

# Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Plan Review Consultation Event



Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group welcome you to this community consultation on housing development, Local Green Spaces, Key Views and Heritage Assets.

The existing Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Plan was made in May 2021 following a referendum where the community voted in favour of the Plan. It is now used in the determination of Planning Applications in the neighbourhood area. A copy of the existing neighbourhood plan is available on both the Wiltshire Council, and Parish Council, websites.

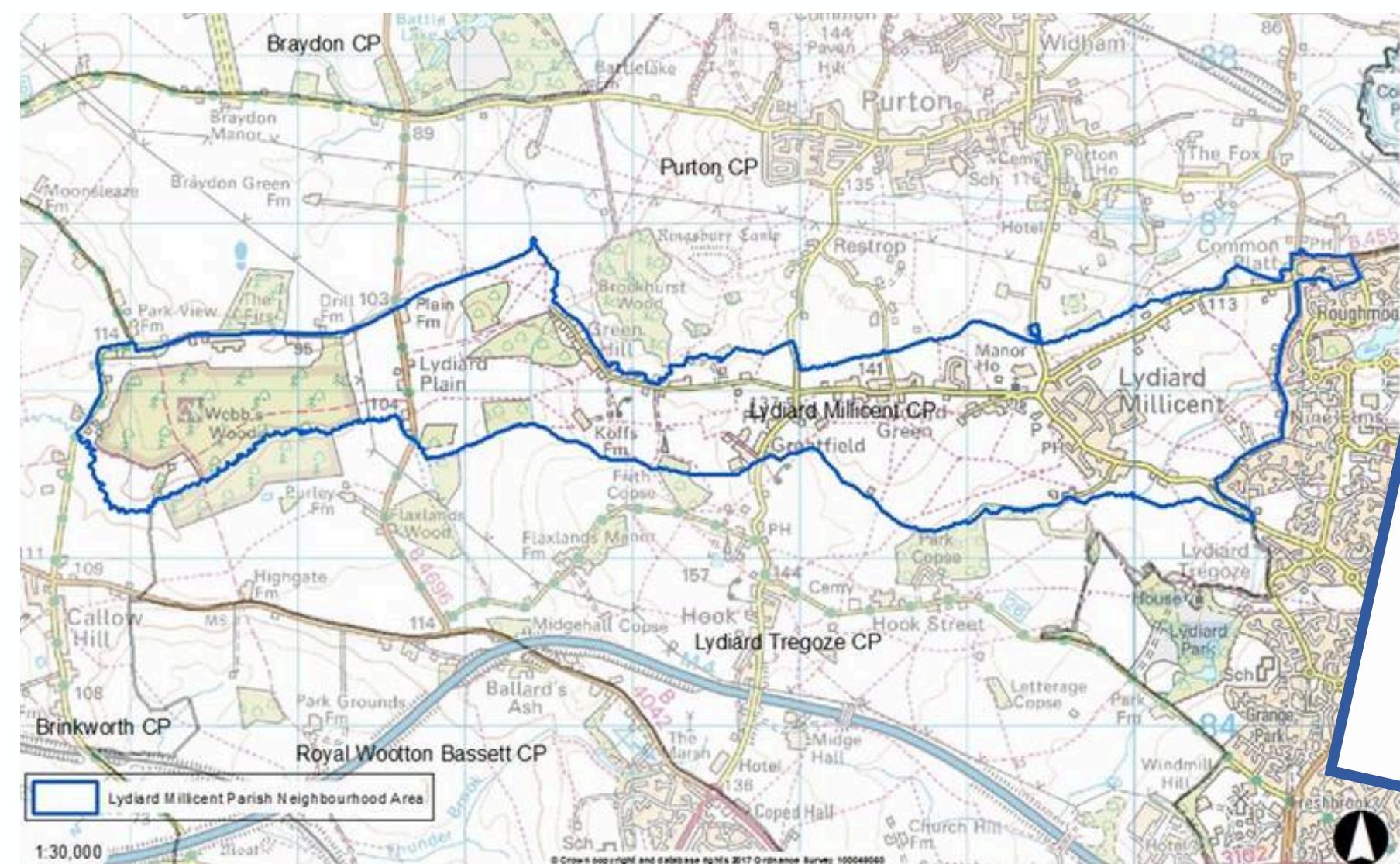
At the start of 2025, the Parish Council launched a Review of the neighbourhood plan, and we undertook a community questionnaire to understand your thoughts on the existing plan and what else needed to be covered. This questionnaire was delivered to every household in the Parish, and published on social media and the parish council website. We received 192 responses to the questionnaire. The headlines of this feedback is shown on the next page and has provided us with a good agenda to take forward through the NDP.

As well as the updated community priorities, the Review will take into account the changes in the national and local planning policy context to ensure the plan remains up to date and effective. This includes latest evidence on housing need, which is further explained later on.

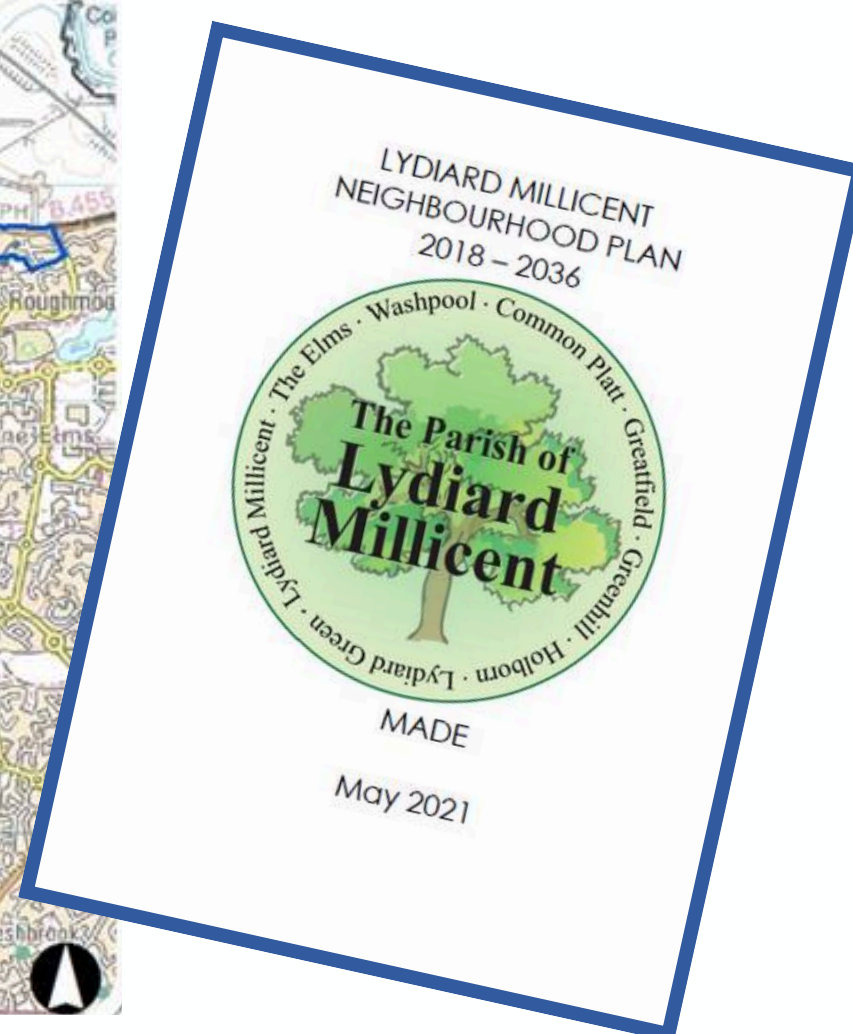
The Review is being progressed by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group - a group established by the Parish Council including Councillors and residents - supported by Master Land and Planning Ltd - experienced neighbourhood plan consultants instructed by the Parish Council.

This consultation is running until the 26<sup>th</sup> October. Responses can be made using our online questionnaire - follow the link below or scan the QR code. Paper copies are also available, please see a member of the Steering Group.

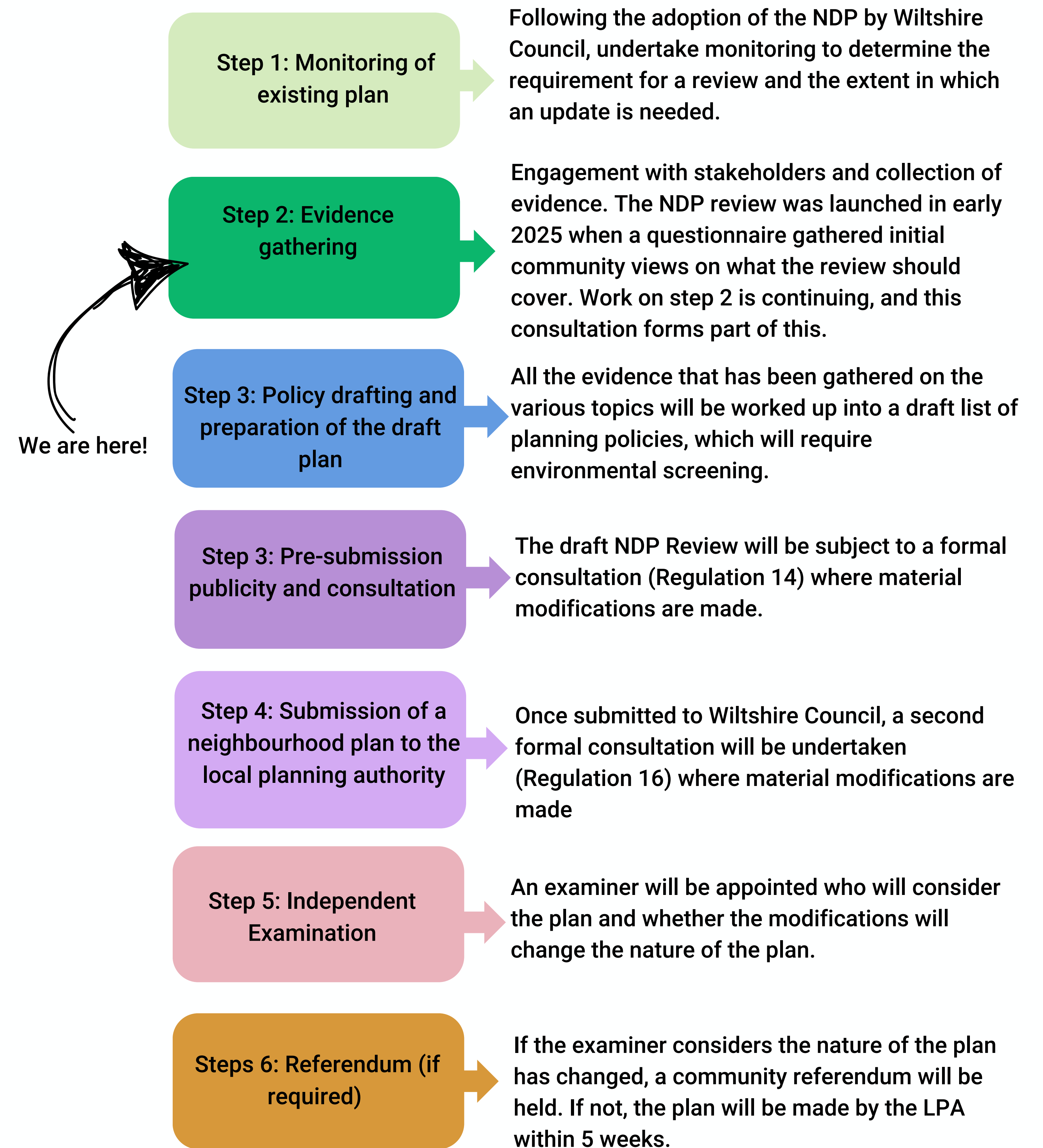
<https://forms.office.com/e/9Fd40NQ69D>



Extract of Lydiard Millicent designated neighbourhood area



## What have we done to date? The stages of the NDP Review



## How do you feel about the existing housing stock?

Almost 3/4s of the respondents wish to stay in their current home, while 7% were seeking to downsize. Those who were looking to move were seeking market homes for sale or care/ sheltered home. Out of those who responded, most existing households comprised of 2 people, however almost 50% recorded having a 4+ bedroom home.

## How should the impacts of climate change be addressed?

60% of respondents were concerned about flooding in the parish, the key areas of concern being The Street, Stone Lane, Washpool, Holborn and Lydiard Green among others. Increased walking and cycling; improved public transport; and better insulating of existing homes were considered the most important characteristics to the most respondents. Large scale renewable energy was considered the least important.

## Are the streets and roads safe and suitable?

Over 57% respondents dislike the traffic situation within the Parish, with matters such as the volume, speed, type of vehicles all being raised as issues. There was a very high level of residents who felt that footpath improvements were needed across the parish. Parking is a concern for almost 3/4s of respondents, with key areas of concern being around the school, village hall and church, as well as The Street and Greenhill. Residents suggested reducing the speed limits, improving roads and potholes, introducing double yellow lines, and traffic calming measures were needed.

## What are the future housing and development needs?

76% of respondents felt the parish should have some new homes built over the next 10 years, the most popular type of housing residents thought were needed included bungalows, open market family homes and affordable homes for sale. Almost 3/4s said that 2-3 bedroom homes were needed most. Over 2/3rds of respondents preferred smaller scale development of either infill or sites of 9 or less dwellings. The locational preference for new development was on brownfield sites or redevelopment of existing housing/ farm buildings. Greenfield sites were least preferred.

# WHAT DID THE COMMUNITY SAY?

## Are the existing facilities suitable?

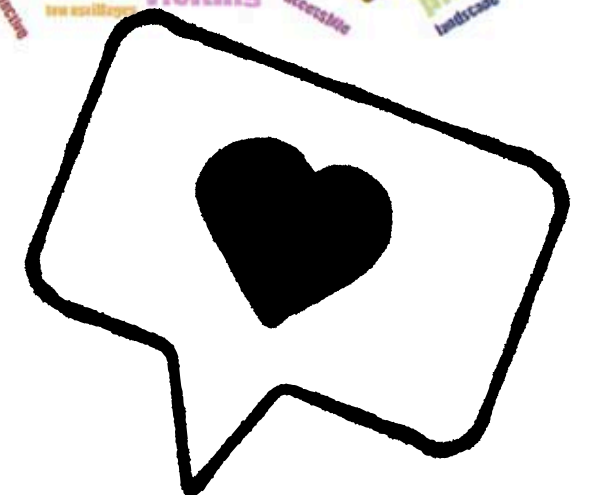
The most important facilities in the parish were considered to be the Parish Hall, Pub and School, as well as the foot and cycle paths. Residents suggested some improvements to the existing facilities including improving the play area in the sports field, internet provision in facilities, providing a village noticeboard, using the village green spaces for more events, and providing seating at the recreation ground. Most commonly, a village shop was mentioned as being desired.

## Do you agree with the existing objectives/what is missing?

All existing objectives received a good level of support (above 69%). The most supported objectives included maintaining the gap between Swindon and LM, sympathetic management of the countryside, and the protection and support of community facilities. Suggestions of additional objectives to be considered included the connection of cycle and foot paths throughout the village, strengthening environmental conservation, and design requirements.

## What do you value most about Lydiard Millicent?

Over 55% of respondents recorded that their household most enjoys the access to the countryside, nature, walks, wildlife and open fields surrounding the village. Approximately 1/3rd of respondents also most like the peacefulness and quiet atmosphere of living in the village. Community spirit and the friendliness of residents was also picked up by a large proportion of the residents.



# Housing Development

## What are Wiltshire Council's proposals for Lydiard Millicent?

Wiltshire Council are currently undertaking a review of their Local Plan which will assess the future levels of need for new homes and employment land up until 2038. The Local Plan is currently going through examination by the Secretary of State. Lydiard Millicent is proposed to be identified within the Swindon Housing Market Area and remain a 'Small Village' within the settlement hierarchy. Small villages are those defined as 'settlements with a low level of services and facilities, and few employment opportunities. Development will be limited to that which responds to local needs and to contribute to their vitality.

The Local Plan does not propose to identify a housing requirement for Small Villages within the strategic policies, there is therefore no requirement to deliver housing within the NDP. However, Wiltshire Council do still support neighbourhood plan-led growth at Small Villages at a suitable scale, and it is the prerogative of the neighbourhood plan groups to consider allocating land to meet local housing needs if evidence supports this.

By allocating additional land for housing in our neighbourhood plan, the community is able to shape development in our village, as well as communicate our expectations and aspirations for where housing should go, what it should look like and what infrastructure would be needed to support it.

**By setting a housing requirement, based on local evidence, and meeting this through allocation(s), our parish will also have additional protection against future development proposals once the NDP review is made.**



## Local evidence of housing need

The community survey in early 2025 showed that 3/4s of the respondents agreed there was a need for some development in Lydiard Millicent over the next 10 years. A range of development sizes were supported with 34% stating there should be between 1 and 10 new homes, 21% stating 11 to 20 new homes, 12% stating 21 - 30 new homes and 9% stating over 30 new homes were needed. In terms of the type of housing needed, residents thought the need is predominantly for bungalows, open market family homes, affordable homes for sale and sheltered accommodation for older people.

In order to better understand the local need and prepare some stronger evidence to support the above, the Steering Group commissioned our consultants to undertake a Housing Needs Assessment (HNA). The HNA sought to look at the need for affordable housing by understanding market signals in Lydiard Millicent, as well as review the existing housing stock and needs of other groups of people. The HNA found the following conclusions:

- The latest data (from May 2025) from Wiltshire Council confirm there are currently a minimum of 4 households registered on the Homes4Wiltshire Housing Register who have stated a local connection to Lydiard Millicent and in need of affordable housing\*. This has decreased from May 2023 when there were 7 households registered.
- The parish has low levels of existing affordable housing stock, which may mean households need to move away from the parish to meet their needs. The provision of new affordable housing within the parish should be considered through the neighbourhood plan or other policy mechanisms.
- House prices in the area are significantly higher than the Wiltshire average - the current average price based on 18 properties currently on sale is £879,444.
- Windfall development arising through 'infill' in the built-up area will not be a scale that would trigger any affordable housing. A housing allocation of a minimum of 20 homes could deliver a plan-led solution to contribute towards meeting the existing and newly arising needs for affordable housing subject to delivery in-line with the 40% requirement set out in the strategic policies of the local plan.
- Over 55% of houses in Lydiard Millicent are 4 or more bedrooms. The majority of bungalows in the parish are also 3 bedrooms or more. There is therefore a significantly low stock of smaller properties.
- There is an ageing demographic of the parish. The provision of new housing should seek to focus on smaller homes that are more appropriately sized, including to meet the needs of those wishing to downsize to 2 bedroom bungalows, potentially encouraging a recycling of the existing stock of larger homes.

\*Affordable housing is defined as housing for sale or rent, for those whose needs are not met by the market. This could be social or affordable rented housing owned by a registered provider, discounted market sales housing sold at least 20% below market value, or other affordable routes such as shared ownership.

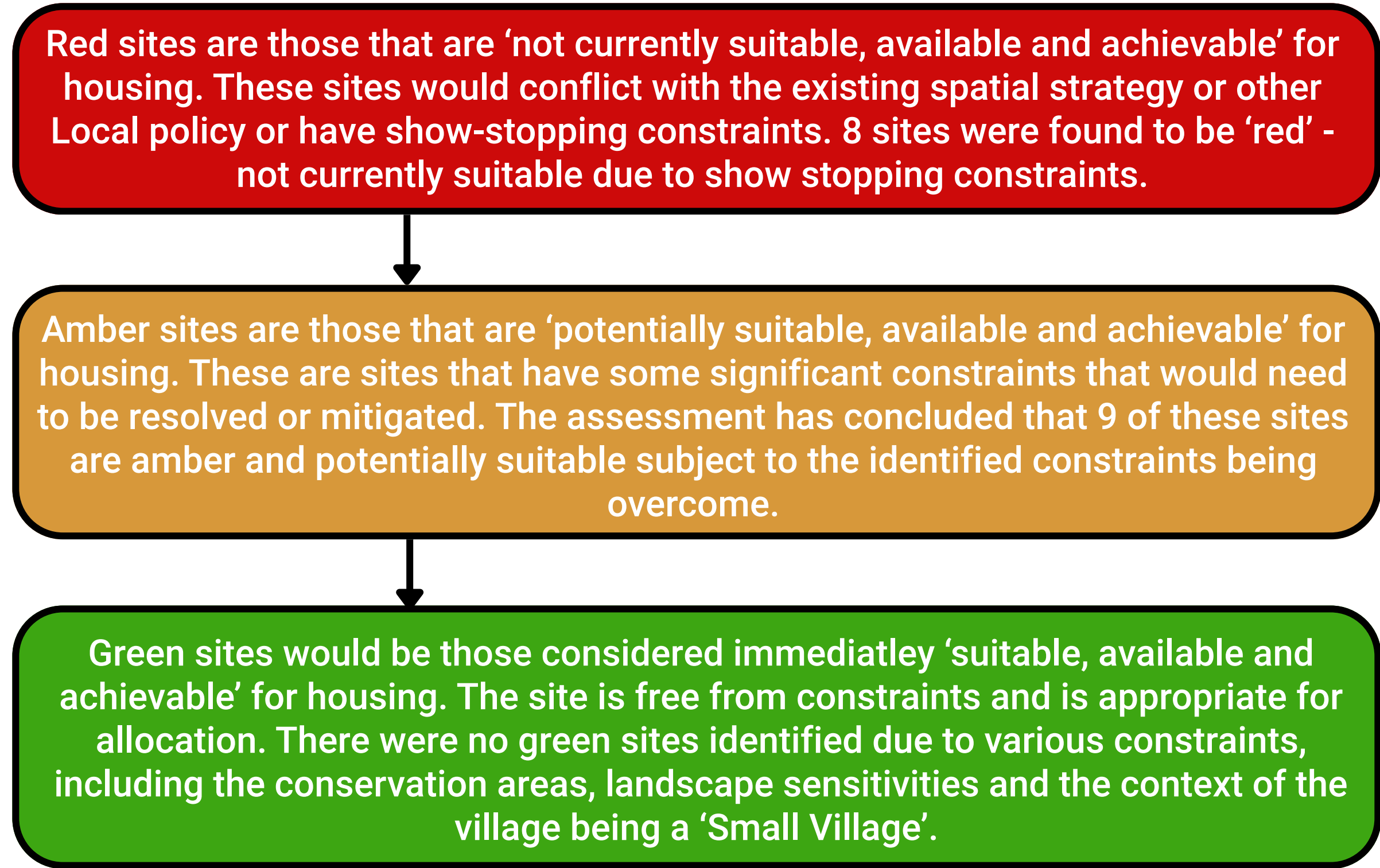
# Potential Site Options for Housing



## The Site Selection Process

The first step in deciding whether we are going to allocate land for housing was to gather a suite of potential sites. This was done through a Call for Sites exercise, undertaken by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group in early 2025. 8 sites across the parish were put forward by landowners. In addition to this, a review of the Wiltshire Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) identified a further 9 sites within the Parish. Therefore, in total, 17 sites were taken forward to an initial stage of assessment to determine their potential suitability for residential allocation.

This comprehensive site assessment process looked at a wide range of physical, environmental, landscape, historical, accessibility and planning related constraints. Each site was given a red, amber or green rating based on their suitability for allocation in the plan.



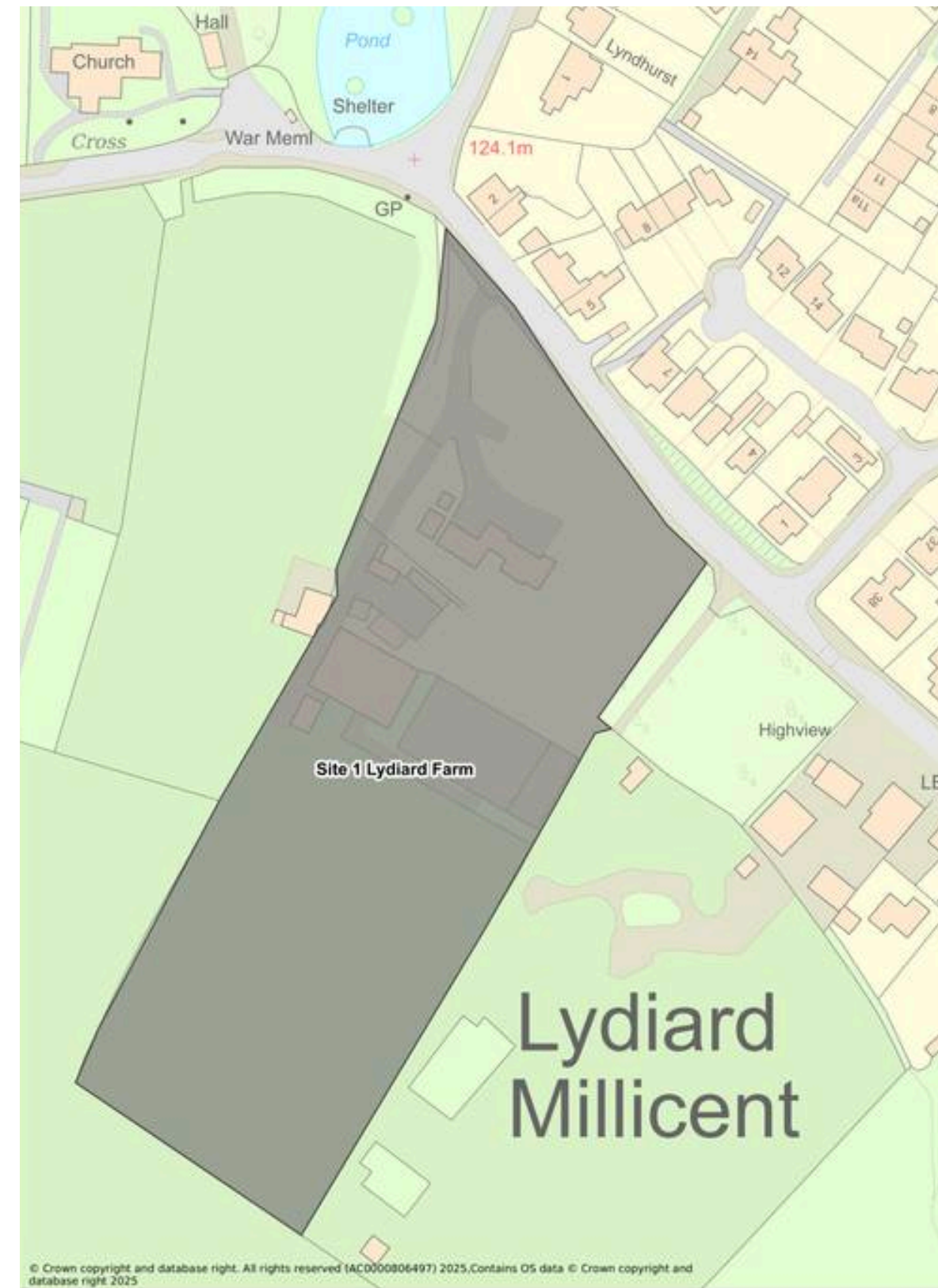
The results are shown on the adjacent map, with the full assessment methodology and details available in the Site Assessment Report, which is available on the Parish Council website: [https://www.lydiardmillicent-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood\\_plan.aspx](https://www.lydiardmillicent-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood_plan.aspx)

**For the avoidance of any doubt, this assessment does not propose to allocate all of these areas of land for development. No decisions have yet been made on whether or where to allocate land for housing. This assessment is an early stage in the process for the Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Plan Review. We are now seeking to understand where the community's preferred location is for delivering housing that would meet local needs. The following pages set out further information on the amber sites and why they have been assessed as potentially suitable.**



# Potential Site Options for Housing

## Site 1: Lydiard Farm



This is a mixed greenfield and brownfield site within the built-up area of LM and in reasonable walking distance from the village services and public transport options.

Access can be achieved via the existing residential access or recently approved widened access in the north-eastern corner.

The front half of the site, which contains all the existing buildings is located within the LM Conservation Area. To the site frontage are a number of mature trees which form an important landscape feature in the street scene and conservation area.

The site is well defined from the wider countryside, some views into the site are possible from public footpaths in the fields to the south.

The site has capacity to deliver between 12 and 36 homes, however development at the upper end of this scale would be in excess of local needs and change the character of the village, only development towards the lower end would be considered potentially suitable.

## Site 2: Greensend



This is a greenfield site located at Lydiard Green however not in walking distance of the village services. Bus stops are located approximately 250m away.

The site contains the existing residential property of Greensend, its garden and paddock to the rear.

The site contains a large pond which contributes to the green and blue infrastructure of the parish, and ecological value would need to be assessed.

The site is relatively well defined from the wider countryside to the north and views of the site are limited to those from the highway, however it is recognised that development of the site would extend built form to the north of Lydiard Green which is somewhat uncharacteristic of this part of the village.

The site has capacity to deliver between 8 and 24 homes, although it is noted that the landowner has proposed a development of 4 bungalow style properties.

## Site 4: Bailey's Piece



This is a greenfield site within the built-up area of LM and in reasonable walking distance from the village services and public transport options.

Access could be achieved from The Street.

The proximity of the site to the Lydiard Service Station and Sun Inn may give rise to amenity concerns which would need to be assessed.

Most of the site is located within the LM Conservation Area. To the site frontage are a number of mature trees which form an important landscape feature in the street scene and conservation area. This land has previously been considered to form an important open gap in the Conservation Area.

The site is well defined from the wider countryside, public footpath LMIL70 runs along the site boundary however the site may be seen in context with the existing garage and built-form.

The site has capacity to deliver between 6 and 20 homes.

# Potential Site Options for Housing

## Site 5: The Coach House



This is a small brownfield site that although is outside of the main settlement of Lydiard Millicent, is within the built-up area of Common Platt/ Washpool and closely related to Swindon, in reasonable walking distance from services in Swindon, and public transport options.

There is an existing commercial access that could be used subject to evaluation of visibility splays.

The site has low landscape and visual sensitivity owing to its location within the built-up area and the existing 1 and 2 storey buildings.

Only a small part of the site is within the parish boundary, and only this part can be considered for allocation in the NDP. The capacity of the site is therefore limited to being able to deliver between 1 and 3 homes.

## Site 9: Land adjacent Meadow Springs



This is a large greenfield site adjacent to the existing settlement and in reasonable walking distance to the village services and public transport options.

Access could be taken from Meadow Springs.

The site is fairly well enclosed from the wider landscape and countryside by the framework of boundary vegetation however, the site lies within the designated Local Gap which serves to prevent the coalescence of the village to Swindon. Development here would erode the spatial gap, the retention of which is a key priority for the residents and NDP. A footpath also runs along the northern boundary of the site.

The site is currently subject to a pending planning application for up to 56 dwellings. This is the maximum capacity of the site which is between 18 and 56 homes. This scale of development is significantly in excess of the local needs and would be uncharacteristic of the village. It is recognised that this scale of development is unsupported by the residents and village. The assessment has concluded that only a reduced scale of development would be potentially suitable in this location.

## Site 11: Land north of Lydiard Green



This is a large site that comprises a mix of brownfield and greenfield land. It is located adjacent to the built up area of Lydiard Green however is not in walking distance of the village services. Bus stops are located approximately 170m away.

Access may be possible from the existing access between Nos 2 and 4 Lydiard Green. The site includes some existing commercial buildings to the rear of 2 Lydiard Green as well as north of Bagbury Park. The proximity of the site to Bagbury Park could give rise to some amenity concerns.

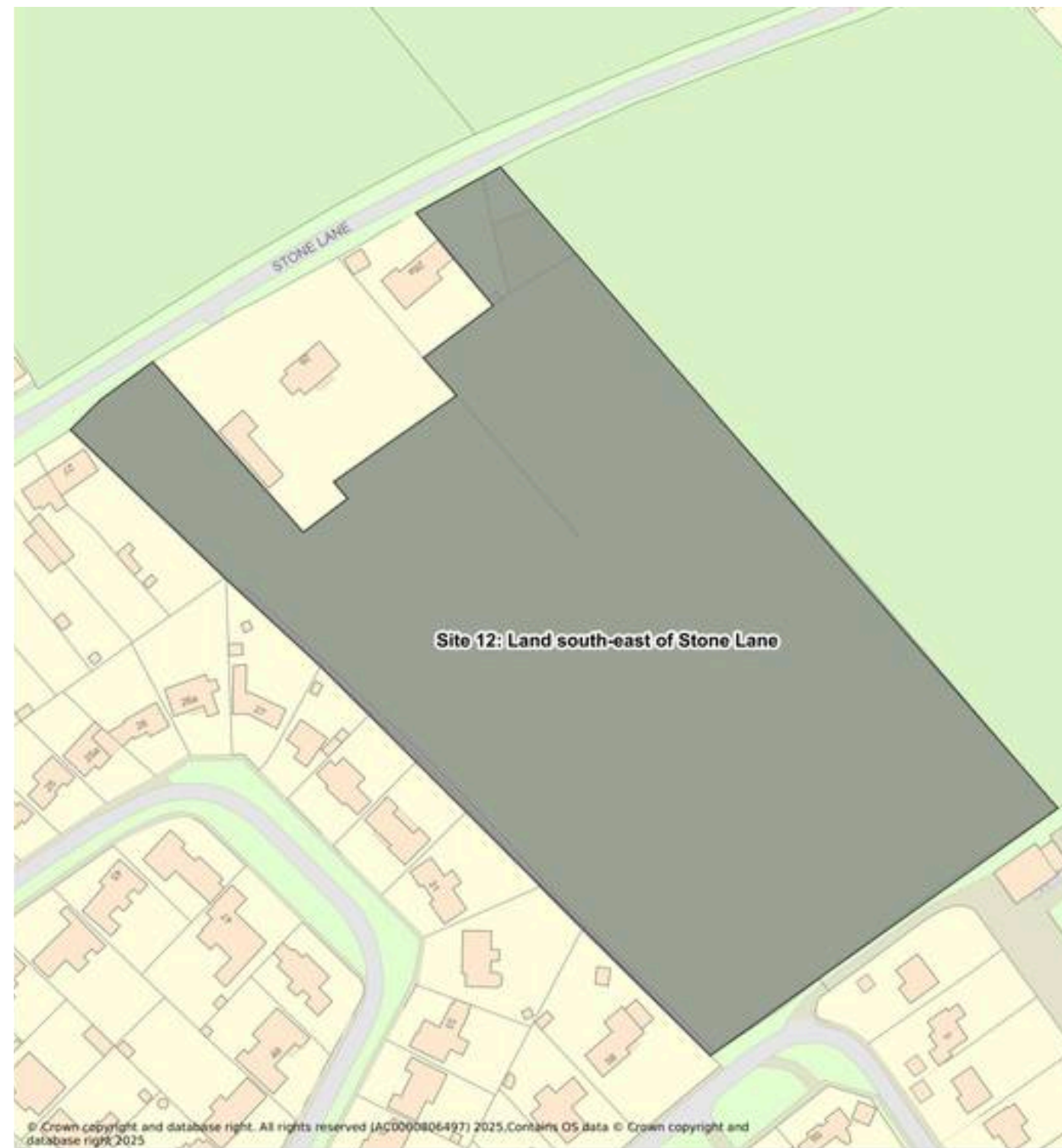
Although large, the site comprises defined parcels of land which are separated from the wider countryside through boundary vegetation. Views into the site are limited to those from the highway as there are no footpaths within or surrounding the site. Development of the site would extend built form to the north of Lydiard Green which is somewhat uncharacteristic of this part of the village.

The site has capacity to deliver between 26 and 79 homes, however development of this scale would be in excess of local needs and change the character of the village, only development towards the lower end and on a smaller component of the site would be considered potentially suitable.

The availability of the site is unknown as it was identified through the SHELAA, and would appear to have multiple ownerships

# Potential Site Options for Housing

## Site 12: Land south-east of Stone Lane



This is a large greenfield site adjacent to the existing settlement and in reasonable walking distance to the village services and public transport options. It is recognised that there is no footway along Stone Lane.

Access could be taken from Stone Lane with the possibility of pedestrian connections to Chestnut Springs..

This relatively large site forms part of the open agricultural landscape to the north-east of the village which does contribute to the rural setting of the parish, however the residential development to the west and south provide some sense of enclosure and limit the landscape sensitivity of the site. Development towards the west of the site could therefore be read in conjunction with the existing settlement.

The site has capacity to deliver between 26 and 78 homes, however development of this scale would be in excess of local needs and change the character of the village, only development towards the lower end and on a smaller component of the site would be considered potentially suitable.

The availability of the site is unknown as it was identified through the SHELAA.

## Site 14: Land west of Washpool



This is a greenfield site that although is outside of the main settlement of Lydiard Millicent, is adjacent to Washpool and closely related to the Peatmoor area Swindon, in reasonable walking distance from services in Swindon, and public transport options.

Access could be achieved off Washpool.

Internally the site is open although dense vegetation to the boundaries mean it is well defined from the surrounding agricultural fields. Only glimpsed views are possible into the site from the existing access points, as there are no footpaths within or adjacent to it. The site is bound by existing residential development to the east and south, which form a linear pattern along Washpool and provides some scope for development on the site to consolidate the frontage which development may be read in conjunction with.

The site has capacity to deliver between 13 and 40 homes, however development at the upper end of this scale would be in excess of local needs and change the character of the village, only development towards the lower end would be considered potentially suitable.

The availability of the site is unknown as it was identified through the SHELAA.

## Site 16: Land adjoining 39a Stone Lane



This is a greenfield site that although is outside of the main settlement of Lydiard Millicent, is within the built-up area of Common Platt/ Washpool and closely related to Swindon, in reasonable walking distance from services in Swindon, and public transport options. It is recognised that there is no footway along Stone Lane.

Access could be achieved from Stone Lane.

It is noted the site has been subject to a recently refused planning application for 9 dwellings, which was refused due to its location outside the settlement and highways safety concerns.

The site has limited landscape sensitivity as it is very well enclosed by residential development to the north, east, south and west with limited views into the site.

The site has capacity to deliver between 6 and 20 homes.

The availability of the site is unknown as it was identified through the SHELAA.

# Local Green Space Designations

## What is a Local Green Space?

National Planning Policy allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them by designating them as Local Green Space (LGS). This power has the effect of imposing similar controls to those that apply within the Green Belt, effectively protecting the site from most development.

Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion. For example, green areas could include land where sports pavilions, greens or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, or urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis. The criteria for LGS is set out in National Policy, which states the designation should only be used where the green space is:

- a) *in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- b) *demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
- c) *is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.*

The existing NDP designates two areas of land as LGS which will be retained. These are the Recreation Field on Chestnut Springs, and the Community Field adjacent to the Parish Hall.

As part of the NDP review, we are reassessing the parish to determine if any more areas should be designated as Local Green Space.

The community survey in early 2025, as well as the Steering Group and consultants have identified a few candidate sites including the following:

- The green link between The Mews and Meadow Springs
- The Cemetery
- Echo Lodge Meadows
- Webbs Wood

## Are there any other areas you feel should be designated as Local Green Space?

The area would ideally have public access and must take into account the criteria above (i.e. not an extensive tract of land such as all fields surrounding the village). Please let us know your nominations which will be assessed by the Steering Group.



# Local Heritage Assets in the neighbourhood area

Local heritage plays an essential role in building and reinforcing a sense of local character and distinctiveness in the historic environment.

Lydiard Millicent already contains several designated heritage assets including 16 statutory listed buildings, including one Grade II\* listed building (The Church of All Saints), two conservation areas, and a significant number of sites, buildings and monuments recorded on the Wiltshire and Swindon Historic Environment Record (HER).

As part of the neighbourhood plan, it is possible to define further assets as 'non-designated' heritage assets (NDHA).

## What is a Non-Designated Heritage Asset?

This designation recognises that the building has some historic significance, which can positively influence the character of the local area, be it through its historical associations, age, or appearance. The designation does not apply any formal statutory listing however does mean that the significance of the asset should be valued and taken into account as a material consideration within planning applications that may affect the site or surrounding environment.

All heritage asset types, including monuments, sites, places, areas, parks, gardens and designed landscapes / parkland may be considered for inclusion in the neighbourhood plan as a NDHA.

## What is the criteria for a non-designated heritage asset?

1. The building/ site has architectural interest or quality relating to local styles, materials, techniques etc.
2. The building/ site is a landmark feature within the parish.
3. The building/ site has a relationship with designated heritage assets, such as being part of their setting.
4. The building/ site has historical associations of local or national note, including links to important local figures or landscapes.
5. The building/ site illustrates the development and evolution of the area
6. The building/ site contributes positively to the character or appearance of the area.
7. Other local reasons of special value may be identified where appropriate.

The Steering Group have identified a number of buildings which they consider could be suitable for identification as a NDHA in the Neighbourhood Plan, subject to assessment, as listed below.

## Lydiard Millicent Village

- Lydiard House
- Lydiard House Farm
- Church Farm
- The Manor House Dovecot and Magge's Cottage
- No. 3 Glebe Cottage
- No. 4 The Butts
- Rectory Cottage
- The Old School building
- The Old School House
- 2-5 The Street
- The Old Post Office
- The Sun Inn
- The Old Bake House (21 The Street)
- Telephone Box

## Greatfield

- Beaumont House
- Greatfield House

## Greenhill

- Telephone Box
- Barn at No.17

## Lydiard Green

- Hedge - Ancient Hundreds
- No 12
- Lydiard Cottage

**Do you agree with this list? Should any be removed or are there more that should be considered?**



# Key Views in Lydiard Millicent

The rural character and landscape setting of Lydiard Millicent, in conjunction with the well-used rights of way network, have been identified by the Steering Group and wider community as priorities for protection and management by the Neighbourhood Plan.

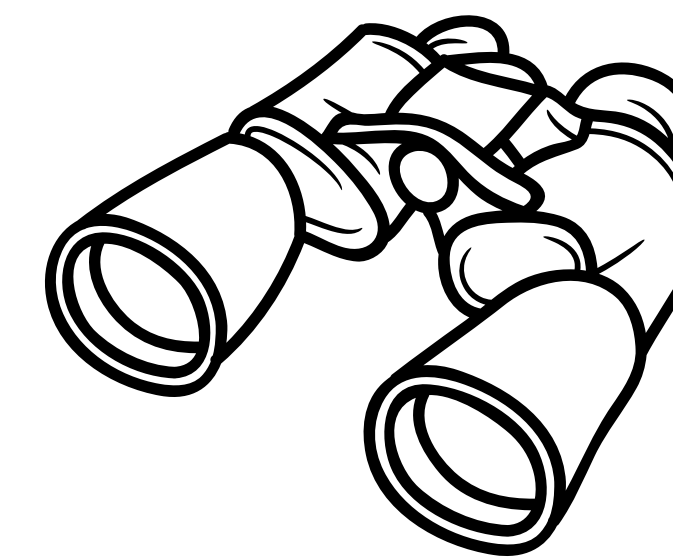
The current NDP identified a number of important views and policy LM4 requires development proposals to take into account the important views by way of building layouts, built form, height, mass and building line amongst other factors.

As part of the NDP review we are re-assessing these views to ensure those of most importance are identified and ensure we cover the whole parish. The following criteria are being used by the Steering Group to assess the value of suggested Key Views within the neighbourhood area:

1. Key Views must be accessible by the public and visible from the public highway, the rights of way network, open spaces, or proposed / designated local green space.
2. Key Views should show a range of physical (natural or man-made) features and an expanse of the parish, not one particular object unless this is a building or feature of particular cultural heritage – examples may include Listed Buildings such as the All Saints Church or key features of the conservation areas.
3. Key Views should merit at least one of the following values: aesthetic, biodiversity, cultural heritage, functional, recreational, or tranquillity.
  - Aesthetic – Views with strong aesthetic qualities that appeal to the visual senses
  - Biodiversity – Views containing the presence of valued natural capital assets that contribute to ecosystems, habitats and ecological networks.
  - Cultural heritage - Presence of historic landmark structures including local assets
  - Functional – View of the landscape that have strong physical or functional links with landscape designations, such as special landscape areas or national landscapes.
  - Recreational – From a place offering recreational opportunities where experience of a view(s) is important to the enjoyment of the activity.
  - Tranquillity – A location offering high levels of tranquillity or perceptions of tranquillity.

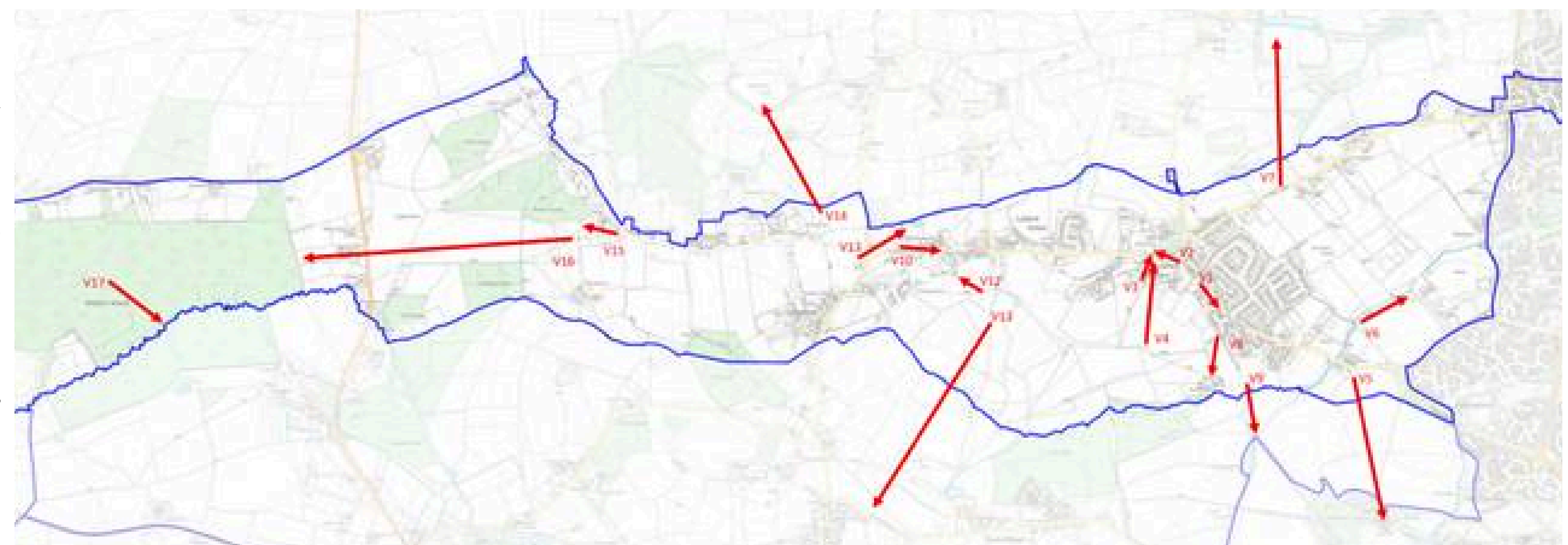
The Steering Group have identified a number of views which they consider should be protected as a Key View in the Neighbourhood Plan. These have gone through an assessment based on the criteria above. In total, 17 views have been found to meet the criteria for identification as a Key View. These are shown mapped below.

**Are there any other views you feel could be identified as a Key View, having regard to the criteria?**



## Definition of a Key View

A Key View is a publicly accessible viewpoint in the Neighbourhood Area that is reflective of what makes our settlements distinct as a rural community. The views are memorable and appreciated. They provide an attractive setting or backdrop, encompassing an important feature of settlement history and the way the built and natural landscape has been shaped by those living within, worked in it, and by nature.

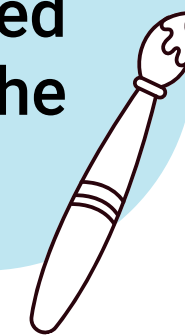


# Other policy areas for the NDP Review

This consultation focuses on the housing options, Local Green Space, local heritage assets and Key Views. However there are other topic areas which we are exploring for inclusion in our Neighbourhood Plan Review. These are summarised below:

## Design

The current NDP contains policies on managing design in Lydiard Millicent and Lydiard Green. The policies covered these focused areas as they were targeted towards the conservation areas. We are looking at opportunities to expand the design policies across the wider parish.



## Community facilities/ employment

The NDP Review will continue to protect and encourage enhancement of community facilities. It will also continue to encourage the retention of the existing established employment areas, and allow for their expansion where there is demand.

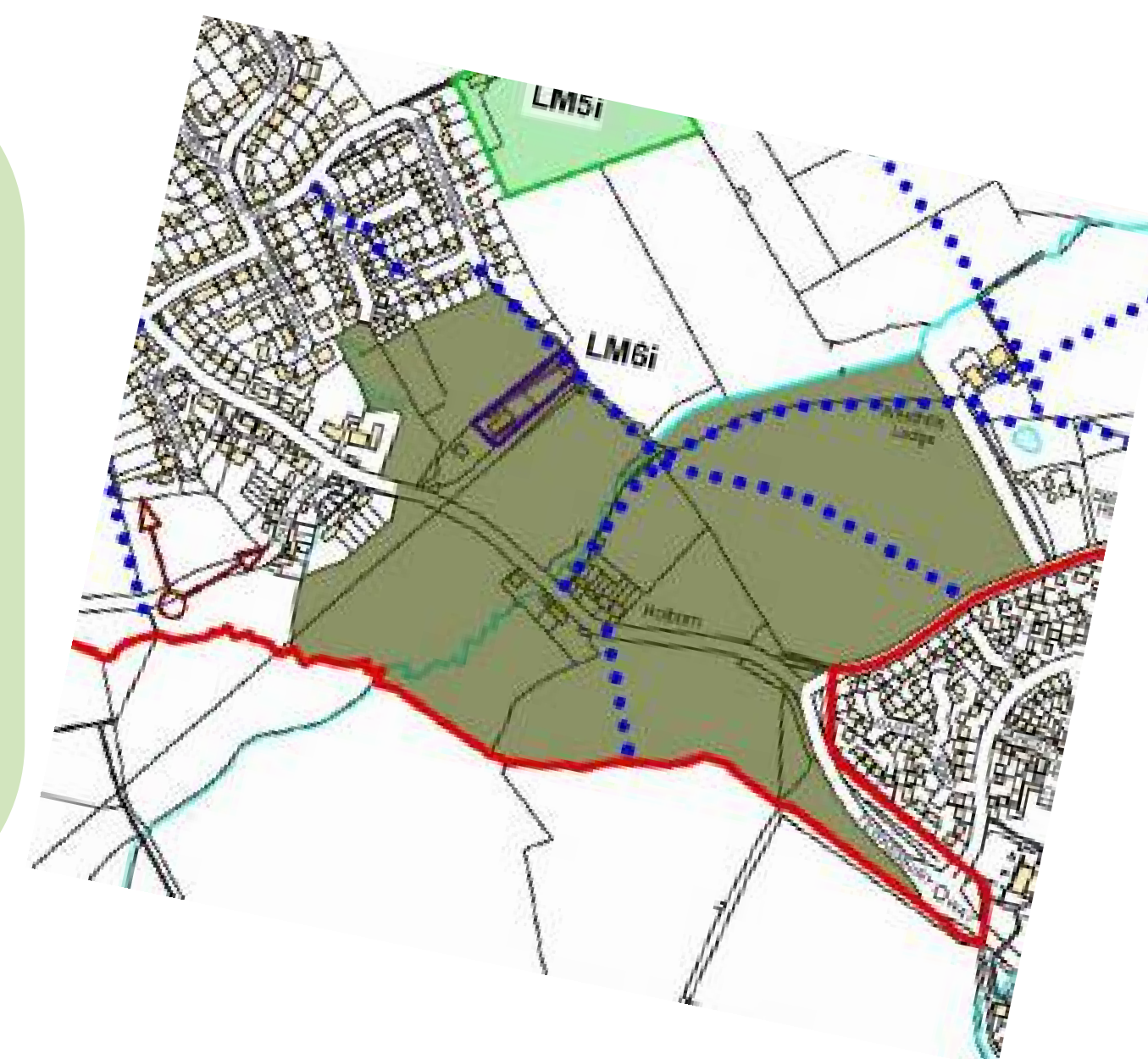
## Climate Change and Flooding

We are exploring new policies that deal with how development could better respond and adapt to the changing climate. For example looking at sustainable design and construction and ensure development mitigates and adapts to the effects of climate change, including through water efficiency, electric vehicle charging, and renewable energy.

## Local Gap

The current NDP designates an area to the east of Lydiard Millicent as a 'Local Gap' for the purposes of preventing the coalescence of the village of Lydiard Millicent with Swindon. The policy sets out that 'development proposals within the Local Gap will only be supported if they do not harm, individually or cumulatively, its open character.'

This policy and the intention behind it continues to be a priority for the residents, as confirmed by the community consultation. We will be retaining the local gap policy, reviewing the evidence for this and its extents, as well as if additional protections could be applied, such as to the south of Holborn where the land acts as a buffer to the Lydiard Park Registered Park and Garden.



## Housing Mix

Our evidence to date has revealed the parish has a high stock of larger properties, with over 55% of the parish living in houses with 4 or more bedrooms, this is significantly higher than the Wiltshire average which is approximately 28% of households having 4 or more bedrooms. Less than 17% of households in Lydiard Millicent live in 1 or 2 bedroom houses.

Additionally 77% of households in the parish live in detached dwellings. While we have a high proportion of bungalows in the parish - approximately 27% of the dwelling stock - the majority of these are also larger properties with 3 or more bedrooms.

There is a clear gap in the parish for smaller dwellings which would widen the choice for smaller households, those downsizing and increase affordability. Irrespective of whether we decide to allocate land for housing in the NDP, we will therefore be seeking to control the size and mix of any new dwellings developed in the parish over the plan period, to ensure a majority of smaller dwellings (such as 2 bedroom bungalows for example).

## Green and Blue Infrastructure

We are exploring how the NDP can identify and protect key areas of biodiversity and wildlife value through the identification of Green and Blue Infrastructure corridors. For example along the Lydiard Brook to the east of the village.

## Active Travel

The current NDP identifies Movement Routes throughout the parish for protection, and identifies improvements to the existing infrastructure to allow more people to walk or cycle to local services. This policy will be retained and updated where necessary.



# Responding to the consultation

It is important that our neighbourhood plan review reflects the opinion and priorities of the residents of Lydiard Millicent. This informal consultation provides an opportunity for the whole community to have your say on how our parish should develop, as well as be conserved over the next 10 to 15 years.

## WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

The consultation is open for 3 weeks in total, closing on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

We want as many people as possible to respond to this consultation. Each member of your household can have their say and complete a copy of this comments form.

Paper forms are available today, and will be available throughout the consultation from the Parish Hall. Alternatively, please fill out our survey online by following the link below or scanning the QR Code.

<https://forms.office.com/e/9Fd40NQ69D>



### Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Plan Consultation 5<sup>th</sup> October – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have commenced work on our neighbourhood plan review. Neighbourhood Plans empower local communities to shape their areas by setting out policies for development and growth, influencing the location, type, and appearance of new homes, shops, and community facilities. The current Lydiard Millicent Neighbourhood Plan has served the community well, but it was 'made' in 2021 and needs to be reviewed to ensure it remains relevant, effective and consistent with national and local policies. Given the increased national pressure for more housing, it is more important than ever that our Neighbourhood Plan articulates clearly where and what development is encouraged within Lydiard Millicent parish, as well as where it is unwelcome.

- As part of this consultation, we are seeking your views on the following:
- Potential site options for the development of housing to meet local needs
  - Key Views
  - Local Green Space
  - Local Heritage Assets

Detailed information on each of these matters can be via the consultation documents on the Parish Council Website: <https://www.lydiardmillicent.gov.uk/NeighbourhoodPlan.aspx>

#### Potential Site Options

As part of the initial stages in determining whether to allocate land for housing to meet local needs, we are seeking the community's views on where the preferred location for small-scale development is. 9 sites have been identified as being potentially suitable locations following a comprehensive first assessment. Please note, the assessment does not propose to allocate all of these areas of land but rather the 'potential' sites are to be carried forward to the next stage of the site selection process and more detailed evaluation. These sites are shown on the map below.

We are seeking your views on whether you support residential development on these sites. It is important to highlight that the sites do not have to be developed in full, and the plan can decide how much of a site can be developed and for how many houses.



Full details of these, and all other sites assessed, including the methodology for assessment can be found in the Site Assessment Report which is published as part of this consultation. All consultation material is available at: <https://www.lydiardmillicent.gov.uk/NeighbourhoodPlan.aspx>

Q1: Are you a resident of Lydiard Millicent Parish? Yes  No

Q2: What is your postcode? \_\_\_\_\_

Site 1 - Lydiard Farm  
Do you support the principle of housing on this site? Yes  No   
Do you have any comments? \_\_\_\_\_

Site 2 - Greenstead  
Do you support the principle of housing on this site? Yes  No   
Do you have any comments? \_\_\_\_\_

Site 4 - Bailey's Piece  
Do you support the principle of housing on this site? Yes  No   
Do you have any comments? \_\_\_\_\_

Site 5 - The Coach House  
Do you support the principle of housing on this site? Yes  No   
Do you have any comments? \_\_\_\_\_

Site 9 - Land adjoining Meadow Springs  
Do you support the principle of housing on this site? Yes  No   
Do you have any comments? \_\_\_\_\_



## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

### INFORMAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Now

We are undertaking an informal community consultation on the shortlist of potential site options for housing development. This consultation seeks the views on the community's preference(s) for locating allocations, as part of our early stages of site selection. Views are also sought on the other aspects of Local Green Space, Views, and Local Heritage

### FURTHER EVALUATION OF SITE OPTIONS

Late 2025

Alongside the views of the community, the site options will be further appraised against the NDP objectives. This, combined with the previous community consultation will help the Steering Group identify the potentially most suitable sites to meet our local needs. Further detailed evaluation, such as conversations with landowners will allow only the best sites to be taken forward.

### POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Early 2026

All the evidence that has been gathered on the various topics will now be worked up into a draft list of planning policies. Wiltshire Council will then need to review the draft policies to screen them for environmental impacts. Depending on WC's decision, a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) may be required to support our plan. We will provide an update again once Wiltshire have screened our draft policies.

### PRE-SUBMISSION CONSULTATION (REG 14)

Spring/ Summer 2026

Following any environmental work that is needed, the draft policies, plan and evidence will be finalised. The NDP, and all supporting information including the various topic papers on site selection, green space, heritage and more, will be published for formal consultation with the community and stakeholders. **This is the community's opportunity to comment on the draft plan before it is submitted.**

### REVIEW AND SUBMISSION

Autumn/ Winter 2026

All of the formal consultation responses will be reviewed and modifications made or further information gathering completed if necessary. The NDP will then be approved by the PC and submitted to Wiltshire Council who will undertake a further statutory consultation (Regulation 16), **giving the community a final chance to express their views.**

