistics – Population and age within the village

According to the Warwickshire County Council 'Warwickshire Insights 2020' report, Water Orton, North Warwickshire has a population of 3,400 of which 1,728 (50.8%) are female and 1,672 (49.2%) are male. The age range is widespread with the percentage of 45-69-year olds being higher than the Warwickshire and England levels. The ethnic make-up of the village is 98% White British, Irish or Other with the remaining 2% being Indian and Asian.



How things are changing

Natural/environmental disasters of international scale are becoming more commonplace as the climate is changing; yet it is at the local level that Water Orton residents are concerned. In 2019 elderly residents were trapped in their homes due to heavy snowfall and 2020 saw whole roads of houses blocked due to excessive flooding. There is a real concern that any additional loss of green spaces around Water Orton will lead to further flooding.

Loss of green spaces in Water Orton may also result in habitat loss for animals, home loss for humans, and complete destruction of commercial enterprises. This can affect local economies just as any other natural disasters because the entire flow of communities becomes disrupted.

Another socio-economic factor is the change in the household family. The nuclear family consists traditionally of two parents and their children living under the same roof. With the shift in the amount of people under one roof, there has been an increase in direct energy consumption. There is a shift towards single person households as our society evolves. Fewer people per household means more homes are required, entailing the need for more energy for heating, lighting and electrical appliances. More homes being required also means more geographical land space being taken up by people, potentially leading to further urbanisation of rural communities.

Section 2 - Introduction to the Plan

Threats and Significant Changes

At an early village residents' meeting to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan, several significant risks (or threats) were made clear:

- Security

Water Orton has a Safer Neighbourhoods Team made up of officers and PCSOs based in Coleshill.

Whilst there are pressures from cross police border activities, official crime statistics for Water Orton are quite low. Despite this, residents of Water Orton have a higher perception of crime than the official figures display. One of the challenges for this plan is to articulate the perception of crime and propose potential measures to improve this position.

- Traffic

Nationally, the rate of traffic growth slowed over the last two decades, and levels fell for three consecutive years after the 2008/09 economic downturn. At the individual level, car use fell in the 2000s, although this was partially offset by increases in population and households. Recent trends show a resumption of traffic growth as GDP recovers, and provisional statistics suggest that car traffic has returned to pre-recession levels. Traffic on the Strategic Road Network has had the largest growth, and van traffic on all roads has also grown strongly. Water Orton is surrounded by motorways and it, therefore feels the impact of this growth directly.

- Air Pollution

All motor vehicles produce air pollution; but the levels of emissions from HGVs are considerably higher than anything else on the road. Total fuel used for road transport in the UK remained relatively stable from 1990 to 2017 as the fuel efficiency of newer vehicles has improved; whilst petrol use declined over this period, diesel use has increased.

The pollution from the rail traffic, which (local to Water Orton) is all Diesel powered, this traffic passes through the centre of the village. Water Orton also finds itself located close to the flight pathway for Birmingham International Airport.

- Increase of traffic

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from road transport in the UK have increased pro rata more slowly than the comparative increase in road traffic (increasing by 6% from 1990 to 2017). Green House Gas is only one factor relating to air quality, others include Sulphur Oxides (SO_x), Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x), Particulate Matter (PM). Although the absolute figures may vary, it is inconceivable to suggest that these constituents have not increased.

With the construction of HS2, an increase in the number of HGVs in and around Water Orton is forecast. Residents are concerned that this increase in traffic will result in increased air pollution, vibration damage to buildings and a consequential increase in health problems.

Section 2 - Introduction to the Plan

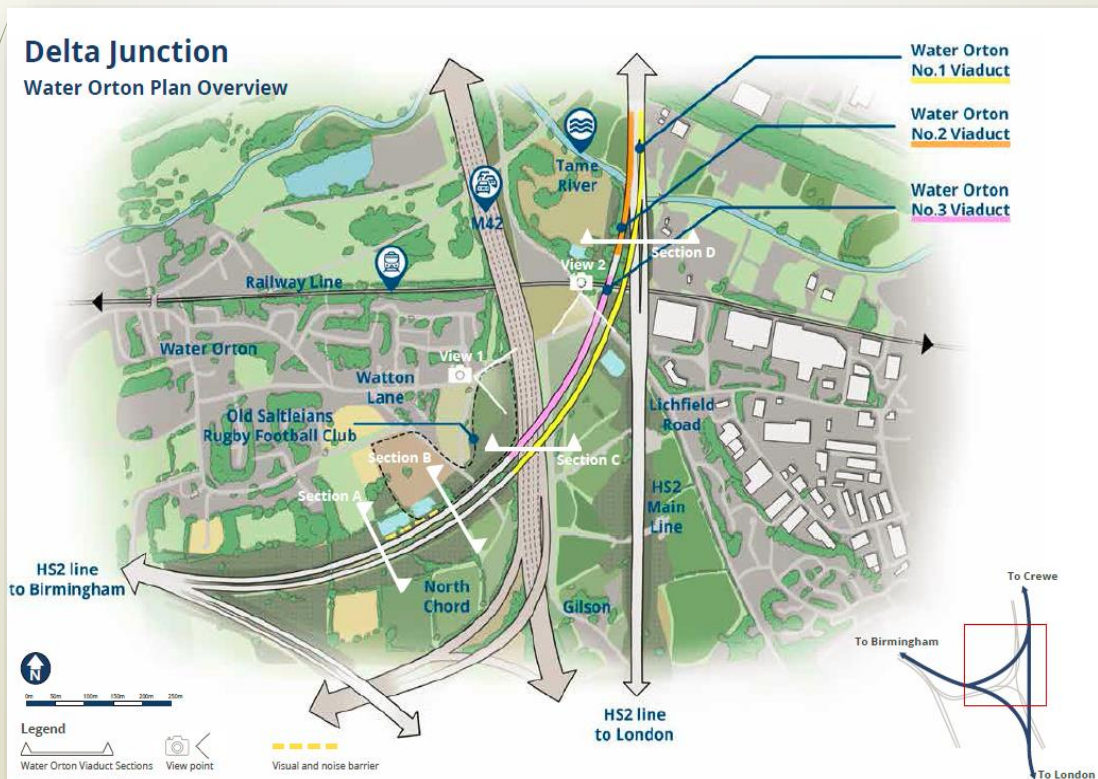
- HS2

High Speed Two (HS2) is the Government's most ambitious proposal for a new, high speed North-South railway. Phase One of HS2 between London, Birmingham and the West Midlands sees the line intersecting the Water Orton parish boundary.

Between Coleshill and Water Orton where the River Tame meanders, there is currently a junction of the M6 and the M42. This is the site of the planned triangular junction of the proposed HS2.

This junction is important because, even in phase 1 of the project, there will be through trains between London Euston and the North. So, the easterly side of this junction would be used for trains between London Euston and the North; the South-Westerly side of the junction would be used for trains between London Euston and Birmingham Curzon Street; and the North-Westerly side of the junction would be used for trains between Birmingham Curzon Street and the North.

The construction work for HS2 around Water Orton is planned to be completed by the end of 2031 (HS2 Published date) and during this time, there will be considerable disruption to the road network within and around Water Orton. Although this Neighbourhood Plan does not specifically discuss the impact of HS2, it does describe transport and traffic issues and seeks to manage traffic flow through Water Orton (irrespective of the impact of HS2).



These anecdotal issues sum up the reasons for producing the Neighbourhood Plan and reflect some of the considerations and pressures that residents felt were significant at the Neighbourhood Plan launch meeting.

Many of these issues, although valid, do not have a 'land use' aspect and therefore fall outside the scope of the formal neighbourhood planning guidelines. Where this is the case, the issue has been addressed within the addendum to this plan.

Section 2 - Introduction to the Plan

The vision for Water Orton is the preservation and, where appropriate, development of the village to ensure that Water Orton is still recognisable as a stand-alone village that caters for local needs.

The Neighbourhood Plan Structure

The Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan has the following sections in the main body and an addendum that details more local issues.

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction to the plan
3. Land / Development Use
 - a) Health and Wellbeing
 - b) Housing
 - c) Recreation and Leisure
 - d) Green Spaces and Community Areas
 - e) Commercial
 - f) Character, Heritage and Culture
 - g) Transport
4. Appendix
5. Addendum – Local Water Orton Community Plan
 - a) Health and Wellbeing
 - b) Housing
 - c) Recreation and Leisure
 - d) Green Spaces and Community Areas
 - e) Commercial
 - f) Character, Heritage and Culture
 - g) Transport
 - h) Security and Safety

There should be no perceived priority of one subject area over another by its position in the plan, except to say that the plan has been developed with an overarching focus on the health and wellbeing of Water Orton residents.

Each subject follows a similar layout:

Background

To set the section into context and ensure that each section can be considered on its own merit.

Objectives

A definition of what is intended to be the result of any intervention.

Supporting Data

The data to justify the policies.

Policies

A list of interventions designed to meet the objectives.

The next section details the objectives and policies as reviewed and adjudicated by the external examiner as 'land use'.



Section 3a – Health and Wellbeing

Background

The health and wellbeing of Water Orton residents is placed at the heart of this plan. The adoption of this Neighbourhood Plan will have an important role in promoting the health and wellbeing of Water Orton residents. Several of the other important themes of the plan will be developed through the central theme of health and wellbeing. It will promote and build on the village heritage, facilitate people living in an environment which promotes physical activity and opportunities for peaceful reflection, the enjoyment of open spaces, opportunities for socialising and the promotion of a sense of belonging. It will also promote a choice of high quality and attractive places to live and enable residents to reach the services they need and for the services they need to reach them.

The Village Green play area



Section 3a – Health and Wellbeing

Objectives

HWO 01 - Health and Wellbeing Objective 01

To provide high quality, flexible, sustainable and accessible homes, facilities and green spaces which promote health and wellbeing. This meets the physical, mental, spiritual and social needs of the village population.



Section 3a – Health and Wellbeing

Supporting Data

Poor health impacts on families and workplaces creates increased pressure on Health and Social Services. The UK Green Building Council (Health and Wellbeing in Homes July 2016) defines a 'healthy neighbourhood'. This Neighbourhood Plan has taken a similar broad approach.

The 'Centre for Ageing Better' is campaigning for all new homes to meet basic accessibility standards. As the number of people aged 50 and over increases, so too does the proportion of the population with disability, accessibility and mobility requirements. One in five people aged 65-69 have difficulty with five or more daily activities like washing, dressing or eating.

For housing to serve the growing number of people in later life, it needs to be accessible. It also needs to support good physical and mental health that helps us to stay connected.

In February 2018, the World Health Organisation stated that insufficient physical activity is one of the leading risk factors for death, cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes. Globally, 25% of adults are not active enough. Physical activity, including specific exercise, activities whilst working, playing, carrying out household chores, travelling and engaging in recreational pursuits, has a health benefit. Several environmental factors which are linked to urbanisation can discourage people from becoming more active, such as:

- fear of violence and crime in outdoor areas
- high-density traffic
- low air quality, pollution
- lack of parks, footpaths and sports/recreation facilities



Section 3a – Health and Wellbeing

Supporting Data

Statistics – Health and activities

The 2011 census indicates that:

- 1.1% of the village population think they are in very poor health.
- 47.3% think they are in very good health.
- 7.6% feel that their day-to-day activities are significantly limited.

In North Warwickshire,

- 24.4% of adults are physically inactive.
- 27.2% of reception age children are obese.
- 25% of adults may have a mental health problem within any given year.

Health and Wellbeing within the Village

It is recognised that health and wellbeing is generally an individual's responsibility and lifestyle has a significant impact on this. There are currently 'pay-as-you-go' sporting/keep fit and social activities in Water Orton that are well established; also, several sports clubs, at a variety of locations. These include a diverse cross section of the community.

Water Orton residents wish to develop and maintain a variety of accessible and affordable activities and facilities to promote physical and mental health and wellbeing as individuals or with friends/family. The fact that currently Water Orton based sports clubs have a total membership of approximately 1000 gives testament to this wish. It is envisaged that the development of activities and facilities will be integrated with other village infrastructure/established open areas. Increasing the village cohesion will reduce the need to travel out of the village and so improve the access for many of the village population.



Section 3a – Health and Wellbeing

Supporting Data

Health Facilities

A national review identified problems associated with patient access to health services in rural areas. Water Orton currently has one GP practice, two dental practices, NHS Community Health services and Physiotherapy clinic and a private Podiatry service. Residents of Water Orton are also registered with other local GP practices. Water Orton residents typically access hospital services at George Eliot, Good Hope, Heartlands with mental health services provided at The Caludon Centre, Coventry.

The main reasons people struggle to access health services are:

1. Availability and physical accessibility of transport
2. Cost of transport
3. Inaccessible location of health services
4. Delivered at times which reduce opportunities for patients to attend
5. Safety and security
6. There are limited available appointments to see a GP at the moment

Improved access to Primary care and Secondary care health services should be supported by future developments in village infrastructure which take into consideration health activity levels, GP and community health facility needs and increase in population size.

The North Warwickshire Borough Council Local Development Framework 2016 Health Section indicates a target of 1800 people per GP, clearly any significant increase in population of Water Orton will need to be matched with increased GP availability (this figure can differ depending on the mix of other staff in a surgery).



Section 3a - Health and wellbeing

Policies

HWP 01 - Health and Wellbeing Policy 01

The Parish Council will encourage the provision of walking and cycling routes in existing and new developments, with good signage, lighting, surfacing and cycle parking. These routes should be maintained to a high quality and safe standard.

HWP 02 - Health and Wellbeing Policy 02

To increase accessibility to services and facilities, for all sections of the community, new developments should make provision for ease of access to sustainable and reliable public transport.



Section 3b - Housing

Background

Water Orton is identified within the NWBC adopted Local Plan as a category 3B Local Service Centre.

This plan recognises the NWBC Local Plan LP37 and LP9 as pertaining to the 'old school site' and supports NWBC Policy LP9, "schemes for more than 15 dwellings will be required to provide 30% affordable housing, and schemes of between 1 and 14 the provision of 20% affordable housing, in a targeted tenure mix of 85% affordable rent, and 15% suitable intermediate tenure."

This plan acknowledges that LP9 sets a precedent for other developments that may be proposed for Water Orton.

Note, 3B Local Service Centre: Within the development boundary, development will be permitted that is appropriate to its place in the settlement hierarchy.

Property Prices

The median price paid for a property in the village being £220,000 (VOA 2018). The 2011 census indicates 2.4% of households as overcrowded. A significant proportion of new homes should be designed to enable accessibility and adaptability promoting lifetime Neighbourhoods.

As a result of high property prices and expanses of Green Space and open Green Network both inside and particularly to the edges of the Village, Water Orton has become an attractive place for developers to show interest in prospective housing developments. Sites within the boundary of the Village have become available for development, for example, the former Water Orton School site on Attleboro Lane.

Property types

The residents of Water Orton wish to see a mix of differing tenures such as bungalows and affordable houses, built for younger families or older residents. This would enable the provision of affordable and appropriate housing for young families, together with the opportunity for elderly residents wishing to downsize/the younger generation wishing to remain within the Village. This would potentially release larger underused accommodation for growing families to occupy. Information on housing and households allows us to identify areas where people may be at risk of social exclusion, due to the type and condition of their housing or their household structure.

Energy efficiencies

The cost of maintaining a house is a concern to Water Orton residents. Poor thermal efficiency of housing stock increases the energy cost of a household in both financial and environmental considerations. Water Orton residents believe that any future housing should be built to the 'Future Homes Standard' as a significant step towards the 2025 carbon reduction targets for new homes.

Housing types

There should be a balanced mix of housing tenure and types available, allowing for people with a diverse range of needs and requirements to be accommodated, in order to allow people to reside within the village. These may include people with disabilities, special needs, the frail and less mobile, people with mental health problems and young people.

Section 3b - Housing

Objectives

HO 01 - Housing Objective 01

The provision of the right mix of housing, in terms of size, tenure, design, and affordability to meet the needs of all sections of the community.

HO 02 - Housing Objective 02

Meet identified local needs for housing for all demographics within the community, including specialised housing for those with disabilities.

HO 03 - Housing Objective 03

Encouraging in the first instance, the use of brownfield previously developed sites within the village boundary and new developments whether greenfield or brownfield should consider their flood risk and sustainable drainage systems.

HO 04 - Housing Objective 04

Ensure that all new development is sustainable and of high-quality design which contributes positively to a strong sense of place and environmental sustainability. New housing development will be expected to complement the character, built form and environment to which it is located, in order to create high quality living environments and protect, conserve and enhance any heritage assets and their settings.



Section 3b - Housing

Supporting Data

There continues to be challenges around the lack of provision of affordable housing within the village. It is an on-going situation, in which Local Authority housing stocks are considered low. Data is continually changing. In March 2020 North Warwickshire Borough Council housing needs list included a requirement for accommodation within Water Orton, in the following tenures/mix:

- 13 x flats
- 35 x bungalows
- 29 x 2-bedroom houses
- 11 x 3-bedroom houses
- 2 x 4-bedroom houses

A housing needs survey has been undertaken in support and the development of this Neighbourhood Plan. The survey was commissioned in April 2020 and closed on 8th August 2020. The survey was widely circulated to residents of Water Orton by both electronic and 'paper' means. More than 200 residents responded, and the results are used to develop policies within this Neighbourhood Plan.

Summary of the Housing Needs Survey

The survey represented the population of Water Orton well and it reveals that there is a significant wish for existing residents to move from their current property, if the appropriate type of property is made available within Water Orton. There are two significant findings: there is a need for bungalows or similar 'small properties' to free up larger houses and there is a need for 'bonded homes' for children of current Water Orton residents.

Housing affordability

Help to buy housing within the village is limited to those who can afford it. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks the provision of a required level of affordable housing, which is 'ring fenced' for 'children of the village'. There is considerable issue with the private rented sector rent now being outside of the local housing allowance level, making renting in Water Orton unaffordable for many. However, the desire towards the provision of the required level of affordable housing should be seen positively.

Concerns are highlighted regarding the lack of suitable, adapted housing within the village and the availability of social housing to suit, particularly, the needs of the elderly. Water Orton has a significant elderly population that is mainly concentrated to the housing estate located to the east of the village to the North of Watton Lane. These properties are late 1950's development, and typically have an energy rating of 'D' and 'E'. It is recognised by North Warwickshire Borough Council that fuel poverty is a big issue within parts of the borough; Water Orton would seek to accelerate this work by placing high energy efficiency standards onto any new builds within the Water Orton Development Boundary.

Electric Vehicle charging points

The UK government's ambition is for 50-70 per cent of new car sales to be ultra-low emission by 2030 and for all new cars and vans to be effectively zero emission by 2040. The "Road to Zero strategy" announced that it wants every new home to have a charge point, where appropriate, to help future proof homes for the transition to electric vehicles. This Neighbourhood Plan supports the initiative to install rapid charging points for electric vehicles for every new build property.

Section 3b - Housing

Policies

HP 01 - Housing Policy 01

All new build properties shall comply with the requirements of 'Secured by Design'.

HP 02 - Housing Policy 02

Planning applications for housing developments shall be supported which:

1. Provide a range of property sizes suitable to meet local housing needs.
2. Provide open market houses across the full range of dwelling sizes on developments comprising a mix of open market and affordable housing.
3. The provision of dwellings that are both accessible and allow for adaption to accessible accommodation for disabled/impaired and less able-bodied occupiers, that are constructed to Part M4 Category 2 of the Building Regulations (2010) standards (Accessible and Adaptable dwellings) and Category 3 (wheelchair user dwellings) or their successors including in the affordable housing provided where appropriate.
4. Meet the local needs for sheltered, supported and/or extra care housing (including in the affordable housing provided where appropriate).
5. Adhere to the principles of 'Secure by Design'
6. Adhere to annex A and B of the current Parking Standards in the UK planning portal (including provision for electric vehicles).

HP 03 - Housing Policy 03

The Parish Council supports small-scale residential development and at least 20% of the dwellings should be bungalows.

HP 04 - Housing Policy 04

Development of affordable housing suitable for "first time buyers" shall be offered first to those who have significant existing link to Water Orton.

HP 05 - Housing Policy 05

New housing development should be constructed and designed to ensure maximum energy efficiency, use sustainable appropriate locally sourced materials, minimise waste, maximise recycling during construction. Be flexible and adaptable to future occupiers' requirements and incorporate measures to enhance and protect biodiversity.

HP 06 - Housing Policy 06

New housing shall be sustainable, providing a choice of housing sizes, types and tenures catering for all incomes and ages; be located with access to facilities including shops, schools and leisure; be environmentally sustainable; attractive and safe; and "enhance" the strong sense of place currently experienced within the village.

Section 3b - Housing

Policies

HP 07 - Housing Policy 07

Self-Build housing shall be encouraged which contributes to the sense of place within Water Orton village, which enhances, complements and maintains the character and visual aesthetics of the village, whether through existing built form or through the development of modern structures.

HP 08 - Housing Policy 08

New housing developments should be constructed and designed to ensure maximum water use efficiency. Plans will be supported that propose a water efficiency target of 110 litres per person per day as described within part G of the building regulations.

HP 09 - Housing Policy 09

All applications for new development shall demonstrate that all surface water discharges have been carried out in accordance with the principles within the drainage hierarchy and that an appropriate assessment has been undertaken of flood risk. Discharge to the public sewerage systems are avoided wherever possible. All major developments shall ensure that Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for the management of surface water run-off are put in place unless demonstrated to be inappropriate.



Section 3c - Recreation and Leisure

Background

This Neighbourhood Plan seeks to recognise both organised and unorganised activities and to provide facilities for both as appropriate.

Water Orton has a wealth of organised sporting and recreational facilities.

Organised sport	Recreation
Rugby Cricket Football Tennis Crown Green Bowls	The Pavilion The Link The Methodist Hall The Library The Community Centre The Scout Hut The Digby Hotel The Dog Inn Public House



Section 3c - Recreation and Leisure

Objectives

RLO 01 - Recreation and Leisure Objective 01

Develop the infrastructure for informal exercise such as cycle and fitness routes.



Section 3c - Recreation and Leisure

Supporting Data

The benefits of being active – Sport England

There are five fundamental reasons for recreation and leisure activities:

1. Physical wellbeing
2. Economic development
3. Mental wellbeing
4. Individual development
5. Social and community development

Being active is not just good for you physically; it has the power to do so much more. For example, it can help prevent or manage medical conditions, reduce anxiety or stress, improve a person's confidence or self-esteem, or bring people from diverse backgrounds together.

Vision

Water Orton residents support the North Warwickshire Borough Council vision for future provision of sport and leisure in North Warwickshire:

"Sustainable, high quality, well-located, accessible sport and leisure facilities – informal and formal places and spaces - to enable increased participation in sport and physical activity, to contribute to improved community health and wellbeing outcomes across the Borough".

Cycle Routes

A viable cycle route or track to join the existing North Warwickshire cycle route requires access from within Water Orton directly without needing to use any other means of transportation. The logical proposal is to integrate with North Warwickshire's 31-mile cycle red route.

The Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan aims to define and mark a safe cycle route through Water Orton village enabling a connection from the existing Park Hall School cycle path, Solihull, via Water Orton village car park close to the railway station, to a crossing at the A446 to the existing industrial estate cycle path, which continues to Coleshill Parkway Railway Station and beyond to join the North Warwickshire's Cycle Red Route at Station Road, Whitacre Heath. This would serve the public in safe cycling for school and work transport needs and leisure cycling.

The Parish Council wish to work with NWBC to carry out a survey of routes to be made whereby the footpath could be narrowed or verges could be utilised.

Care should be taken to ensure that any developed cycle route does not have hazardous features such as road edge 'well' drainage. To avoid this hazard, that causes cyclists to swerve into the road centre in avoidance, kerb perforated drains should replace the standard 'well' drains. This prevents dangerous roads, which promotes cycling, and saves money on regular maintenance due to 'well' drain tarmac surrounds requiring regular repairs.



Dangerous and costly "well" drains



Kerb perforation drains



combination 'well' and kerb drain, set into concrete roadside edging

Section 3c - Recreation and Leisure

Supporting Data

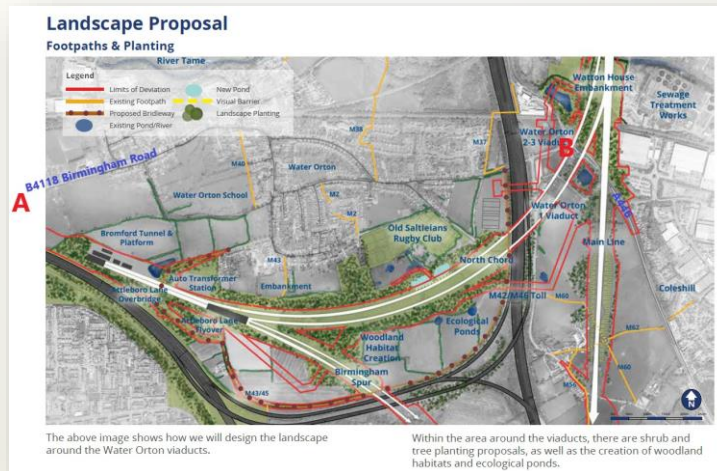
HS2 Options

Possible leisure options lie in the development of HS2 whereby land previously agricultural is now planned to be residual in small parcels from East to West across the South of Water Orton village. There are opportunities to create leisure walks and cycle ways linking these parcels of land. Connectivity is viable from **A** the West of the village, from Birmingham Road B4118 (either at Plank Lane or by utilising the Bromford Tunnel haul road from Attleboro Lane to the M6 bridge) to **B** the East at the A446 traffic lights on Watton Lane linking cycle lanes as proposed above in the section titled Cycle Routes.

This leisure route has a HS2 proposed Bridleway to follow from Attleboro Lane, to be created adjacent to the existing M6 and M42 North slip road, passing over the Attleboro Lane Overbridge and under the Birmingham Spur to Watton Lane.

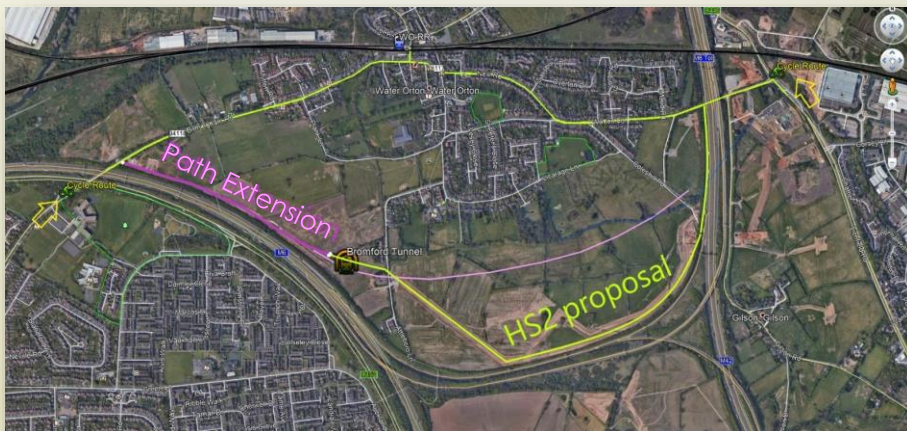
A partially constructed trail will present itself for development into such paths as indicated in the 'HS2 Landscape Proposal' below.

HS2 Landscape Proposal



HS2 constructed haul roads serving their construction provide an unmissable opportunity to create a healthy legacy for the village and its neighbours.

The map below shows a potential safe cycling and walking route through Water Orton.



Section 3c - Recreation and Leisure

Policies

RLP 01 - Recreation and Leisure Policy 01

The Parish, Borough and County Councils shall work in partnership to enable and maintain a "safe cycling and walking" route through Water Orton. This route (or routes) should link existing cycle and walking routes and should link to the "heart of the village".



Section 3d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Background

Green spaces and community areas are vital to us all and provide the backbone to our village.

We are surrounded to the South, West and East by motorways and soon to be HS2 Rail link but Water Orton still manages to retain a rural atmosphere and ambience.

We now reside in a highly desirable area which people will strive to develop and deprive us of green spaces.

Our aim is to capture, improve and protect this 'special' community and to enhance and project it into the future for all our descendants.

Good quality accessible landscapes, including urban spaces as well as the wider countryside, have huge potential to improve our health and wellbeing, often offering a more cost-effective solution than clinical interventions. Green infrastructure is the network of natural features, green spaces, rivers and lakes which run through, and connect, our towns, villages and countryside.

Regular green space visits are associated with increased physical activity, a lower probability of being overweight or obese and an improvement in mental wellbeing when compared to exercising indoors.



Section 3d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Background

Drainage systems

Proper utilization of green infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) can reduce the impacts caused by flooding and create and sustain a better environment for nature. The primary benefits of SuDS to flood management are rainfall interception, increased soil infiltration, water uptake, water storage and the delay of peak flows, all of which reduce the quantity of water requiring management.

It should be recognised that the geography of Water Orton, within the Tame Valley, makes the likelihood of flooding to be high in some areas and thus the introduction of dedicated green and/or wetland is a considerable factor when developing local plans.

Water and Flood Risks

In addition, open spaces and green infrastructure can make a valuable contribution to managing surface water run-off. Open spaces and green infrastructure can form part of critical flood risk management systems by providing space for managed flooding, protecting built up areas. Urbanisation has significant effects on rainwater interception, storage and infiltration processes. Alteration of these hydrological processes can lead to increased surface runoff and greater vulnerability to flooding, with its associated physical and psychological effects. Water Orton experienced devastating flooding in 2020.



Section 3d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Objectives

GSO 01 - Green Spaces and Community Areas Objective 01

Maximise, procure, protect and enhance the green spaces and community areas available.

GSO 02 - Green Spaces and Community Areas Objective 02

Define and develop wetland / wilderness areas.

GSO 03 - Green Spaces and Community Areas Objective 03

Ensure provision of public green and open spaces in new developments.

GSO 04 - Green Spaces and Community Areas Objective 04

Meet the recommended standards for green spaces from Fields in Trust, Natural England and Woodland Trust.



Section 3d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Supporting Data

This infrastructure provides a wide range of benefits to our health and wellbeing to include:

- help to reduce air, water and noise pollution
- lower urban temperatures and manage flood risk
- increase opportunities for recreation and physical activity
- provide spaces for education and play for all abilities and needs
- increase social interaction for all ages
- deliver economic benefits, lowering deprivation and sickness rates
- create locally distinctive places and habitats that are restorative
- promote mental wellbeing
- provide opportunity for local food production

Allotments bring several benefits to both individuals and the wider community and over 70% of residents believe that spending time in their gardens is important for their quality of life. Many people, however, do not have the space, opportunity or knowledge to be able to grow their own fruit and vegetables. There are a limited number of allotments in Vicarage Lane as well as a small herb garden at the Library.

Consideration could be given to obtaining further space for additional allotments to suit future demands.

The Parish Council endorses the following policies:

Fields in Trust (PAD (2008)):

- Six acres (2.4 ha) of recreational space is required for every 1000 people.

Natural England (ANGSt (2010)):

- at least 2-ha in size, no more than 300m (5 mins walk) from home
- at least one accessible 20-ha site within two kilometres of home
- one accessible 100-hectare site within five kilometres of home
- one accessible 500-hectare site within ten kilometres of home
- Min. of one ha. of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.

Woodland Trust (Woodland Access Standard (2010)):

- No person should live more than 500m from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2ha in size.
- There should also be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20ha within 4km (8km round trip) of people's homes.

Section 3d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Supporting Data

Newt Habitat Walk

HS2 carried out a survey of newt populations in 2015 on the proposed site for the Old Saltleians Rugby Club. Several species were identified, and consideration was given to consolidating their existence, as required by law. Three new ponds were created within the area of wilderness adjacent to the eastern boundary of the club in which to re-house the existing newt population. It is proposed that this area be adopted into walks for leisure.



Section 3d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Policies

GSCAP 01 - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 01

When considering new development in water Orton, the Parish Council will seek the provision of accessible green space to meet the Fields in Trust recommendation of 2.4 hectares per 1000 head of population.

GSCAP 02 - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 02

The Parish Council will seek to ensure that the recommended standards as defined by Natural England and Woodland Trust are met.

GSCAP 03 - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 03

The future development of flood resilience schemes within areas of local green spaces will be supported, provided that they do not adversely affect the primary function of the green space.



Section 3e - Commercial

Background

Business in Water Orton is clustered around the industrial estate to the East of the village and a mixed retail offer around the heart of the village that is on Birmingham Road; this is a mixed residential and retail area.

Water Orton Industrial Estate has a total building floor space of 2500m² and is allocated into three units. All units are currently occupied. This area also includes a metal recycling facility.

Water Orton retail is served by:

2 x supermarkets	4 x fast food providers
1 x travel agent	1 x pharmacy
2 x ladies hairdressers/ beauty salons	2 x public houses
1 x barber	2 x dentists
1 x community farm	1 x tool-hire business
1 x carpet shop	1 x garden centre

The village also has several small home-based businesses which are either internet based or internet reliant. The rural economy and existing small businesses are a vital part of village life.

There are limited opportunities for employment in Water Orton and many villagers seek to pursue work further afield. Local or easy access to employment opportunities is important to residents. Being in good employment protects health, while unemployment contributes to poor health and is associated with increased mortality rates. Water Orton is predominantly a commuter village but has a significant internal commerce.

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The existing businesses and employment opportunities in Water Orton help the sustainability of the community as is exemplified by their support to village life such as the annual carnival.



Section 3e - Commercial

Objectives

The Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan recognises the importance of commercial infrastructure, services and facilities to the sustainability of the village and thus has the following objectives:

CO 01 – Commercial Objective 01

To encourage and support a thriving and sustainable local economy.

CO 02 – Commercial Objective 02

To support rural diversification.

CO 03 – Commercial Objective 03

To welcome and support village start-up businesses.

CO 04 – Commercial Objective 04

To define and protect commercial space.

CO 05 – Commercial Objective 05

To promote connecting communities to fast fibre broadband and 5G coverage within the Parish boundary.



Section 3e - Commercial

Supporting Data

The National Planning and Policy Framework

The National Planning and Policy Framework recommend promoting the retention and development of local services and further state the need to seek and address barriers to investment such as inadequate infrastructure and services. Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan takes this objective as a tenet that runs through the commercial section.

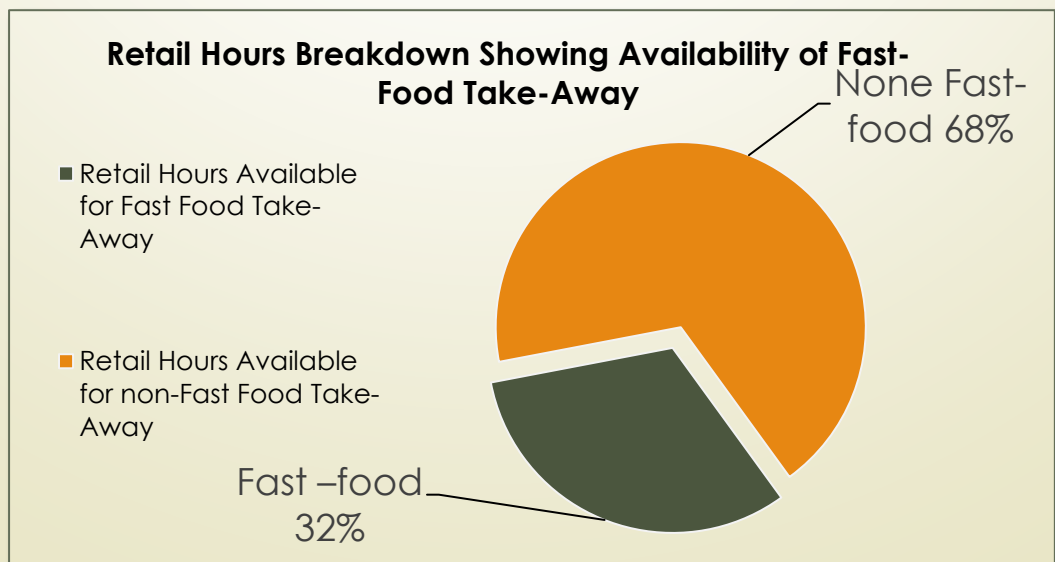
The National Planning and Policy Framework and the North Warwickshire Local Plan both draw attention to any future sites to meet local business needs, being sensitive to prospective or in-situ surroundings, so not to have an unacceptable impact on local roads and at the same time exploiting any opportunity to make a new business site more sustainable.

The North Warwickshire Local Plan also plans to improve infrastructure to support economic development and to facilitate regeneration initiatives that capture local economic benefit. It plans to support investment, maintain and extend services, directly benefitting rural needs. Water Orton community wishes to be an active contributor to delivering this objective.

Fast Food

This Neighbourhood Plan recognises that there may currently be a conflict between the existing retail offering and the objectives of the residents' health and well-being. The retail mix is skewed by disproportionately high provision of fast food to the residents. The chart below demonstrates the total number of hours that retail stores are open and offering 'fast food'.

This Neighbourhood Plan seeks to redress the balance and would support more healthy food offerings or premises where seated food outlets dominated.



Section 3e - Commercial

Supporting Data

Broadband - The Commercial Backbone

Commercial life in Water Orton is built upon an efficient broadband system. The provision of High-Speed broadband throughout the Borough is important for the present, but essential to allow businesses to grow and develop confidently into the future and exploit opportunities. Broadband speeds are poor in Water Orton with Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL) as low as 3MB/s and even fibre as low as 30MB/s. If more 'home businesses' are to flourish in Water Orton, the community must work with broadband infrastructure providers to build a customised solution to bring fibre broadband equivalent speeds to homes and businesses. Joint funding arrangements should be investigated and examination of potential grants for such work pursued.

4G Masts and signal strength

Current mobile signal strength in Water Orton is variable. The official availability map from OfCom is shown below:



The majority of the populated area of Water Orton has a “possible chance” for an indoor coverage of the 4G network. Notwithstanding from this macroscopic view of mobile signal strength, there are specific roads and houses that have no signal at all.

As the 5G network grows, it should be recognised that there will be communities who will still be reliant on the 4G network. Water Orton is keen to trial 5G network developments in preference to short term improvements to the 4G network followed by further infrastructure work to introduce 5G technology.

Section 3e - Commercial

Policies

CP 01 – Commercial Policy 01

Existing and new businesses will be supported in Water Orton and their development and/or expansion will be encouraged where it meets local employment needs and is of appropriate scale for the village and rural area.

CP 02 – Commercial Policy 02

The Parish Council seeks to substantially maintain the existing retail floor space within the Parish Boundary. Expansion of retail space above ground level will not be supported if it results in the loss of residential premises.

CP 03 – Commercial Policy 03

The Parish Council supports the maintenance of the existing industrial floor space. Proposal for new industrial floor space should limit any adverse impact of traffic on the village and its residents.

CP 04 – Commercial Policy 04

The Parish Council shall support vital telecommunications infrastructure for new and existing business to ensure essential Broadband, superfast broadband and 5G mobile networks are available to the economy.



Section 3f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Background

Water Orton has seen many changes over the years from its early roots as 'Overton' in possibly the 11th century, not least the coming of the Railway Station and associated buildings in 1908 as well as motorways, toll roads and high-speed rail. The population has increased considerably over the last 100 years.

Although surrounded by such urban development the village still has a rural feel.

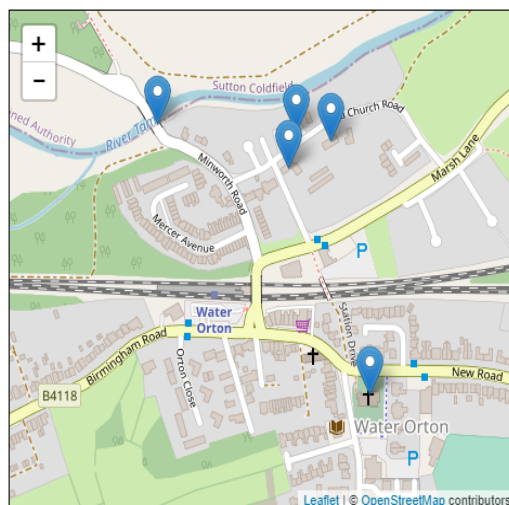
Water Orton falls within the 'Arden Regional Character Area' as defined by the Warwickshire Landscapes Guidelines in 1993 and quoted in the Water Orton Landscape Character Appraisal in 2002. As indicated in the appraisal the landscapes immediately around Water Orton fall into two subdivisions:

1. Arden Parklands (to the South of the village)
2. River Valley Wetlands (to the North of the village)

There are historical houses in the Conservation Area above the river Tame on Old Church Road, as well as an old churchyard and ancient Stone Cross. The Vesey Bridge over the river is Grade I listed and dates from 1520.

Listed Buildings in Water Orton, North Warwickshire, Warwickshire

1. **II Church of St Peter and St Paul** 
Water Orton, North Warwickshire, Warwickshire, B46
2. **II Cross at Sp 1760 9121** 
Water Orton, North Warwickshire, Warwickshire, B46
3. **II The Chestnuts** 
Water Orton, North Warwickshire, Warwickshire, B46
4. **II Wakefield House** 
Water Orton, North Warwickshire, Warwickshire, B46
5. **II Water Orton Bridge (That Part in Water Orton Civil Parish)** 
Water Orton, North Warwickshire, Warwickshire, B46



Section 3f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Background

The Village Design statement

The Village Design Statement (VDS) was completed in 2002 following consultation with Water Orton community at that time. It was formally adopted by North Warwickshire Borough Council in the form of the Supplementary Planning Guidance in February 2003. The VDS focussed significantly on the character and heritage of Water Orton. This Neighbourhood Plan seeks to adopt the ethos of the VDS and provide an enhanced level of legislative authority that is coincident with Neighbourhood Plans.

Vision for the future within the Village Design statement

The Water Orton Village Design Statement included a vision for the future of Water Orton:

1. Fringe development of Water Orton would adversely impact the remaining green belt land that buffers the village from the effects of the motorways
2. Landscape must be maintained to preserve village identity
3. Green spaces must be protected
4. Footpaths and pedestrian mobility must be maintained
5. Development or home extensions must be in keeping with surrounding character

There is a diverse range of activities within the village as referenced in other parts of this plan covering sport, art, music, and many groups (for adults and children) who meet to share common interests.



Section 3f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Objectives

CHO 01 – Character and Heritage Objective 01

Protect and improve local character and heritage.

CHO 02 – Character and Heritage Objective 02

Protect and improve conservation area.

CHO 03 – Character and Heritage Objective 03

Identify and protect non-designated buildings, both current as listed later in this section and those that may gain status in the future.

CHO 04 – Character and Heritage Objective 04

Adopt the ethos of the Village Design Statement and Supplementary Planning Guidance 2003 (SPG) providing an enhanced level of legislative authority that is coincident with Neighbourhood Plans. These form an integral part of this Neighbourhood Plan and the SPG is part of the North Warwickshire Planning Process.



Section 3f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Supporting Data

Water Orton has a rural feel with green open spaces. It is a small green oasis surrounded by urban development including motorways and railways.

The village has main thoroughfares with small cul-de-sac developments added over time. Many properties have turned over front gardens to parking spaces, several roads have on street parking.

The Water Orton Village Design Statement 2002 and the Supplementary Planning Guidance should be considered as an integral part of this plan. The VDS and SPG have been reviewed and are still considered to be relevant. The objectives and policies in this Neighbourhood Plan reflect this.

The Landscape Character Assessment of 2002 defined the character from both inside and outside the perimeters of Water Orton indicating that Water Orton falls within the 'Arden Regional Character Area' as defined by the Warwickshire Landscapes Guidelines in 1993.

The National Trust's document, the Guide to Heritage in Neighbourhood Plans 2019 refers to the policy on conserving and enhancing the historic environment particularly paragraph 190 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021. Plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats.



Section 3f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Supporting Data

Conservation Area

The area above the River Tame in Minworth Road up from the Vesey Bridge and round Old Church Road forms the conservation area as indicated on the map below. This was part of the original settlement around the old chapel in the Parish of Aston.



In November 1995, North Warwickshire Borough Council issued a report of the Conservation Areas in the Borough; see the table below to show the buildings within Water Orton appearing in the Borough Council report.

Buildings in Statutory List of Special Architectural or Historic Interest	Bishop Vesey Bridge St Peter and St Paul Church Old Stone Cross in old churchyard The Chestnuts Wakefield House
Buildings within the conservation area which merit inclusion due to architectural or historic interest	Orton Lodge, Old Church Road House opposite Wakefield House to North West
Buildings considered to be of local interest	No. 1 Old Church Road (reputed to be oldest shop in Warwickshire) Orton cottages 23 Manor House Lane

Section 3f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Supporting Data

Important buildings within the village

In addition, several Buildings, Structures and open spaces have been identified as important (non-designated) to the character and heritage of Water Orton as below:

- Railway Station Building (built 1908)
- Water Orton Primary School ('Attleboro Lane')
- War Memorial at Orton Fell (built 2018)
- Site of Chapel of Ease and old churchyard gravestones
- Water Orton Methodist Church and Community Centre
- The Link
- The Library
- The Digby Hotel
- The Dog Inn Public House
- Overton House
- Gateway entrances

Replacement of Spire on St Peter and St Paul Church

"The residents of Water Orton were sad to see the demise of the spire on St Peter and St Paul Church and wish to see this replaced and to add a bell ringing chamber and have active ringing bells".



Section 3f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Policies

CHP 01 – Character and Heritage Policy 01

New development, including alterations and extensions, shall respect and enhance the existing character, heritage and appearance or the surrounding area and take account of the advice in the Water Orton SPG. Alterations and extensions should complement features of the original building. Buildings that pre-date 1920 should be retained where possible.

CHP 02 – Character and Heritage Policy 02

The Conservation Area shall be preserved and where possible enhanced. Any development within the Conservation Area shall be in keeping with the character and appearance to maintain the area's special architectural and historic interest.

CHP 03 – Character and Heritage Policy 03

The Parish Council shall carry out a formal survey in the village to determine if there are any buildings or structures that need to be considered for listed status or that are deemed of sufficient importance to be added to any Local List. Some of these non designated heritage assets are already identified in a table in the supporting data section.



Section 3g - Transport

Background

Water Orton Development boundary has major transport intersections through it:

- to the North of the development boundary is an existing train line
- to the East the M42
- to the West the M6
- to the South is planned the Delta Junction of HS2

Within this overview, the East of the village has plans for the HS2 tunnel as the line heads towards Birmingham and to the west is the A446, a major trunk road that will take significant HS2 construction traffic. Managing heavy goods vehicles through and around Water Orton is a key consideration during the HS2 construction phase.

The road to Castle Vale, a conurbation of Birmingham, takes motor vehicles and pedestrians over Vesey Bridge. The Bridge was built in 1520 by John Vesey. The bridge is a grade II listed bridge, which is scheduled as an Ancient Monument. Modern satellite navigation systems do not show this bridge as restricted for heavy goods vehicles and there is congestion several times every week due to drivers not heeding the restriction signs and attempting to cross. There is also a weight limit on the road bridge over the railway line by Water Orton station.

Water Orton grew around the railways; Water Orton Railway Station was first opened in 1842 by the Birmingham and Derby Junction Railway on its line into Birmingham Lawley Street from Whitacre Junction and the population has grown steadily since this time. Sadly, in recent years, the rail services have reduced to Water Orton despite passenger numbers increasing.

Geographically, Water Orton is heavily surrounded by the national transport network but suffers from a lack of access to it.



Section 3g - Transport

Background

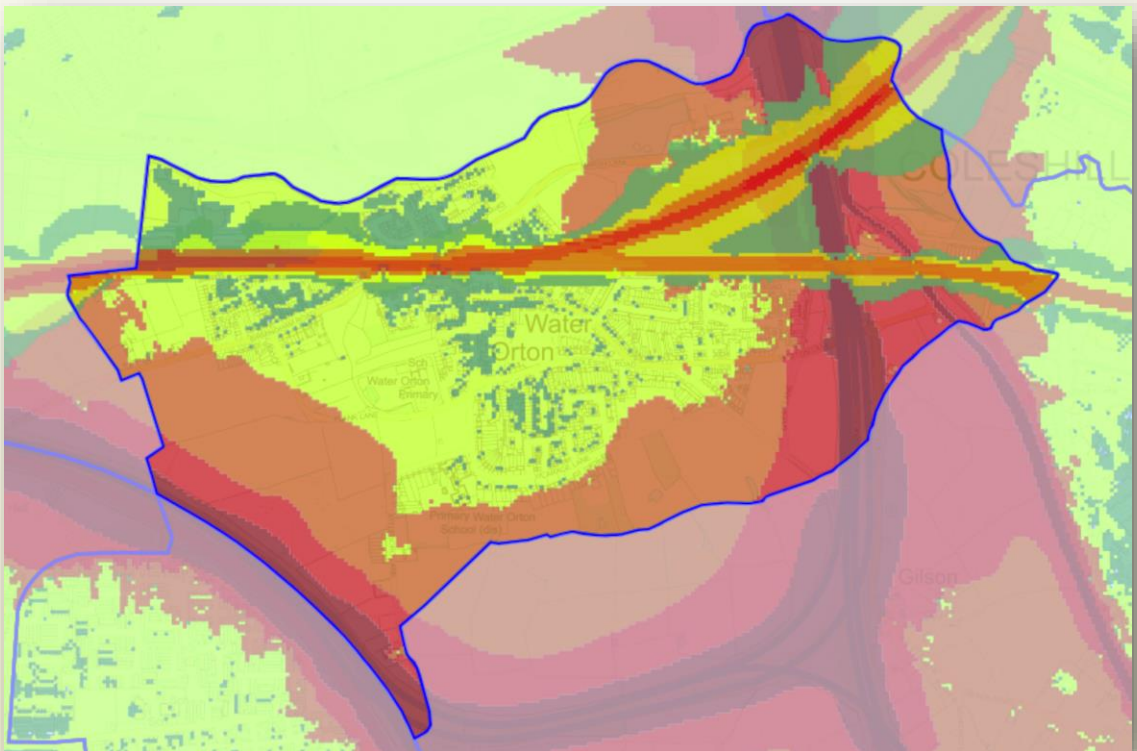
Damage to infrastructure

Road surfaces can be unintentionally impacted by HGVs. The friction created by heavier vehicles can cause surface wear on the road, and even cause damage to nearby buildings and structures due to increased vibration levels. The road from Water Orton to Castle Vale is heavily used by HGV traffic and the surface is continually subject to repair. If the number of HGV through Water Orton increases, the condition of the road surfaces must be constantly monitored, and budgets made available for repair by the relevant authority.

Transport noise impact on Water Orton

This map shows the average annual noise levels taken over a 24 hour period generated by rail or road traffic within the Water Orton Parish Boundary as recorded by the U.K. Government Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs.

The red band shows levels greater than 75dB and the green band shows levels less than 55dB. The yellow band is nominally between 65 to 70dB but it should be recognised that there is a sliding scale between each of these coloured bands.



Section 3g - Transport

Background

Transport Options

There are concerns over limited transport options for frail and elderly residents with mobility issues, impacting on their ability to access services. Elderly residents, having to give up their driving licence, find it challenging to access services, remain independent and stay socially connected. The rural nature of the area is another limiting factor on transport as people feel that bus and train services are not always readily available.

The local voluntary transport scheme Beeline is being reviewed currently; there is a lack of available volunteer drivers to meet increased demand and there are cost implications for many people.

Speed Watch

Several volunteers from the village have formed a Speed watch scheme, started from a Parish Council incentive, in conjunction with North Warwickshire Police.



Transport Integration

There is currently an issue with rail customers parking inconsiderately and illegally on the streets around the station.

There is an opportunity for the rail companies and National Express to provide a 'Water Orton One Ticket.'

The current use of the Village Car Park is not efficient and options for an interchange site should be investigated with facilities for 21st century cars, bicycles, train and bus use.

The Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan is taking up this challenge and proposes to make Water Orton a community transport hub for the North-Easterly section of North Warwickshire.

Section 3g - Transport

Background

In 2020 a group of village residents, as members of the Water Orton Community Action Group, met with West Midlands Stations Alliance to identify issues with the Rail service and Rail infrastructure at Water Orton. The main findings were:

West Midlands Stations Alliance

A 2020 initiative, led by West Midlands Stations Alliance, identified issues with the rail service and infrastructure for Water Orton:

The poor condition of the station building

The historic building has been allowed to fall into a poor state of repair due to lack of ownership and management. The existing station building needs refurbishment.

No disabled or pushchair access to the platform

There is currently access to the platform via a steep wooden staircase. There is no access for people with reduced mobility, significant luggage or parents with pushchairs or toddlers.

As users come down the stairs onto the platforms, the one shelter is insufficient space for the number travellers at peak times and provides little protection from wind, rain and platform flooding. Additional sheltered waiting areas are required.

Operational improvements

To preserve the environment and serve city workers living in our area, the Clean Air Zone in Birmingham requires a positive review on train and tram transport with outlying Boroughs and Parishes.

Water Orton Station could better serve Castle Bromwich and Water Orton if there were a more frequent service, including the night-time economy.

Employment and leisure are key to the well-being of our residents.



Section 3g - Transport

Objectives

TO 01 – Transport Objective 01

To ensure the safe free flow of all traffic modes through Water Orton.

TO 02 – Transport Objective 02

To allow sustainable transport links for residents and visitors alike, in-to and out of Water Orton to major hubs surrounding the village.

TO 03 – Transport Objective 03

To allow efficient transport within Water Orton to, and from, local amenities.

TO 04 – Transport Objective 04

To minimise all forms of pollution within the Water Orton boundary.

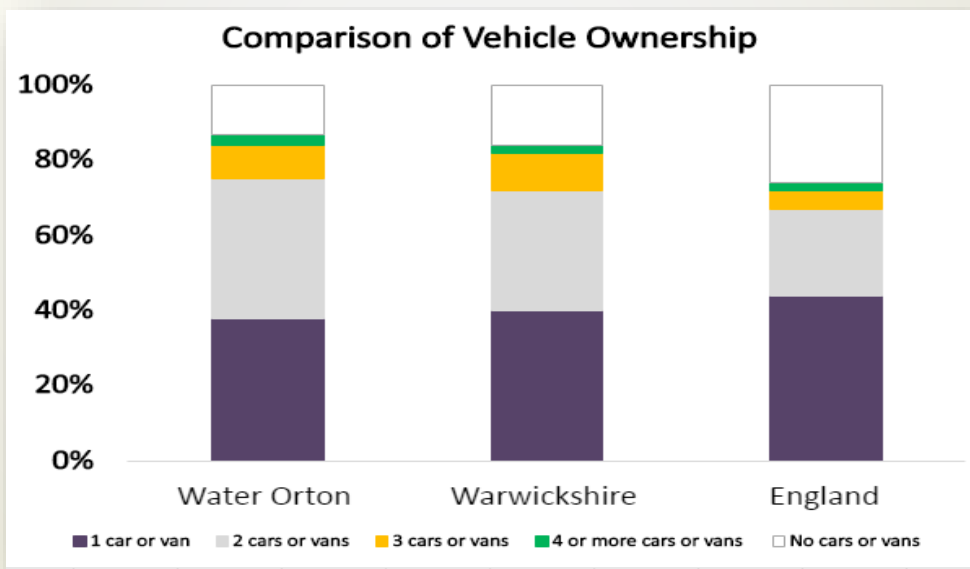


Section 3g - Transport

Supporting Data

Transport can affect Water Orton in both positive and negative ways.

- Access to a range of services including health, education and employment.
- Access to social networks and inclusion.
- Active travel through walking and cycling can have major health benefits and lead to an improved quality of life.
- Road traffic accidents and injuries to drivers, cyclists and pedestrians can cause traffic and congestion, noise nuisance, annoyance and sleep disturbance.
- Car use can lead to reduced physical activity and potential health issues.
- Air pollution from traffic emissions can reduce lung function and is linked to asthma, cancer, heart and circulatory diseases and is particularly harmful to the most vulnerable members of the community.
- There is a wide variation in the ownership/availability of a car. 13.4% of households are without transport.



Future Development

Future village developments should minimise the need to travel by private car promoting 'stride and ride' where users walk/cycle to the public transport (Active transport) promoting physical activity compared to door to door car travel. Bus stops should have good quality seating and timetable displays. New, clearly lit footpaths and cycle paths giving access to key local facilities, encouraging community safety and improving the image of public transport should be installed. Active transport has substantial benefits for health, safety and wellbeing. Greater use of active transport would result in improved health outcomes. Increased active transport will also have environmental benefits, improving air quality due to reduced vehicle use and supporting the climate change agenda in Warwickshire.

Section 3g - Transport

Policies

TP 01 – Transport Policy 01

The Parish Council would support the development of a dedicated HGV parking area specifically to alleviate the 'on-road' waiting for the weighbridge on Marsh Lane.

TP 02 – Transport Policy 02

The Parish Council, in partnership with Warwickshire County Council, shall develop dedicated cycle routes around Water Orton and to neighbouring communities.

TP 03 – Transport Policy 03

For any proposed development adjacent to an existing railway, the developer shall construct, at their own expense, a suitable steel palisade trespass proof fence of at least 1.8m in height; subject to appropriate consultation with Network Rail and Water Orton Parish Council.



Section 4a - Appendix

Note

During the formation of this plan several webpages, standards and other publications were consulted. In order to keep this document to a manageable size, the references are deleted from this issue. Historical issues of the document include these references and may be found archived on the Water Orton Parish Council website.

Glossary

ADSL	Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANGSt	Natural England's Green Space standard (ANGSt)
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CPR	Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CPO	Compulsory Purchase Order
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HWB	Health and Wellbeing
HS2	High speed 2
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
NOx	Oxides of Nitrogen
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NSALG	National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners
NWBC	North Warwickshire Borough Council
NWLP	North Warwickshire Local Plan
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PAD	Fields in trust
PM	Particulate Matter
R&L	Recreation and Leisure
SPD	Supplementary Planning Documents
Sox	Sulphur Oxides
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
SuD	Sustainable Drainage Systems
WCC	Warwickshire County Council
VDS	Village Design statement
VOA	Valuation Office Agency
WOCC	Water Orton Cricket Club

Section 4b - Appendix

The Governance Group members



Neil Bevan



Wendy Rees



Judy Macdonald



Beverley McAlister



Judith Cleaver



Felicitas Freeman



Chris Baker



Paul Tullett



Keith Mellor

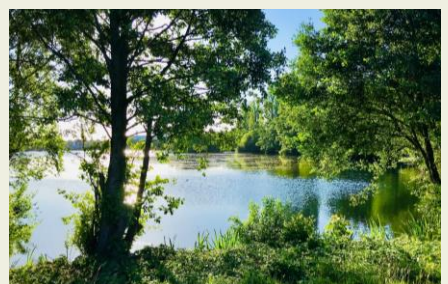


Mick Lee

Section 4c - Appendix

Photos

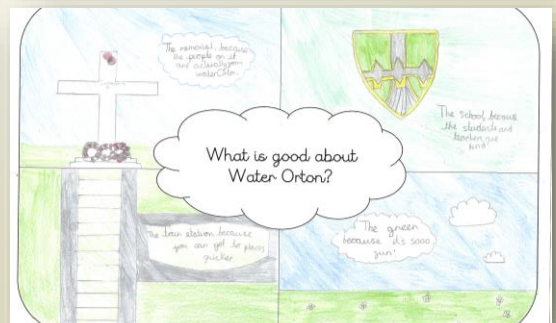
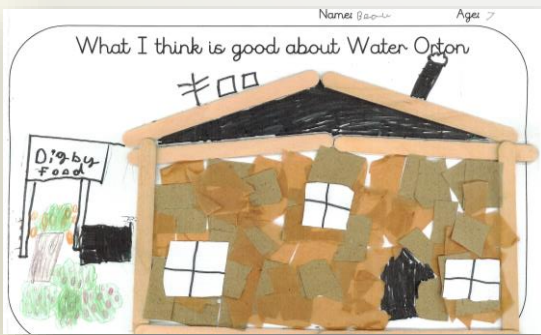
In the making of the Neighbourhood Plan, all photos that were taken in and around the village were collated and displayed into a separate document. Some photos were then selected and copied into the relevant sections. The Photo Document will be made available for viewing in the library.



Section 4d - Appendix

The Children's Drawings

The Children of Water Orton were asked to make a drawing of "what is good about Water Orton". The images below are the Governance Group favourite Children's drawings.



Section 4e - appendix

The Governance Group Structure

Parish Councillor / Resident / Document Manager

Neil Bevan

North Warwickshire Borough Councillor/Resident

Judy Macdonald

Parish Councillor / Resident

Wendy Rees

Parish Councillor / Resident

Felicita Freeman

Resident

Chris Baker

Resident

Judith Cleaver

Resident

Mick Lee

Resident

Keith Mellor

Resident / Document controller

Beverley McAlister

Resident / Vicar

Paul Tullett

Contributors:

Administrator / Document Controller

Beverley McAlister

Administrator / Manager

Neil Bevan

NWBC - Planning policy assistant

Sue Wilson

NWBC - Forward Planning Officer

Mike Dittman

Police

PC Shane Bird

Public consultations

The people of the Village

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Special Thanks to:

Water Orton Primary School drawings

The children

Images and photographs

Beverley McAlister

Photographs

Marc Burden

Photographs

Ben Record

Facebook Water Orton Groups

Photographs

Note,

All photographs used within this document are subject to copyright and permission has been granted by the owners. Photographs taken from Facebook are in the public domain and not subject to copyright.

Section 5 - Addendum

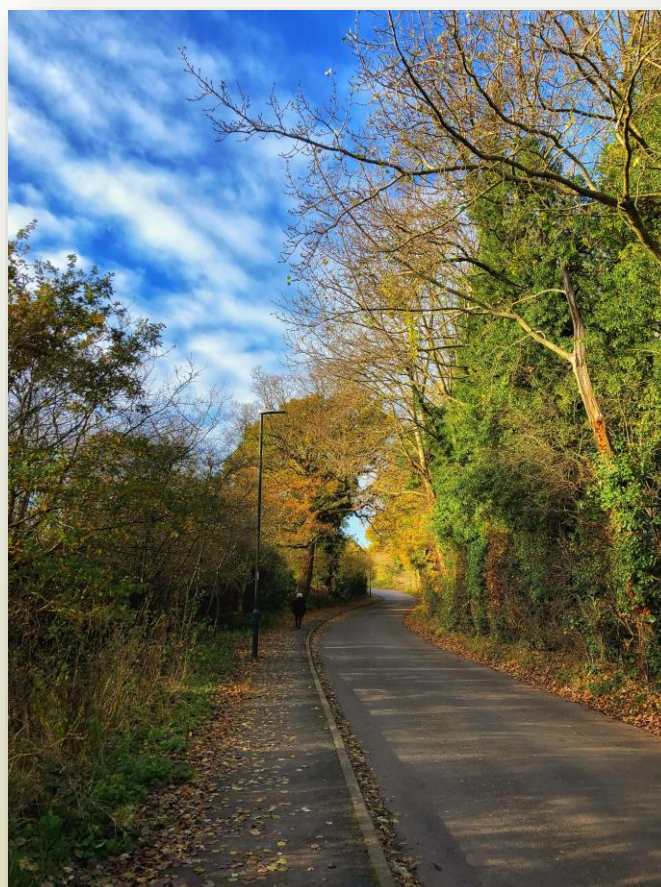
Local – The Water Orton Community Plan - Introduction

During the process of researching and compiling the Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan, village aspirations for the present and future were identified. These aspirations are included in this document to inform a vision of how the village may evolve in the future.

The community aspirations inform objectives and policies within the Community Plan and should be seen as the plan for Water Orton Parish Council.

In this Addendum, the details of the background, objectives, supporting data and policies are referred to as 'Local'.

	Background		Objectives		Supporting data		Policies	
Health and Wellbeing	3a		3a	Ad. a	3a	Ad. a	3a	Ad. a
Housing	3b		3b		3b	Ad. b	3b	
Recreation and Leisure	3c	Ad. c	3c	Ad. c	3c	Ad. c	3c	Ad. c
Green Spaces and Community Areas	3d		3d	Ad. d	3d	Ad. d	3d	Ad. d
Commercial	3e		3e		3e	Ad. e	3e	Ad. e
Character, Heritage and Culture	3f	Ad. f	3f	Ad. f	3f	Ad. f	3f	Ad. f
Transport	3g			Ad. g	3g		3g	Ad. g
Security		Ad. h		Ad. h		Ad. h		Ad. h



Addendum a – Health and Wellbeing

Local Objectives

HWO 01 Local – Health and Wellbeing Objective 01

To provide beneficial and appropriate activities/opportunities to promote health and wellbeing for the housebound and/or frail elderly.

HWO 02 Local – Health and Wellbeing Objective 02

To establish, maintain and promote a co-ordinated database of facilities / spaces / activities which will be accessible to inform Water Orton residents and visitors.

HWO 03 Local – Health and Wellbeing Objective 03

To identify and empower a health and wellbeing co-ordinator to fulfil Health and Wellbeing Objectives, accountable to the Parish Council.



Addendum a – Health and Wellbeing

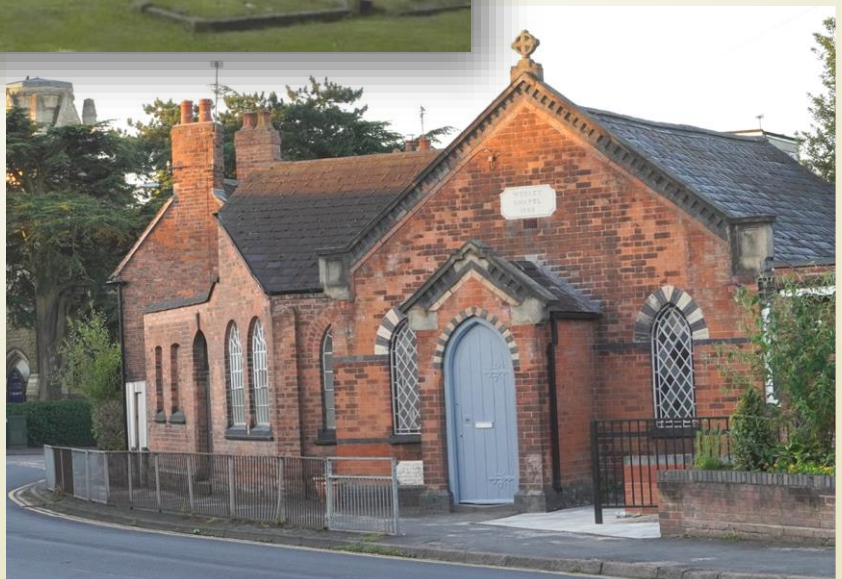
Local Supporting Data

Faith Groups

There is an anecdotal link between religious belief and generally positive health outcomes.

Being part of a religion provides formal and informal opportunities to connect socially with others and to secure social support. There is a strong link between social connection, support, good physical and mental health. Religion may be associated with positive emotions and cognitions (e.g. optimism, sense of meaning and purpose to life), and these have been found to be linked to good cardiovascular, endocrine and immune functioning. Religious belief, including praying may help people cope better with stress and may serve as an alternative to less healthy coping strategies (e.g. alcohol, smoking). The village wishes to promote and maintain attendance at accessible places of worship and other forms of religious involvement which keep people positively engaged.

The two village Churches



Addendum a - Health and wellbeing

Local Supporting Data

Community defibrillator access

After a cardiac arrest, every minute without CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and defibrillation reduces a person's chance of survival by 10 per cent (British Heart Foundation (c.2015)). Availability of automated external defibrillators (AED) with a 3-minute response time from collapse of patient to on-scene arrival of an AED should be used as a target for the number of publicly available AEDs.

There are several AEDs in the village in easily accessible locations as shown below but currently only two are publicly accessible. With reference to the map below, consideration should be given to installations at the peripheries of the village whenever village facilities are being modernised or developed.

Map showing AED location



1. The Library *
 2. Tesco
 3. The Dog Inn car park *
 4. Satis House Doctors
 5. 76 Dentist
 6. Water Orton Dental Centre
 7. Rugby Club (when relocated)
 8. Water Orton School (await AED application)
 9. White City Community Centre
- * Public availability

Addendum a - Health and wellbeing

Local Policies

HWP 01 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 01

Future development plans should consider easy access to sustainable and reliable public transport. This will contribute towards increasing accessibility to services and facilities, for all sections of the community. This reflects LP23 and LP24 within the NWBC Local Plan 2018.

HWP 02 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 02

In line with The North Warwickshire Local Plan 2021 (Policy LP9), North Warwickshire Borough Council will ensure that housing developments on greenfield sites shall include 40% affordable homes and a proportion of 'Lifetime' homes which are accessible, inclusive, flexible and sustainable to meet residents' future needs and so allow them to remain in their current homes. Many local planning policies require the Lifetime Homes standard (developed in the 1990s by The Lifetime Homes Foundation on behalf of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation) which is a set of 16 design criteria that provide a model for building accessible and adaptable homes.

HWP 03 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 03

The Parish Council shall ensure adequate access to good quality open green spaces for all and meet the recommended standards for green spaces as referred to in Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 1.

HWP 04 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 04

The Parish Council shall monitor and review demand for allotment plots with a view to developing additional plots where space allows.



Addendum a - Health and wellbeing

Local Policies

HWP 05 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 05

The Parish Council shall install outdoor exercise equipment such as a trim trail or gym equipment.

HWP 06 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 06

The Parish Council shall work towards the development and maintenance of a health and wellbeing activity/facility database.

HWP 07 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 07

The Parish Council shall, every 5 years, review the scope and scale of indoor and outdoor facilities available to promote health and wellbeing, and promote the development of additional ones as appropriate.

HWP 08 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 08

Faith groups in the village shall continue to work together to welcome people to worship, provide youth and children's ministry, to befriend those in need and to demonstrate love in serving the community.

HWP 09 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 09

The Parish Council supports the North Warwickshire Borough Council Local Development Framework 2016 target of 1800 population per Medical General Practitioner.

HWP 10 Local – Health and Wellbeing Policy 10

The Parish Council shall support the target for publicly available AED to be within a 3-minute range of residential populations.

Addendum b - Housing

Local Supporting Data

Lifetime Neighbourhoods

The creation of 'Lifetime Neighbourhoods' that are welcoming and inviting for everyone, regardless of age, health or disability.

Due to the increasing longevity of life and falling birth rates, an ever-ageing population is evolving. The implications of this demographic shift results in a number of changes that need to be made, to address both the challenges and opportunities of an ageing society, and to ensure that as we grow older we can maintain our independence, enjoy a good quality of life, and take an active role in our communities. For most people, the idea of independence is closely associated with the idea of home. As we grow older, we are more likely to spend more time at home, and where we live is an important determinant of our well-being. However, it is increasingly recognised that it is not just our homes, but also the neighbourhoods where we live that have a significant role in keeping us well and independent as we grow older. A Lifetime Neighbourhood has several components, which include:

- Supporting residents to develop lifetime neighbourhoods – especially resident empowerment
- Access
- Services and Amenities
- Built and Natural Environments
- Social Networks/Well-Being
- Housing

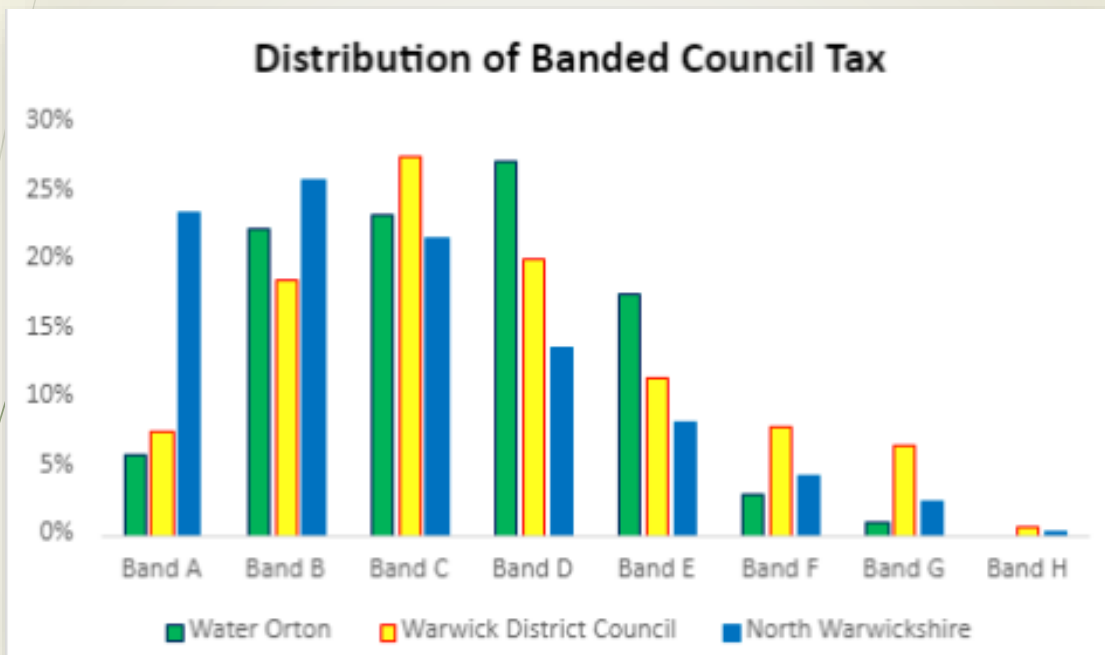


Addendum b - Housing

Local Supporting Data

Council Tax Bands

The distribution of housing council tax bands within Water Orton is significantly higher in the Band D and Band E brackets and significantly lower in the Band A bracket when compared to the North Warwickshire dataset. The distribution of council tax properties within Water Orton is more aligned to Warwick District Council.



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Assessments are based on a number of factors, such as a property's:

- size
- layout
- character
- location
- change in use
- value on 1 April 1991

This demonstrates that Water Orton should be treated as somewhat of a jewel in the crown of North Warwickshire and one that should be preserved.

Addendum b - Housing

Local Supporting Data

Housing and Recreation

Access to recreation facilities particularly parks (see 'open and green spaces') is seen as a local asset which needs prioritisation to be utilised further. In all Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) areas there are higher numbers of people living alone - either younger or older people; this may impact on a range of other issues affecting health and well-being. Water Orton accepts the Fields in Trust (PAD (2008)) published figure of 6 acres (2.4 hectare) of green and open space for every 1000 residents and that this green and open space should be within 500m of the villager's properties.



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Background

Benches

The residential conurbation of Water Orton stretches approximately half a mile from the village shops. It is noticeable that there are very few 'resting places' for the less mobile residents to pause and/or give an opportunity to chat. Installing benches at strategic points within Water Orton would allow more people to exercise more freely and explore other parts of the village. These benches may also act as 'friendship benches', an idea that was developed in Zimbabwe, to combat mental health issues. At a basic level, Water Orton's benches could serve many roles:

- A resting place for the less mobile
- An area for those living alone to meet and talk



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Background

Jogging

Jogging is by far the most common 'unstructured' aerobically intense outdoor exercise in the village although Power Walking is becoming more popular, especially amongst the 50 to 70 age group.

The busy main central road is not a healthy or clear path for this, and joggers often run in the road to prevent people impacts. Cars parked on paths are currently a serious hazard to pedestrians and joggers. A dedicated fitness route, track or fitness trail should be developed.

Walking

To promote walking around the village, footpaths of appropriate width and surface should be in place, kept clear and maintained. Distance and time markers (walking time to key locations) should be included on any new signage and when updating existing signage. Car free zones should be promoted. Also, school walking buses should be considered where children are escorted to school rather than travel in cars. This should help to ease congestion at peak times and improve physical activity levels and social skills.

Walking is a low impact activity, suitable for most. A 'measured mile' is a walk of one mile that has been marked out with distance markers and can be within a green space such as a park or in the urban environment. Installing measured mile markers should be considered to help local people understand the effort required in terms of time to walk from one location to another. This will support physically inactive people to make small, measurable improvements to their activity levels. Led walks should be encouraged using a measured mile, increasing motivation and decreasing social isolation for those who find being active on their own difficult.



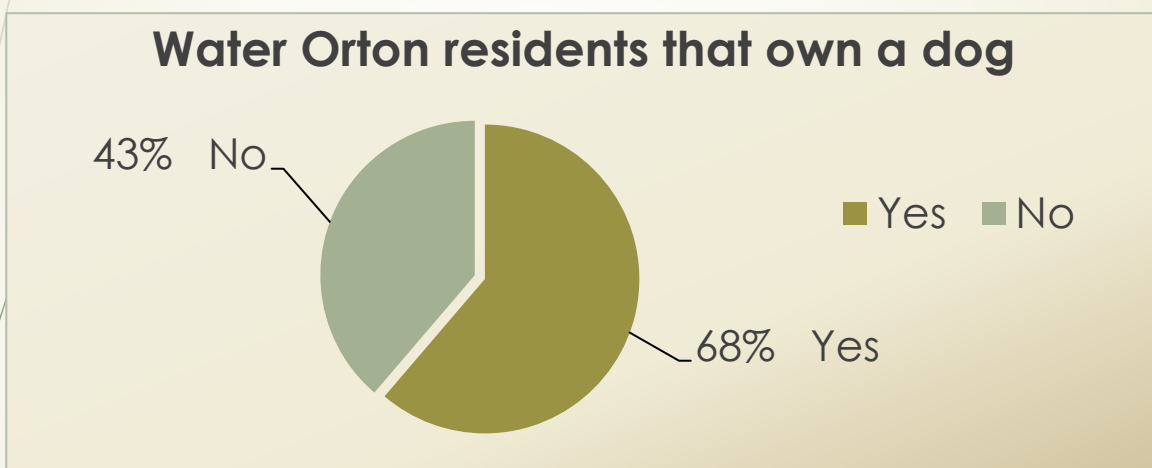
Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Background

Dog Walking

In total, 45% of the UK population owns a pet, of which 49% own dogs. This figure has increased by five percent since 2016. Over 90% of pet owners in the UK say that owning a pet makes them feel happy and 88% feel that pet ownership improves their overall quality of life.

A simple survey of Water Orton asking the question "do you walk a dog in Water Orton" shows approximately 68% of households have a dog. Exercising these dogs, whilst exercising the owner, is a significant pastime for Water Orton residents.



Dog walking issues

Dog fouling is health hazard and an eyesore. Dog owners have a legal duty to clean up every time their dog fouls in a public place. Registered blind people are not required to clean up after their guide dogs.

Water Orton Parish Council encourages dog owners to carry a poop scoop and/or disposable bag whenever they take their dogs out to a public place and provides bins, appropriately marked, marked to dispose of the dog fouled bag.



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Background

Recreational Cycling

Cycling is low-impact exercise that can be enjoyed by people of all ages and has many physical and mental health benefits. Increased green spaces would offer the potential for traffic free cycle routes suitable for all abilities and be connected to other networks for commuting. Riding to work or to access services would be one of the most time-efficient ways to combine regular exercise with everyday routine. Currently there are no dedicated cycle routes in the village. Integrating good quality safe cycle facilities, including lighting, signage, ride surface and secure parking, into any new developments and existing infrastructure should be supported to enable increased levels of physical activity and improve wellbeing.

Cycling is also a form of sustainable active transport which can not only help to reduce traffic and pollution but support a healthier lifestyle. In order to encourage people to take up and continue to participate in cycling, good quality facilities should be incorporated into existing green spaces. This includes cycle parking, signage, lighting and ride surface. It should also form part of the planning of new developments and services to ensure cycling is embedded from the beginning for leisure and travel purposes. Secure cycle parking in the village car park would be a significant element in an integrated rail hub.



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Objectives

RLO 01 Local – Recreation and Leisure Objective 01

Develop the infrastructure for informal exercise such as cycle and fitness routes.

RLO 02 Local – Recreation and Leisure Objective 02

Raise awareness of 'Halls to rent' and utilise this vehicle to promote current activities where residents may be made aware of these current activities and be incentivised to engage.



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Supporting Data

The Playing Field

The Playing Field requires drainage intervention, 75% of football fixtures were cancelled since September 2019, albeit during an extremely wet autumn 2019 and winter 2020. However, the field is regularly excessively water logged, even for normal walking.

Drainage of the Playing Field will enhance hire and revenue for events, Football and Cricket. Parish Council funding should be increased to maintain this valuable sports activity green space.

Play equipment for children is well positioned at both the Playing Field and at the Village Green, there is a maintenance program to ensure that they are safe and fit for purpose. Any future development of play equipment should ensure that the equipment is accessible for all and takes into consideration children with special needs.

Fitness Trail

A pathway that is off-road on a stable footing suitable for jogging and walking is simply integrated into the leisure cycling route proposed in the section titled HS2 Options. A Measured Mile is also recommended by Central Government to be established for community walking and jogging and could be on the existing pedestrian pavements.

The Parish Council should consider the installation of outdoor fitness equipment for use by residents. A potential site for this is around the periphery of the new rugby club. Currently this is not permitted under planning rules and the Parish Council should support a change to the planning rule to facilitate the use of the rugby club for this use. The rugby club must agree formally to allow the construction and community use.



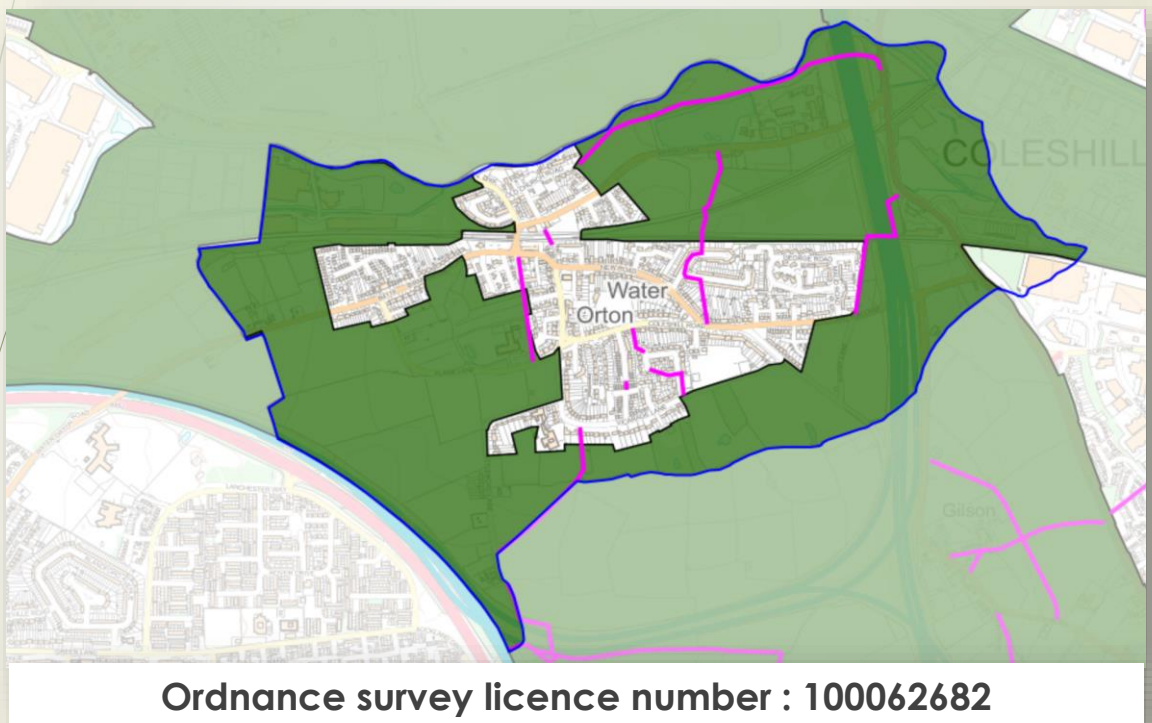
Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Supporting Data

Walking for health

Water Orton has no entry in North Warwickshire's WalkFinder Schemes; however, there are many accessible walks through the neighbouring countryside. Water Orton public footpaths are noted in Foot Path Maps web site.

The map below shows the public rights of way around Water Orton (shown in pink) and also the designated green-land surrounding the village.



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A local safe walk should be researched, marked and appended to the WalkFinder scheme and WOPC website. This walk should engage all ages and abilities; the positioning of benches is integral to incentivising less-able walkers to improve their physical and mental welfare in this simple and popular exercise.

Historically residents have used routes around agricultural land for leisure and nature walks. Parts of this land have been acquired through a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for HS2 developments. Once the HS2 project has completed the build, the Parish Council should investigate purchasing this land to recover this historical use.

Creation of nature pathways through the new (HS2 mitigation) Ecological Habitats, is a unique opportunity. These habitats are principally to preserve endangered species, but they also enhance the local ecology and are there for the public to enjoy. A walking trail, not suitable for wheeled access, would be a pleasurable two-mile excursion through nature.

Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Supporting Data

Rugby

There is no latent demand for additional teams at Water Orton. The proposed new site for the rugby club at Coleshill Road should be re-assessed by NWBC on completion of the build. The current analysis is that the planned new facility will be a substantial improvement to rugby provision at this site. The Club should be supported in its plans, funded by the Government following the development of HS2. The future demand for rugby in this area is set to increase most significantly in the Sub Area of Water Orton. Overall, this increase is one which can be managed due to an over-supply of pitches at Old Saltleians Rugby Football Club.

Old Saltleians RFC have new grounds proposed within the village and plans are approved by NWBC, including parking for 145 cars plus 3 coaches. They have been resident in Water Orton since 1954 and plan to continue to engage with the community when relocated. It is essential that the Parish Council relationship is developed with the new facility when relocated.

Old Saltleians RFC actively engages both adults and children in the local area in sports and community activities. Historically they have been very proactive in the Water Orton carnival. Their new facility, including toilets and car parking, should be utilised for this event.

North Warwickshire Borough council planning conditions are prohibiting community inclusion in the club. The present NWBC planning conditions state that the new site must be used for the playing and training of rugby union only. An appeal to allow community sports and leisure activities should be supported by the Parish Council. Ref: PAP/2016/0709 for full planning conditions.



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Supporting Data

Football

There is latent demand for one senior team and one junior team in Water Orton. Organised football is played on the Playing Field and the site should be protected as playing pitches in the Local Plan. This site is used by Water Orton United FC at peak times on a 'pay and go' arrangement with the Parish Council. However, the quality of the Playing Field football pitch is rated poor and in need of NWBC protection and enhancement. Water Orton is found to have a deficit of pitches for youth football, 9 and 11 a side. There is a deficit of 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) provision in the area, with minimal pitches supplying North Warwickshire.

Water Orton has a need for youth pitches as in the NWBC Playing Pitch Strategy 2016-2031. It is in line with policy to enhance the opportunity for Water Orton youths to play in the village by providing this facility.



Tennis

Water Orton and District Tennis Club is well established with twin courts, a small pavilion and limited parking (3 cars) and is adjacent to the Playing Field. The club caters for both adults and juniors.

The club has an application for extension to the floodlights and grounds in place. This extension would intrude into the Playing Field.

The Tennis club have a very proactive management with very good facilities and a growing membership that requires more space to play sports. 2020 will see the present playing surfaces enhanced; the Parish Council should support the application for floodlights and an expansion into the Playing Field.



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Supporting Data

Coarse Fishing

One of the most popular sports in the UK, coarse fishing is proven to be a powerful tool for mental wellbeing, a reflective and mentally calming activity with light physical demands.

The River Tame and Beaver Pool are both within the village boundary. The River Tame is a local water course that is a naturally flowing clean river with a varied water bird population, but little sport fishing activity.

Beaver Pool is a private syndicated coarse fishing lake on Marsh Lane, for members only. It provides a quiet fishing environment alongside the River Tame for licence holders to engage in this very popular sport.



Crown Green Bowling

Water Orton Bowling Club has many diverse and established teams who participate in regional league events. The pavilion is desperately in need of funding to accommodate an increasing membership of active residents.

The structure is so diverse as to the league teams and possibilities that they accommodate most ages and most abilities throughout the week. They hold a current lease on their club facilities and are proactively engaging in the community. Car parking is a big drawback to events adjacent to the Playing Field. Club visitors resort to parking on residential streets.



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Supporting Data

Cricket

There is no latent demand for additional teams at Water Orton Cricket Club. However, there is high demand presently; analysis shows demand minus capacity is 139 match equivalent shortfalls. Water Orton Cricket Club (WOCC) has good facilities and an excellent quality wicket, rated 100% the recently built replacement practice nets improves the overall club rating value from that shown in the NWBC survey. The analysis recommends NWBC protection and enhancement.

Water Orton Cricket Club is well-established with a history of more than 140 years. They are members of the Warwickshire league and won Division 1 in 2016 and 2017. There is car parking for at least 23 vehicles. The club has 3 teams plus juniors, central village location adjacent to the Digby Hotel. Water Orton Cricket Club is club-owned and managed, including the maintenance of the cricket pitch and grass wicket, which are highly rated facilities. The changing facilities are of a good standard and there is now a new single lane synthetic surface practice net to ECB standards.

In the Playing Pitches Strategy 2016-2031 NWBC recommend protecting and supporting this facility.

There is a high demand for cricket pitches in the area of Water Orton.

Water Orton Cricket Club actively engages both Adults and Children in the local area in sports and community activities.



Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Supporting Data

Indoor Facilities

There is no coordinated on-line village database of indoor spaces for 'Halls to Rent'.

A lack of awareness is evident in the village as to what facilities are available to rent. There are unlinked calendars that are mainly individually managed and distributed on request. A 'Halls to Rent' dynamic database should be built and posted on or linked to the Water Orton Parish Council website.

This will raise the awareness of residents to the availability of leisure venues on their doorstep. The following are facilities that may be included but are not exclusive. The Parish Council shall consult with the management groups of these facilities about the viability and benefit of the development of such a database.

Similarly, this could be extended to the open spaces for rent such as pitches and green spaces.

- The Link
- Water Orton Methodist Church and Community Centre
- The Pavilion
- The Cricket Club
- The Rugby Club
- Library
- Scout Hut
- Pub function rooms, The Digby Hotel, The Dog Inn Public House.



Badminton

Badminton is played on a pay-as-you-play basis at The Link community venue.

Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Supporting Data

Water Orton Sports Clubs

Water Orton Sports Association (WOSA) has been created as a joint venture between the current sports clubs' management.

Funded by North Warwickshire Borough council, WOSA has been pledged £500 per annum (2020), to meet bi-annually or as appropriate. The leaders of the organised village sports clubs will communicate to incentivise physical and mental health activity through their clubs' resources.

The founder members are:

- Cricket, Water Orton Cricket Club
- Rugby, Old Saltleians RFC
- Tennis, Water Orton and District Tennis Club
- Water Orton Bowls Club

Other sports that pay-as you-play in the village, without team or club owned clubhouse facilities, are invited to engage and contribute. These are currently:

- Football, teams hire the Playing Field pitch.
- Badminton, players hire The Link on a 'pay-and-play' basis.

Water Orton Sports Association has been developed with the following objectives in mind:

- Combined view of village sports facilities and activities.
- Broader engagement of the community in sports.
- Co-ordinated funding applications and advice forum.
- Social media coverage and cross-referenced links.
- Support each other with additional facilities.
- Host the pay-as-you-play sports where possible.
- Advisors to The Parish Council.

The sports association will work to develop community sports activities in combination with each other advertising across the WOSA to maximise the unique opportunities they all hold for community engagement. WOSA will combine knowledge for sourcing grants for sport development facilities.

Village facilities

The Parish Council recognises that much of the infrastructure relating to recreation and leisure facilities within the village has existed for many decades and, in some cases is in need of significant renovation. The Parish Council is legally able to make grants to local organisations or clubs and registered charities under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 which states that donations can be spent for the benefit of part or all of the community but not an individual, and that grants must be commensurate to the benefit.

The Parish Council Grant awarding policy and procedure is available on their website.

The Parish Council is also able to support bids for larger sums from external organisations provided that the bid is commensurate with their grants award policy.

Addendum c - Recreation and Leisure

Local Policies

RLP 01 Local – Recreation and Leisure Policy 01

The Parish Council shall encourage externally initiated sports incentive policies. Example of externally initiated sports incentives include 'The inner warrior' by the rugby football union and 'Chance to shine' by the English cricket board.

RLP 02 Local – Recreation and Leisure Policy 02

The Parish Council shall encourage the Water Orton Sports Association and proactively seek to support sport related initiatives developed by the Association.

RLP 03 Local – Recreation and Leisure Policy 03

The Parish Council shall investigate funding options for benches and install as required.

RLP 04 Local – Recreation and Leisure Policy 04

The Parish Council shall publicise and promote the availability of village facilities and the activities within as directed by the appropriate management group of the particular facility.

RLP 05 Local – Recreation and Leisure Policy 05

The Parish Council shall monitor the reported instances of dog fouling and take appropriate action under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

RLP 06 Local - Recreation and Leisure Policy 06

The Parish Council shall develop walking trails and paths with sites for 'Friendship Benches'.



Addendum d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Local Background

Fly tipping

Fly-tipping is the dumping of rubbish on Council/Parish owned land without permission, or rubbish dumped on land where the owners do not have a Waste Management Licence. Nationally it is on the rise. Annual reporting of fly-tipping on public land has increased within the Water Orton Parish. Vulnerable hot spots are Plank Lane, Vicarage Lane, Gypsy Lane and Watton Lane below the M42 bridge.



Addendum d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Local Objectives

GSO 01 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Objective 01

Proactively manage our hedgerows, trees and green verges.

GSO 02 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Objective 02

Maintain Public Rights of Way and footpaths.



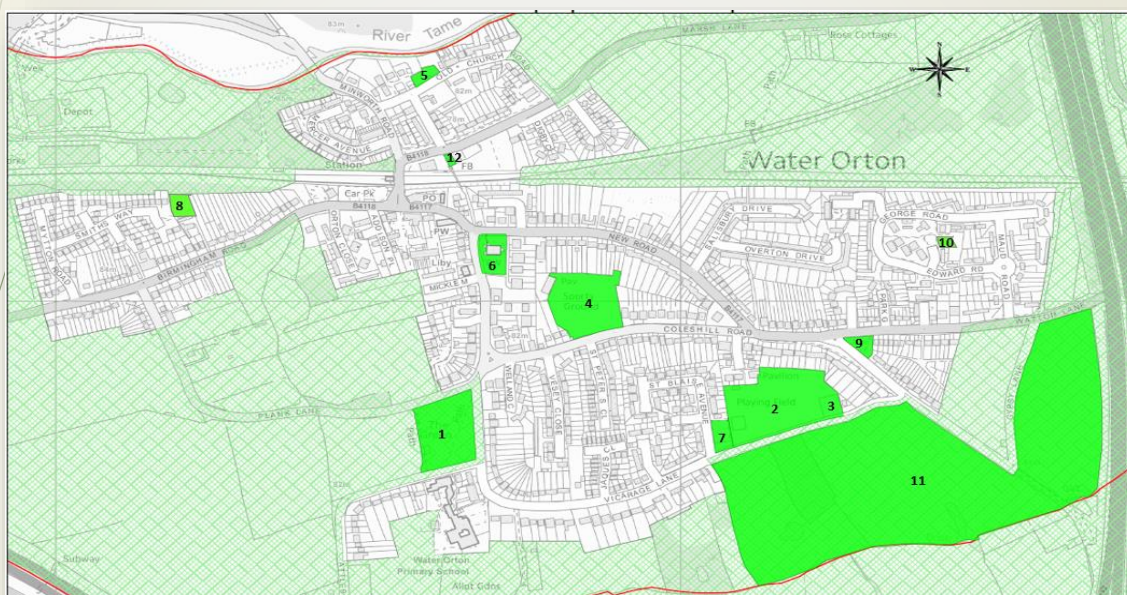
Addendum d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Local Supporting Data

Proposed Green Spaces

This plan outlines a long-term aspiration to develop a public space Nature Reserve within Water Orton. This aspiration falls within the wider project ambitions of the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust led Tame Valley Wetlands Partnership.

To have such an ecologically precious site preserved within the heart of an urban community would be incredibly special.



1	Village Green	8	Scout Hut
2	Playing fields *	9	Memorial Triangle (know as Orton Fells)
3	Tennis Courts *	10	Community Centre
4	Cricket Pitch *	11	Rugby Club
5	Old Graveyard	12	The Old Sidings
6	Village church Grounds *		
7	Bowling club and allotment *		

* Allocated in North Warwickshire Borough adopted Local Plan.

Most of these spaces are formally recognised as community areas in different records, the intention of listing them here is to ensure that they are all recorded in a central document.

Addendum d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Local Policies

GSP 01 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 01

Any trees in public green spaces that is older than approximately 50 years should be subject to a formal review to establish Tree Preservation Order status as defined by NWBC (or Warwickshire County Council).

GSP 02 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 02

Any trees in public green spaces that are within a tree canopy area density of 5 trees per 5000m² should be subject to a formal review to establish tree preservation order status as defined by NWBC (or Warwickshire County Council).

GSP 03 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 03

Within the formal green space described in Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 1, there shall be a formal wetland area within the green space.

GSP 04 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 04

Water Orton Parish Council will assume responsibility to ensure hedgerows and verges not covered in Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 7 and those that encroach and cause nuisance to public thoroughfares are maintained to a safe and good standard.

GSP 05 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 05

Warwickshire County Council, North Warwickshire Borough Council and the relevant Highways Authority will continue to maintain Hedgerows and verges on Public Highways to a safe and good standard.

Addendum d - Green Spaces and Community Areas

Local Policies

GSP 06 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 06

The Parish Council shall protect the designated Public Green spaces by 'Deed of Dedication' which protects them in perpetuity.

GSP 06 Local - Green Spaces and Community Areas Policy 06

The Parish Council shall monitor the instances of fly-tipping and put in place actions to improve as appropriate.



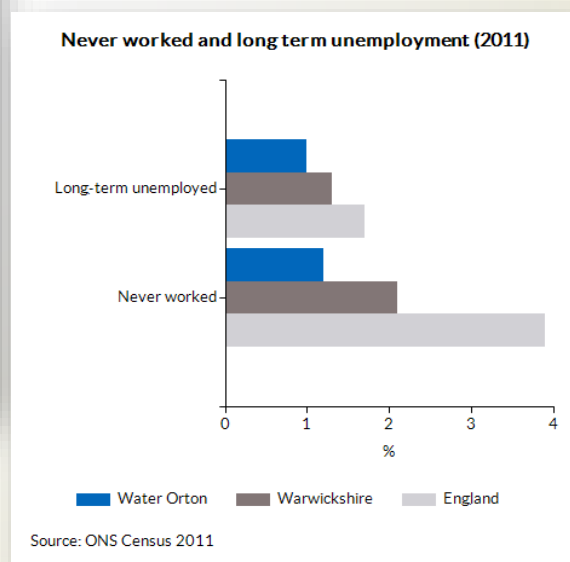
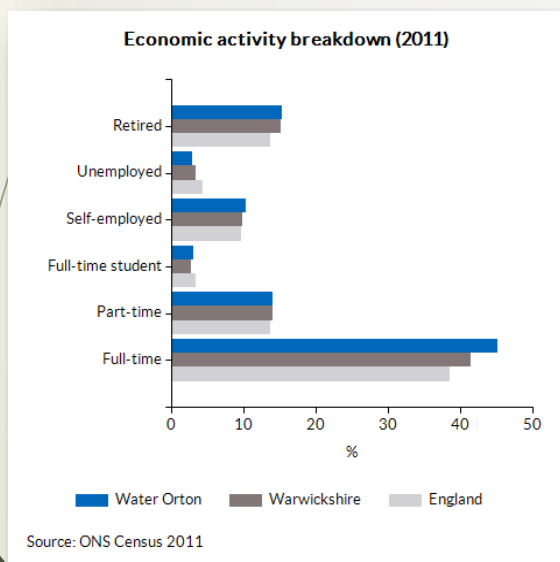
Addendum e - Commercial

Local Supporting Data

Statistics – Employment status

The Office of National Statistics (ONS) state that 75.6% of the Water Orton population is economically active. This includes 79.6% of males and 71.6% of females. The graphs here indicate a) the diversity of employment status as identified in the 2011 Census and b) the percentage of long-term unemployment and never worked. There are greater numbers in full time and self-employment compared to other parts of Warwickshire and England in general.

Local or easy access to employment opportunities is important for residents' health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities. Being in good employment protects health, while unemployment contributes to poor health and is associated with increased mortality rates. The protection of existing local employment opportunities should be supported by sustainable travel and networks that allow easy access, preferably by sustainable or active travel to sites of employment. The necessary infrastructure should be in place, such as broadband to support home working.



The Water Orton Neighbourhood Plan takes a lead from two wider planning documents:

- The National Planning Policy Framework
- The North Warwickshire Local Plan

Addendum e - Commercial

Local Policies

CP 01 Local - Commercial Policy 01

The Parish and Borough Councils should ensure that existing businesses' needs are addressed as expressed by the local business forum. The Village Shops should remain the focal point for services and facilities that serve the wider community.

CP 02 Local - Commercial Policy 02

The Parish and Borough Councils should develop opportunities to improve the capability for residents to work from home using the latest technology where resources are available and where control and responsibilities lie with the Parish or Borough Council.

CP 03 Local - Commercial Policy 03

The Parish and Borough Councils should support the development of existing businesses and enable or support the start-up of new small businesses appropriate to the 'rural' area.

CP 04 Local - Commercial Policy 04

The Parish and Borough Councils should ensure the protection of existing local employment opportunities.

CP 05 Local - Commercial Policy 05

The Parish shall aspire to an indoor or outdoor market providing services and products that are not, necessarily, required daily. An example of this may be a mobile Post Office, Pop-up-shops or mobile retail banking facility.

CP 06 Local - Commercial Policy 06

The Parish Council shall encourage trading of produce from allotments and small holdings.

CP 07 Local - Commercial Policy 07

The Parish Council shall support the appropriate expansion of existing businesses which meet local employment needs commensurate with the village environment.

Addendum e - Commercial

Local Policies

CP 08 Local - Commercial Policy 08

The Parish Council shall support business proposals for 'healthy options' or seated food outlets.

CP 09 Local - Commercial Policy 09

The Parish Council seeks to substantially maintain the existing industrial floor space within the Parish Boundary.

CP 10 Local - Commercial Policy 10

The Parish Council will support the Borough Council to proactively manage the available retail mix and new retail opportunities, aligned with delivering health and wellbeing in our neighbourhood.

CP 11 Local - Commercial Policy 11

Any industrial estates within the Parish Boundary should be located on the east side of the village (around Marsh Lane) to limit adverse HGV impact within the residential neighbourhood.

CP 12 Local - Commercial Policy 12

The Parish Council shall develop a survey to establish the demand for generally increased broadband capability and work with broadband infrastructure providers to build a customised solution to meet the need. Joint funding arrangements should be investigated and examination of potential grants for this work pursued.

CP 13 Local - Commercial Policy 13

The Parish Council will monitor Broadband and 5G networks in terms of coverage, reliability and competitive speed. Performance issues will be collated and discussed with key stakeholders.

Addendum f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Local Background

Annual Village Events and social activities

Events and social activities have changed over time although many remain the same. There is a strong community feeling within the village and volunteers provide support wherever it is needed.

Until its closure a flag was run up a flagpole at Gilbert Rhodes' shop in Old Church Road to commemorate births, deaths, marriages, and National events.

Weekly Tea dances were held in the Parish Hall and every summer a black-tie ball at the Old Sattleians Rugby Club. The club is currently in a temporary location due to HS2. It is anticipated that when the club returns to the village the summer ball may recommence.

On Palm Sunday, the Parish Vicar leads a procession around the village with a large cross (and sometimes a donkey) to commemorate the lead up to Easter.

From November 2018, the Remembrance service has taken place at the war memorial. Large single red poppies are attached to lamp posts around the village and the Parish church has a knitted poppy display, with all poppies made by villagers.

The Parish church produces The Bridge each month. It has village news and churches' service times. The December issue is also the Village Christmas card.

From 2019 a Carol service takes place around the village car park Christmas tree and the Parish Council purchased Christmas streetlights for display along the main road. Additional lights were added in 2020.



Addendum f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Local Background

Annual Village Events and social activities

Water Orton carnival has been an annual event for 50 years and is held in June every year. Water Orton Carnival Committee is a non-profit making voluntary organisation that also raises money for local good causes. Among these “good causes” are annual Christmas parties for Water Orton residents of pensionable age and children of primary school age. Water Orton Carnival also carry out a Santa sleigh run around the village to raise funds.



In December, the Cricket Club holds a Christmas market, with local crafters and business participating with stalls in the clubhouse. The Round Table's Father Christmas is driven around the village on a sleigh, greeting children and collecting money for the nominated charity of the year. On Christmas Eve, there are two Christingle services which are aimed at telling the Christmas story to young children.

At Halloween, many children dress up to go Trick or Treating from door to door usually with parental supervision.

From 2018/2019 Water Orton in Bloom volunteers, with the support of the Parish Council and local businesses, sited and maintained planters around the village.

The Link holds a Meet and Eat lunch club for retired people on Fridays. Approximately 35 people attend regularly.

A group of residents organise a monthly Supper Club. The Charity Re-Engage, has regular monthly afternoon teas for elderly and lonely guests that live in the village.

Since April 2012 Water Orton Library has been run entirely by volunteers. During Library opening hours regular activities include Rhyme time sessions for preschool age children, tea, coffee and cake, family history sessions, and a knit and natter group.

The uniformed groups in the village include Boys and Girls brigade, Brownies, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

Addendum f - Character, Heritage and Culture

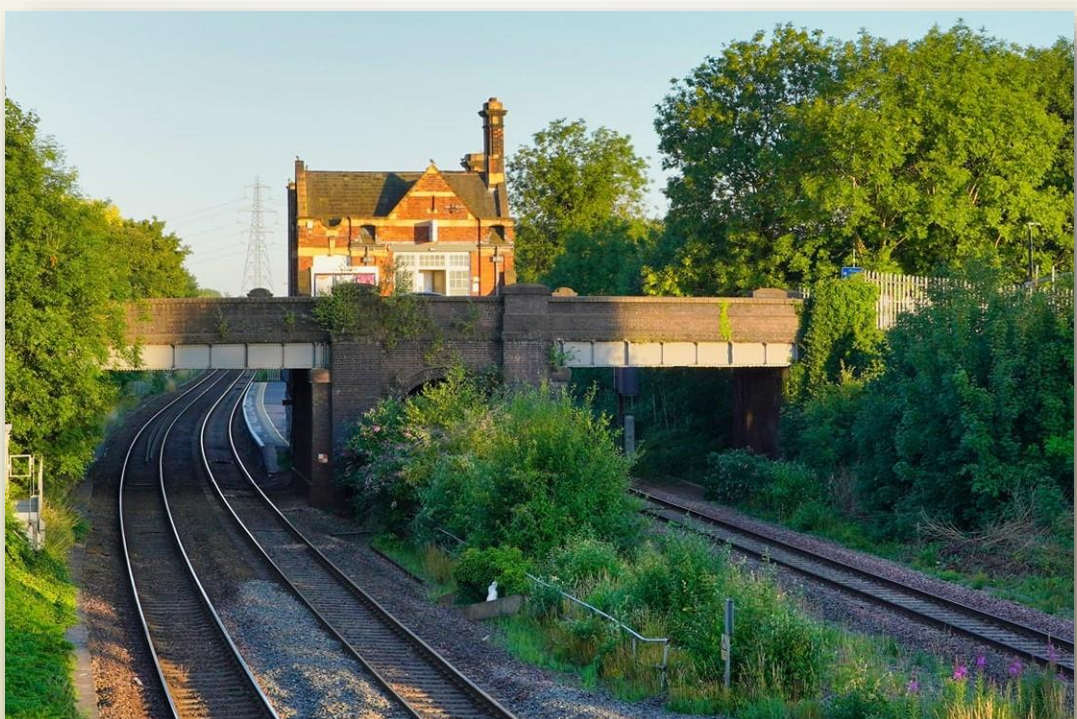
Local Objectives

CHO 01 Local – Character and Heritage Objective 01

Maintain and improve cultural activities.

CHO 02 Local – Character and Heritage Objective 02

Maintain and improve green open spaces.



Addendum f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Local Policies

CHP 01 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 01

Water Orton has a blend of old Victorian terraces alongside more modern developments. Any future development should respect and enhance existing character.

CHP 02 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 02

Any development in the village should refer to the Village Design Supplementary Planning Guidance advice adopted by North Warwickshire Borough Council in 2003 which is still referred to during the planning process.

CHP 03 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 03

Pre 1920s buildings should be preserved where possible.

CHP 04 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 04

Alterations and extensions should complement original features.

CHP 05 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 05

New build development and extensions should improve rather than detract from the character and heritage of the Village. These should meet Local Plan Policy and the needs of the community at the time of any development by referring to the definitions in the supplementary planning guidance.

Addendum f - Character, Heritage and Culture

Local Policies

CHP 05 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 05

The Parish Council shall work with North Warwickshire Borough Council to ensure there is the right mix of new homes in terms of type size and tenure.

CHP 06 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 06

Landscape character should be preserved as much as possible by respecting the Green belt, retaining green verges for residents and visitors.

CHP 07 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 07

The Parish Council and Warwickshire County Council shall enhance the Gateway entrances to the village.

CHP 08 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 08

The Parish Council shall maintain existing green spaces within the Village to help preserve its rural origins and to enhance views from within and outside the Village.

CHP 09 Local – Character and Heritage Policy 09

The Parish Council shall review and encourage development of culture within Water Orton as referred to in other policies in this plan.



Addendum g - Transport

Local Objectives

TO 01 Local – Transport Objective 01

To encourage walking and cycling as a major form of transport.



Addendum g - Transport

Local Policies

TP 01 Local – Transport Policy 01

The Parish Council shall work in partnership with North Warwickshire Borough and Warwickshire County Councils to develop the road system to allow for efficient traffic control and management.

TP 02 Local – Transport Policy 02

The Parish Council shall support North Warwickshire Borough Council to develop the village car park as a sustainable transport hub for cars, bus, train, and cycles throughout the 21st century.

TP 03 Local – Transport Policy 03

The Parish Council will work in partnership with Warwickshire County Council to ensure frequent public transport to major destinations.

TP 04 Local – Transport Policy 04

The Parish Council shall work with Warwickshire County Council to ensure that the parking around the shopping areas is a limited stay.

TP 05 Local – Transport Policy 05

The police shall enforce the existing legislation for traffic crossing Vesey Bridge.

TP 06 Local – Transport Policy 06

The Parish Council shall seek appropriate compliance with, and enforcement of, air traffic laws and regulation above Water Orton.

TP 07 Local – Transport Policy 07

The Parish Council shall work with Warwickshire County Council and Birmingham City Council to investigate and provide improved traffic management and safer walking and cycling access to and across Vesey Bridge.

Addendum g - Transport

Local Policies

TP 08 Local – Transport Policy 08

North Warwickshire Borough Council should improve management and availability for vehicle parking in accordance with adopted NWBC parking standards.

TP 09 Local – Transport Policy 09

The Parish Council shall actively monitor HS2 noise levels and ensure, by further attenuation means, that the levels are within those defined at the initiation of the HS2 project.

TP 10 Local – Transport Policy 10

The Parish Council shall seek to ensure that all highways within the Water Orton boundary comply with the “Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works Volume 1 - Specification for Highway Works”.

TP 11 Local – Transport Policy 11

The Parish Council shall liaise with parents and staff at Water Orton Primary School to develop a 'walking-bus' service.

TP 12 Local – Transport Policy 12

Water Orton Parish Council shall monitor the data provided by the relative authorities regarding air and noise pollution levels in Water Orton. If levels exceed National maximum guidelines, Water Orton Parish Council shall seek action from the relevant authority.

Addendum h - Security and Safety

Local Background

Security and Safety are key concerns for Water Orton residents, particularly regarding their own and their family members' personal safety and security of property and possessions.

In recent years, cost cutting exercises by central and local authorities have, for example, resulted in reduced visibility of police on the streets, and the switching-off of street lighting after dark.

At the same time, the prevalence of 24/7 news coverage and availability of Social Media, particularly Facebook and WhatsApp, have led to the immediate sharing of perceived or actual crime, resulting in a heightened sense of discomfort and a perceived threat to security and safety.

It is therefore necessary to monitor and manage actual reported crime as well as Water Orton perceptions of crime.



Addendum h - Security and Safety

Local Objectives

SSO 01 Local – Security and Safety Objective 01

To promote the reporting of all local crime to the Police Authority reflecting greater victim confidence in the Police Authority.

SSO 02 Local – Security and Safety Objective 02

To reduce the crime rate such that the official crime statistics show that Water Orton is in the lower two-percentile for England and North Warwickshire before 2031.

SSO 03 Local – Security and Safety Objective 03

To measure and improve the public perception of crime within Water Orton.

SSO 04 Local – Security and Safety Objective 04

All pavements, footpaths and walkways shall be safe for use by pedestrians, mobility scooters, pushchairs and children's bicycles.

SSO 05 Local – Security and Safety Objective 05

To ensure that all road users comply to national legislation including local by-laws.

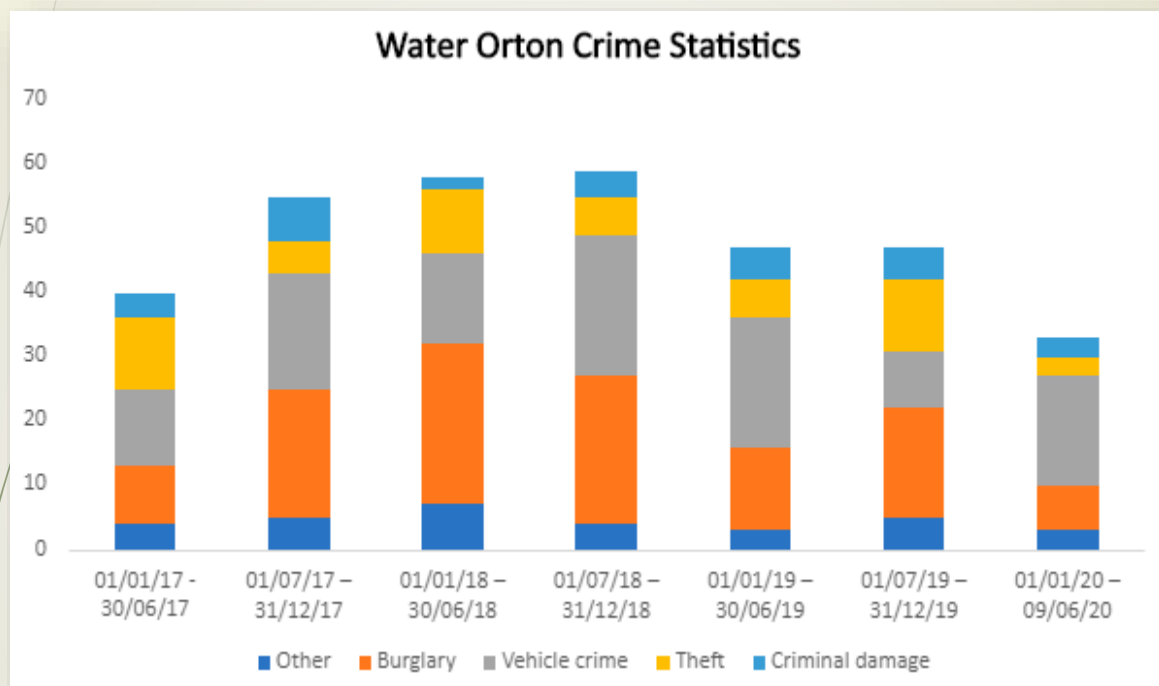


Addendum h - Security and Safety

Local Supporting data

The total number of reported crimes for North Warwickshire West has reduced steadily from 2017 to 2020. In March 2019 Warwickshire police had seen a 45% fall in frontline officers compared to 2010. In February 2019, following an extensive public consultation by the Warwickshire Police Commissioner, Warwickshire Chief Constable was instructed to recruit an additional 85 police officers, 5 police community support officers and 10 civilian crime investigators.

More locally, the crime statistics for Water Orton are shown below:



Policing

99

Since 2019, Water Orton has seen an increased police presence on the streets through the reintroduction of police officers based in Coleshill. The local crime rate chart above demonstrates the value of this local police presence.

The Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner identifies anti-social behaviour as a key issue in his December 2019 Performance Report. The report reflects the perceptions of Water Orton residents. "ASB generally follows a very seasonal trend, from which we would expect volumes to be at their highest in the summer and have a stable low period in the winter months". Water Orton residents expect to see an increased focus on this issue during the 'peak months'. Such an act by the Police would serve to improve the confidence in the Police and to lessen many 'perceived crime' issues.

Water Orton Parish Council supports the NWBC published "Community Safety Partnership Plan" and recognises the prevalence of road safety issues, rural crime and serious acquisitive crime (with a focus on vehicle crime and residential burglary).

Addendum h - Security and Safety

Local Policies

SSP 01 Local – Security and Safety Policy 01

There shall be quarterly key stakeholder reviews of local and national crime statistics. This review shall include road traffic safety. Corrective measures shall be agreed at these review meetings with enforceable actions on all key stake holders and recommended actions to members of the public.

SSP 02 Local – Security and Safety Policy 02

Every two years the Parish Council shall sponsor a public survey to quantify the public perception of safety.

SSP 03 Local – Security and Safety Policy 03

The major issues identified in the “Public Perception of Safety” survey shall be reviewed jointly by key stake holders.

SSP 04 Local – Security and Safety Policy 04

The Parish Council shall inform Warwickshire County Highways of any highways within the Water Orton boundary that do not comply with the Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works Volume 1 - Specification for Highway Works.

SSP 05 Local – Security and Safety Policy 05

Every two years the Parish Council shall carry out a review of all village footpaths against the recognised standards, with a report to be issued to the County Council for action.

SSP 06 Local – Security and Safety Policy 06

Any new build properties should adhere to “Secure by Design” standards.

SSP 07 Local – Security and Safety Policy 07

The Parish Council shall constantly review anti-social-behaviour issues reported informally by residents and ensure that the police deal with each case robustly.

