

Blewbury Parish Plan 2004



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Blewbury Parish Council
In association with
The Blewbury Village Society and the BVS Environment Group

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1 Introduction

1.1 Blewbury Parish Plan

This **Blewbury Parish Plan** was commissioned by the Blewbury Parish Council in association with the Blewbury Village Society (BVS) and the BVS Environment Group in November 2002, and approved in June 2004. It is intended to be valid for the next 10 years. It also provides useful reference material on the Parish.

The Parish Plan is in the context of the Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2011 (The Local Plan). The Parish Plan, which includes a Village Design Statement, does not repeat policies that are already established in that Local Plan. Furthermore, the Parish Plan has not been adopted by the Vale of White Horse District Council as Supplementary Planning Guidance. However, VOWHDC planning officers have indicated that this document could provide valuable background information in cases involving appeal or dispute. The version of the Local Plan referred to for this Parish Plan was the First Deposit Draft dated November 2002.

While the Parish Plan was being developed Oxfordshire County Council commissioned a Didcot Area Integrated Transport Strategy. This Strategy makes recommendations for the major roads in the area, and so the transport proposals of the Parish Plan are concerned only with minor roads in the Parish.

This Parish Plan begins with a short appraisal of the Parish. The subsequent sections set out the guidance, policies and actions that together form the Blewbury Parish Plan:

The **Village Design Statement** describes some of the important features of the Village, and highlights considerations arising from these, which should influence any building in the Village and in particular the consideration of planning applications by the Parish Council.

The **Parish Initiatives** section is intended primarily for use by the Parish Council and other Village organisations and residents. It assumes a general knowledge of Blewbury and records policies and proposed actions where Blewbury is expecting to take the initiative.

The **Action Plan** records where organisations have accepted responsibility for carrying forward different policies in the plan.

The initial stage of the planning process was the research into the issues that mattered to residents of the Parish. This Plan only tackles some of the concerns raised in this research - those for which a medium term strategy or policy for the Parish is the appropriate solution. Some issues are within the responsibilities of single organisations in the Village, or are short term. Others, such as the requirements for bus services, are under review by other bodies in contact with the Parish Council. It did not seem sensible for this Plan to offer conclusions which might differ in detail from the advice given as a result of other consultations.

Appendices and maps provide background information to support the understanding of Blewbury and the proposals in this Plan. There are two appendices, one provides information from the 2001 census, and the second covers the Listed Buildings in the Parish.

The following maps are included at the end of the plan:

- The **Parish Map** shows the Parish boundary and public rights of way.
- The **Conservation and Growth Map** illustrates the growth of the Village over time, and shows the Conservation Area as updated in 1990 and areas with planning consent for new developments.
- The **Landscape and Environment Map** names features in the Village and presents a view of the important environmental characteristics of the Village - including streams, open spaces, footpaths and other rights of way. It also shows the contribution to the environment of key buildings, walls and hedges.

1.2 Development of the Plan and Acknowledgements

Blewbury has produced two earlier plans, one in 1967 and a second in 1985. These provided a good basis for the preparation of this plan. In 1998 there was a comprehensive Village Appraisal which is still believed to be valid in most particulars.

Preparation of the Parish Plan was organised by a Steering Committee set up by the BVS Environment Group and the Parish Council. Members of the Steering Committee came from different areas in the Parish, and included a number of current and previous members of the Parish Council and other Village organisations.

Blewbury Village Society members have continued to provide considerable assistance in the preparation of the plan. The work has been assisted by with a grant from the Countryside Agency Vital Villages Programme; Laura Cooke of the Countryside Agency has given helpful advice, and valuable assistance has been received from David Fisher and Anton Nath of the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council.

In line with such advice, the widest possible input from the community has been sought both in the issues to be tackled and in the solutions recommended. Progress on the plan and a record of all comments received was reported on the Blewbury web site (www.blewbury.co.uk).

Input on the issues that concern the Parish were obtained by:

- contacts with over 100 organisations in the Parish,
- requests in the Blewbury Bulletin - a monthly newsletter delivered to every house in the Parish,
- a questionnaire delivered with the Bulletin,
- a public meeting in April 2003 and
- two open days in May 2003. These were attended by over 150 residents and generated considerable further input.

Policies to address these issues were developed by Working Parties involving people with interests in the different topics being discussed. Five working parties involving a total of thirty people covered:

- Village Appraisal including Environment and Housing issues,
- Roads, Traffic, Transport, Parking, Footpaths,
- Meeting Places and the Village Hall,
- Recreation in Blewbury,
- Community Initiatives, e.g. organisations, volunteers, litter, shops, medical etc.

The policies were then presented for discussion and refinement:

- at a poster feedback session in the Village Hall in October 2003,
- by Parish Council Committees, by the Blewbury Village Society Committee, and by a joint meeting of both bodies, and
- by the BVS Environment Group.

The proposed contents of the plan were then presented for review by the Parish in the Village Hall in February 2004, and the Village Appraisal section was discussed with Ken Dijkstra of the Vale of White Horse Planning Department. The revised plan was approved by the BVS Environment Group, by the Blewbury Village Society Committee and finally by the Parish Council.

Those in the Parish who have taken an active role in the preparation of this plan include:

Emma Austin, Sue Berry, Richard Bird, Martin Brassell, Penny Brassell, Bruce Brock, Peter Cockrell, Brian Duckett, Christina Duckett, Kathy Edmunds, Mike Edmunds, Richard Farrell, Ron Freeborn, Bruce Gibson, Bill Gore, Iain Hope, Catherine Howard, Keith Ifould, Mary Jarvis, Judy Lloyd-Jones, Audrey Long, Mike Marshall, Martin Murray, Hugh Osborn, Ian Parsons, Mark Phillips, Anita Rendel, Coral Richards, John Richards (co-ordinator), Edward Salter, Tony Salter, Hilary Savage, Bernardine Shirley-Smith, Derek Smith, Dru Spork, Anthony Stiff, Peter Tankard, Joanna Thomson, Grant Tuff, Chris Whatmore and Peter Willison.

The Steering Committee would like to thank all of them and everyone else who contributed to this project.

2 The Parish

Blewbury is at the spring line on the north edge of the Berkshire Downs. The whole of the Parish is included in the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, while the older part of the Village is a Conservation Area. Blewbury is on the A417 road about 16 miles west of Reading and 12 miles south of Oxford.

Blewbury is "A Venerable Village" which was already sizeable in Saxon times. It has a population in 2001 of about 1650. Local services now include a post office, a primary school, a playgroup, a petrol station and convenience store, a greengrocer, a doctors' surgery, a hairdressers and three operational pubs.

2.1 Historical Environment

1. Blewbury is special in its harmonious mix of buildings from the earliest - the mainly Norman church of St. Michael's - to its latest, 21st century buildings. Few places of any size have such a pleasing mix of different architectural styles and open spaces. The reason for many of the guidance notes, policies and initiatives in this plan is to identify and safeguard the elements and characteristics that make Blewbury the place it is.
2. That mix has arisen partly because it has for many centuries been a place where people have lived and worked together. The open spaces, buildings and houses have been used for work, farming and leisure and simply for living in. The buildings were not put here by outside planners, but by people who needed a place to live and work and consequently have a "comfortable" and generally harmonious feel.
3. The pattern of the Village has been set largely by the water which is an integral part of the Village, and almost certainly why the first Village was built here. It is vital that the shape of the water flowing through the Village is substantially preserved.
4. The general pattern of the roads and paths go back to Saxon times (the cob walls) and that part of the Village needs preserving because so many other cob walls in other villages have disappeared.
5. Where the original use of a building has gone e.g. the outbuildings at Ashbrook House, a vibrant link with the past has been preserved by putting the buildings to totally different uses without destroying the original structures.
6. The Village has changed through the centuries by a happy combination of preserving many old and useful buildings, (witness the large number of Listed Buildings and structures), changing the use of some open spaces without losing them (e.g. the Playclose), and erecting new buildings when there has been a real and proven need for them.

2.2 Changes since 1985

The developments since the last plan have included a new estate in Bridus Mead, new houses replacing post war prefab housing in Eastfields, a row of houses in place of a coal yard next to the Barley Mow pub and other new houses as indicated in the **Conservation and Growth Map**.

A new cemetery was established. It has a fine lych gate matching that of the neighbouring old cemetery.

An extra five acres was purchased next to the existing Recreation Ground and cemetery to add to the recreational facilities. It is named Tickers Folly Field. This now contains a skate board park, a BMX track, and two full size croquet lawns with their own small pavilion. Part of the land provides an additional car park supplementing the parking on the older part of the Recreation Ground.

The provision of tennis on the older part of the Recreation Ground has been increased to four courts, again with a small pavilion.

The play corner on the Recreation Ground was dismantled and an excellent new play park for up to 9 year olds was created next to the school.

3 Village Design Statement

This section endeavours to describe what makes Blewbury distinctive and special. This should be helpful to anyone contemplating a development in Blewbury, and to the Local Planning Authority and Parish Councillors considering any such development. It provides guidance on the conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment. The statement discusses the land use and buildings in the Village and then provides the policies which arise from this description.

3.1 Land Use

The Parish supports the general proposals affecting Blewbury in the Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2011 (The Local Plan). During the development of the Parish Plan, the version of the Local Plan available was the First Deposit Draft dated November 2002.

While being open to any initiative which enhances the character, appearance or amenities of the Village, the Parish does not expect or desire major changes in land use in the Parish in the period of this Parish Plan.

The heart of Blewbury is a Conservation Area. This Area is shown on the **Conservation and Growth Map**. The District Council is committed to refusing permission for proposals for development or other works in this Area unless they can be shown to preserve or enhance the established character and appearance of the Area. The Parish believes that preservation of open green spaces within the Village Conservation Area is of particular importance to its character. Some key areas of this kind are shown as "Open Land" on the **Landscape and Environment Map**. However green spaces formed by the gardens of other houses are also important.

The draft Local Plan states that in villages such as Blewbury new building will not be permitted outside the built-up areas of existing settlements unless it is on land which has been identified for development in the Local Plan or is in accordance with other specific policies, such as those related to affordable housing.

The green corridors seen from the main road (A417 and B4016) approaches to the Village should be preserved. These are as illustrated on page 9.

The Local Plan policy GS1 allows small scale development in Blewbury. Subject to the particulars of the site, the Parish would expect to support small developments of affordable housing. Affordable housing is defined in the Local Plan as housing which caters for people who are unable to buy or rent a home, suitable for their needs, on the open market. The recent development replacing the bungalows in Eastfields is a welcome example.

The need to make best use of land, as referred to in national guidance and the Local Plan, is recognised. However, as also noted in the Local Plan, the resulting form and layout of development should not affect those attributes special to Blewbury, including those highlighted in this Village Design Statement.

Because of the problems of car parking in the streets of the Village, any new development should, where relevant, provide off-street parking spaces sufficient to avoid additional on-street parking.

3.2 Design of Alterations and Extensions

In alteration or extension, particularly of the older Village properties, the highest architectural standards should be employed. Wherever appropriate the use of traditional materials (brick, thatch and plain clay tile) is strongly recommended in order to match or complement the existing building. The use of reclaimed or second hand materials is encouraged. The scale of any extension should be subordinate to the existing building. The relationship with adjacent properties, and the form and massing, materials, scale, proportions and details of the existing building and proposed works, (such as details of roof edges, and of windows and doors, and the style and proportions of fenestration,) should be carefully considered.

Property owners should take account of the Vale of White Horse District Council's current Local Plan, Supplementary Planning Guidelines and associated publications whenever alterations or extensions are contemplated.

An assessment of the current features of buildings in Blewbury is given below.

3.3 Design of New Developments

The design of new development should respond to and reflect the distinctive character of the existing houses in Blewbury. Examples of the appropriate massing, form, scale and materials are illustrated in section 3.5 below. Consideration should be given to the relationship of buildings and other features to the street, and to the desirability of providing enclosure and interest.

Building and property owners are encouraged in all instances to seek advice from the District Council or from an appropriate professional and to strive for the highest architectural standards.










3.4 Landscape and Views

Blewbury is located within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and views play an important part in the general amenity and experience of living in the Village. Views out towards the Downs to the south, across open fields towards Didcot, to uninterrupted horizons of large fields and to the historic landscape of Blewburton Hill provide a variety and beauty that can be enjoyed by all. Views towards the Village are equally important. From most directions the Village is attractively screened by trees. As a result the Village has a soft edge with little residential development evident, this soft edge minimises its impact on the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. From the east of the Village there is less planting, and the line of buildings is more obvious. However, the occupants of these buildings have the advantage of a clear view of attractive countryside.







One aim should be to retain and promote strategic planting around the Village to enhance the existing leafy and rural setting and landscape character. However any planting on the east of the Village needs to be with the support of the residents affected, and individual trees which break up the edge of the Village are preferred to any kind of continuous screen.

Key features of the Village are illustrated in the **Landscape and Environment Map**. Roads and paths in the Village are often lined with hedges, walls and houses. Intermittently this enclosure is broken with views of the important green open spaces within the Village. The network of streams is also an important part of the character, as are the groups of mature trees.






3.4.1 Views of Countryside around the Village

		
<p>To the east there are magnificent uninterrupted vistas towards the historic landmark of Blewburton Hill.</p>	<p>However in some places this is being eroded and screened by development and new planting.</p>	<p>The well defined eastern edge is emphasised by the 'open road ahead', as the A417 heads east.</p>
		
<p>Views south towards the Downs from Bessels Way provide an important link to open countryside.</p>	<p>The landscape to the south of the new cemetery provides an attractive setting.</p>	<p>The view north west across open fields towards Didcot is also attractive.</p>
		
<p>The view north from Bessels Way is of pleasant tree-lined countryside. The riding stables and kennels along this road are fairly well screened.</p>	<p>The Downs provide wide open spaces with farmed land and race horse gallops.</p>	<p>The Recreation Ground is in an attractive country setting, although the pavilion is undistinguished.</p>

3.4.2 Views towards the Village

 <p>Typical views of the Village looking north from the Downs show the core of the Village largely hidden by trees.</p>		
 <p>This view from the Downs looking north to the east of the Village illustrates that unscreened housing is less attractive than views dominated by vegetation.</p>	 <p>These views from the east show that here the dominant features in the foreground are the buildings rather than vegetation.</p>	
 <p>The view south towards the Village along Bessels Way has a countryside appearance in which the Downs rise above farm buildings.</p>	 <p>Views from footpaths west of the Village towards the school grounds have a green and leafy character with a feeling of containment and enclosure.</p>	 <p>Views from A417 in the west towards the Village are largely of open countryside with intermittent screening by hedges and hedgerow trees.</p>



3.4.3 Views from within the Village

		
<p>The view east towards Blewburton Hill from Bessels Lea provides a valuable glimpse of this historic landscape, which has a close association with the Village.</p>	<p>Looking south along Westbrook Street provides distant glimpsed views of the Downs and of Churn Knob.</p>	<p>In most of the Village, views are enclosed by houses, hedges and walls, as in the much-loved footpaths in the core of the Village.</p>
		
<p>The footpaths bordered by thatched Cob Walls are a key feature of the Village.</p>	<p>These paths lead to views of the open spaces in the Village core.</p>	

3.5 Character of the Village

All the features referred to below contribute to the character of the Village. Highlighted in this section are the positive features which should be retained and which should be encouraged in new developments or improvements to existing properties.

3.5.1 Streams and Water

	<p>Streams and lakes make a very important contribution of the attraction of Blewbury.</p> <p>The old Water Cress Beds at the Cleve, shown on the right, form the principal public water feature.</p>	
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3.5.2 Trees

There is a large number and great variety of trees in Blewbury. Together with hedgerows, they give a sense of intimacy and enclosure to houses and gardens, most noticeably in the Conservation Area.

The network of streams, open spaces and footpaths, which makes up the Village core, is bounded by trees and low growing natural vegetation. Some tree lines and clumps enhance spaces and roads, whereas others allow a glimpse through to the Downs or to farmland.

Some large, privately-owned trees adjacent to public land and roads are much valued for the positive impact which they make.

3.5.3 Enclosing elements

Hedges, walls, fences and railings have a significant role in providing character to individual properties, groups of properties, and the street scene in general.

Hedges provide enclosure and screening and control views, and add to the general level of vegetation, often softening the edges to developments and other hard structures.

Walls are perhaps the most important type of enclosing structures. They impart a solid and permanent quality with many examples contributing to the character of Blewbury's streets. Warm brick colours provide a pleasing texture and appearance, often typical of the materials used for the house behind. Differing wall heights and profiles add variety, as do the styles of coping. Curved walls highlighting and opening out driveway entrances are an attractive and characteristic feature. Brickwork is typically pointed with struck or bucket-handle joints. The characteristic Cob Walls of Blewbury are especially worthy of conservation, either in thatched or tiled form. The use of clunch (chalk stone) and flint is also characteristic. The inclusion of new walls in keeping with the Village should be considered in new developments.



Fences and Railings do not have the permanence of walls but they are nonetheless important in defining boundaries and in influencing the character of a given area. Ranch-style post and rail fencing around paddocks or fields imparts a rural and almost estate-owned character. Railings (also barriers) and wrought iron gates also feature and can vary from the urban to suburban and the Victorian to the modern. When choosing styles of fences and railings appropriateness and appearance should be given due emphasis.



3.5.4 Edges and surfaces

Edges in any environment are important in defining the character of an area. They form the transitions between surfaces and changes in levels. They can, by the choice of material and its appearance, change completely the character and quality of their surroundings. Similarly, surfaces can be appropriate or they can be inappropriate; they need to be functional while also fitting into their context.

Road edges in the older parts of Blewbury and on the London Road are predominantly edged with granite setts. These are replaced by standard concrete kerbs in other parts of the Village. Granite setts, even on the A 417 London Road give the street a smaller 'village' scale, which would be lost if ordinary highway kerbs were in their place. Visually this is important for the character of the Village, but this may also provide a subliminal message to drivers that they are passing through a settlement and that they should slow down. Some road edges are little more than 'grassy' banks and this, in a rural village environment also works perfectly well.



Footpaths throughout the Village provide an essential means of communication, and provision of appropriate surfaces and widths are crucial in facilitating this. The informality of the footpaths (often surfaced in gravel without formal edges) in the Village is sometimes at the expense of the 'usability', but resolution of conflicts can often be achieved by low-key localised improvements. Footpaths in the rural village environment of Blewbury should be retained in an informal form, avoiding 'black-top' surfacing and concrete edgings that would give the Village's open spaces (for example) the character of an urban park.

Roadside footpaths in Blewbury are combined in some parts of the Village e.g. in Westbrook Street and London Road with grass verges between the footpath and the road. This provides a more pleasant environment for the pedestrian, but this factor must be balanced against the needs of those with buggies and wheelchair users. Grass verges should be retained where possible. Where there are roadside ditches these also are welcomed and should be retained.

3.6 Buildings

This assessment of the building design features within the core of the Village is to provide the context for the selection and evaluation of new features in the Village.

3.6.1 Alignment

Buildings relate to the street and to paths and provide enclosure and interest. Alignment is parallel to, or at 90 degrees to, the street or path.



3.6.2 Construction and House Walls

Most older houses have exposed timber-framed construction. The panels were originally wattle and daub, but this has usually been replaced or overlaid with brick or plaster. Typically the frames are stained black, and the infill may be painted white.



Red hand-made bricks are common, with some snapheaders. Other options are painted brickwork and plastered or rendered surfaces. Rustic timber boarding is also used.



3.6.3 Roofs and Gables

Dormer windows, generally with gabled ends, are subordinate to the main roof form. Rooms are often partially within the roof, reducing overall height and massing. Houses have gabled ends, brick chimneys, steep roof pitches and a limited width in plan. The roofing materials are thatch, red clay plain tiles and some grey slates. There are simple ridge and bargeboard details and exposed rafter feet.



A number of houses have vertical tile hanging with a projection at the base for water shedding.



3.6.4 Doors and Windows

Timber front doors are substantial with only small areas of glass. Doors are often relatively wide, and may be stable doors. Doors can be match boarded or panelled.



Windows are of narrow proportions, with slender glazing bars, small panes, weathered oak or painted (often black and/or white). There are typically symmetrical side hung casements though some windows have vertical sliding sashes. Purpose-made traditional joinery includes oriels and canopies.



3.6.5 Other Features

Signage, lettering, ironmongery and light fittings are individual in style and can make a positive contribution to the character of the Village.



Traditional ironmongery includes wrought iron gates.



The barriers used to control access to footpaths, and to slow users where a path terminates at a road, are normally painted black and white.

3.6.6 New Construction

Extensions to the older houses should complement the character of the property. New construction should be sympathetic to the character of the Village but need not copy any particular style.



3.7 Advice on Planning Applications

This section applies the conclusions from the Village Appraisal to the advice which could be provided by the Parish Council on Planning Applications in Blewbury. The suggestions apply the policies in the Local Plan to the specific circumstances of Blewbury.

3.7.1 The Acceptability of Planning Applications in Principle

General	Building should not be permitted in the Conservation Area unless the character of the area is maintained or enhanced.
Village Envelope	The Local Plan policies limiting developments outside the built environment of the Village should be applied.
Extensions	Extensions to properties in the conservation area should not be too large in relationship to the original building.
Replacements	Replacements of existing properties should be of an appropriate size for the plot.
Preserve Key Open Spaces	Building should not take place in the open spaces in the core of the Village or in gardens or other spaces important to the character of the Village.
Preserve Water Features	Developments should not detract from the streams and other water features in the Village.
Preserve Areas of Special Character	Development should not affect the areas of special character in the village, such as those highlighted in the Landscape and Environment Map.

3.7.2 Features in Planning Applications

Affordable Housing	Affordable housing for residents in Blewbury is needed. The policies in the Local Plan should be followed.
Quality	Developments should be of good architectural quality.
Alignment	Alignment of buildings with the roads or paths in the Village is to be welcomed. In locations where the majority of existing buildings front directly onto the street, new buildings should also be positioned as close to the street as possible, rather than set back.
Enclosure	Maintaining or increasing enclosure by use of walls or hedges along the edge of the property should be encouraged.
Extensions	Extensions to older houses should be in keeping with the original building.
Sympathy to Surroundings	New buildings should be in sympathy with the character of their area.
Compatible Development	In the older parts of the Village, form, roof lines, doors and windows should harmonise with the established styles.
Appropriate Materials	Materials should be compatible with the materials used in the neighbourhood. The use of recycled materials should be welcomed.
Trees	The retention of mature trees and, where appropriate, the addition of new trees is to be welcomed. It is particularly important if a new building is planned near the edge of the Village, that the tree cover is maintained or increased. However the retention of views of countryside from neighbouring properties should also be considered.
Car Parking	No development should encourage additional on-road parking, either by residents/ business owners or by visitors. All relevant planning applications should therefore include adequate garaging or other off-road parking facilities.

4 Parish Initiatives

4.1 Environment and Planning

The main discussion on Village Design is in the associated Village Design Statement. This section covers the environmental and planning issues which the Parish Council and the Community aims to address during the life of this plan, which is intended to be the 10 years to 2014.

4.1.1 Conservation Area

E1 Policy - The Conservation Area should be expanded to include some houses and frontages to the west of Westbrook Street as shown in the attached plan. i.e. Wall at Downside, Bakers Cottage, Pottingers, The Bramleys, Farundell House and Green Bushes.

E2 Policy - The cob walls are a significant part of the character of the Village. It is vital that are they are preserved and regularly maintained.

All the cob walls are Listed Buildings.

E3 Policy - The rural character of the streams, roads and footpaths should be conserved and, where appropriate, enhanced.

4.1.2 Signs and Posters

There is a strong desire to maintain the rural character of the Village. To this end there should be no more signs than absolutely necessary. Any necessary signs should be of good quality and to a standard design which complements the Village. There should only be the minimum road signs consistent with road safety requirements.

E4 Policy - Appropriate signs are needed to direct to the Village Hall, the Post Office, the Recreation Ground and its Car Park. Any necessary signs should be of good quality and to a standard design which complements the Village.

4.1.3 Lighting

Street Lighting has been debated for many years. The conclusion of this review was to oppose public street lighting on the grounds that it would create light pollution, obscure the night sky and spoil the rural character of the Village, even in the daytime from lighting columns.

E5 Policy - There should be no street lighting in Blewbury

Private security lights can be intrusive and insensitively located, illuminating far beyond the area being protected.

E6 Policy - The Parish will seek to minimise light pollution at night, for example by encouraging reductions in light spillage and downgrading unnecessarily powerful lights.

In line with the Local Plan Policy NE6, particular regard will be paid to any proposals for external lighting when considering permission for any development within the Parish of Blewbury. Any lighting in public areas should minimise spillage of light.

4.1.4 Overhead Cables

The attractiveness of the Village, and particularly of the Conservation Area, would be enhanced by the removal of overhead cables. The electricity cables are the most obtrusive.

E7 Policy - The Parish will encourage reductions in the use of overhead cables in the core of the Village.

4.1.5 Environmental Initiatives

The whole of the parish of Blewbury is part of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It also contains one area of Special Scientific Interest. There is considerable interest in conserving the environment and enhancing it in appropriate ways.

E8 Policy - The Parish will encourage the enhancement of wildlife habitats, the planting of appropriate hedges and trees.

The Blewbury Village Society has an active Environment Group, which has already tackled a number of environmental projects including:

- The restoration of the Cleve
- The provision of a nature reserve on the Churchyard, and
- The preservation of Blewburton Hill, which is recognised as a national archaeological and Oxfordshire wildlife site.

Desirable projects identified during the preparation of this plan include:

- A survey of the flora and fauna of the Parish. This should identify indicator species which can be surveyed to estimate the general health of wildlife. It should also establish a policy on the most appropriate species for new planting in the Parish, and the species to be avoided. It may recommend policies to enhance the environment for native plants and animals.
- A study of whether additional sites in the Parish should be considered for additional protection for example as sites of Special Scientific Interest.
- Work with local farmers to enhance wildlife habitats and the landscape as farming policy changes
- Investigation of the feasibility of placing overhead cables in key parts of the Village underground.

E9 Policy - The Parish Council will maintain a plan for enhancing the natural environment of the Parish.

It is not sufficient just to produce a plan. Regular reviews are needed so that the Parish Council can take initiatives and also respond appropriately to offers for assistance for example in tree planting. The BVS Environment Group will assist in preparing and reviewing this plan.

4.2 Social Policies

4.2.1 The Surgery

Retaining a surgery in Blewbury is very important particularly for the elderly. The effort needed to reach the surgery at Woodlands in Didcot by Public Transport is considerable.

S1 Policy - Every effort should be made to retain the provision of a surgery in Blewbury.

4.2.2 Local Shops

It is very important for the Village that it retains local shops including a grocers or convenience store.

S2 Policy - Every effort should be made to retain the provision of local shops in Blewbury. If this requires developments that allow them to flourish such changes should be considered favourably.

4.2.3 Water Supply

The water supply to the Recreation Ground and nearby properties is unsatisfactory; often no water reaches the Cemetery. The supply to the north edge of the Village along Bessels Way is also unsatisfactory.

S3 Policy - Agreement should be obtained with the public utility (Thames Water) to overcome the problems with water supply to the fringes of the Village.

4.2.4 Local Businesses

The Parish contains many small businesses ranging from building tradesmen to home workers. There are also two business areas on Westbrook Street. The businesses are very welcome. The main request was to introduce broadband telecommunication facilities into the Village. As a result of an effective pressure group this is now available. No other parish level initiative was requested by the businesses.

The main concern raised about the businesses was the number of parked cars on Westbrook Street near the A417 during the working day, and the resulting safety issues.

4.2.5 Policing

Although Blewbury is in a relatively low crime rate area, there are significant concerns about the level of crime and the ability of the Police to combat it. It is not clear that there are many additional local initiatives that would help. However the Parish would welcome more local policing, for example the use of the empty police house in the Village.

S4 Policy - The Parish will press the Police Authority to use the Police House in Blewbury in order to provide a more obvious local Police presence.

4.2.6 Litter

Although in some comparisons Blewbury is relatively litter free, the issue of litter raised the highest number of complaints in the surveys. The observed litter is most obvious at a limited number of places where no-one sees it to be their direct concern. Litter is rarely left on the frontage of houses.

While education has a major role to play in this, the school already tries to educate children in the Village on this matter.

S5 Policy - The Parish will set up a scheme in which people are asked to look after the tidiness of specific areas of the Village.

S6 Policy - The Parish will recommend the placing of a few more litter bins to increase the coverage round the Village, and will ensure that these are emptied regularly.

4.2.7 Waste Collection

Means for the regular collection of rubbish from public areas, such as the Recreation Ground, should be reviewed and improved.

'Wheelie bins' have been suggested as an alternative to the current collection methods. However this does not appear to be practical or appropriate in many parts of Blewbury.

The Parish Council should work with the District and County Councils to encourage the recycling of waste.

4.2.8 Fouling and Pets

Dog fouling is also a subject raised frequently in the survey. A dog fouling a public area is the responsibility of its owner. Fouling is particularly objectionable in recreation areas, as it makes recreational activities unpleasant and unsafe.

S7 Policy - There should be an order prohibiting dogs being let off their leads on Ticker's Folly Field and the Recreation Ground.

4.2.9 Publicity for Events

The main methods of publicising future events are in the monthly Blewbury Bulletin, in the associated web site, and by placing posters on telegraph and electricity poles in the Parish. Individual clubs select appropriate methods for their own needs - typically one or more of telephone, e-mail, newsletter, a club notice board and a club web site. There are links to Club web sites from the Blewbury Bulletin web site www.blewbury.co.uk.

It has been suggested that clubs should do more to advertise their activities by contributing reports to the Blewbury Bulletin.

Anyone placing posters in the Parish is asked to remove them promptly when the poster is no longer needed.

4.3 Roads and Parking

Most traffic and most serious accidents occur on the two main roads – the A417 and the B4016. These issues are being addressed by the Didcot Area Integrated Transport Strategy project team, which is working with the Parish in producing its recommendations. Thus this Parish Plan statement does not cover these roads.

The minor roads within the Village are narrow, have sharp bends and were never designed for motor vehicles. Some, such as Church Road, end without provision for turning. A number of the older houses do not have spaces for cars or garages. Even in those that do the occupiers may have more cars than spaces available. Thus, in common with many similar villages, sections of the internal roads are often obstructed by parked vehicles. This is not only an inconvenience to other road users, but is a safety hazard to pedestrians where no footpath exists.

Some drivers park in a way that blocks buses, farm vehicles and emergency vehicles. Others try to avoid this by parking across footpaths, blocking instead wheel chairs, pushchairs and the "walking bus" to school. As a result, in feedback from the community requests were made for restrictions on parking on the internal roads and for more off-street parking facilities.

The Steering Committee has concluded that additional public car parks would not reduce significantly the problem of residential parking on the streets. Residents seem reluctant to use remote public car parks largely for security reasons. More secure private off-street parking facilities for residents should be encouraged.

The public off-street car parking facilities should be signed for the benefit of visitors.

If landholders can supply safe off-road parking for vehicles this would be welcomed.

T1 Policy - A continuing effort should be made to persuade drivers not to park on footpaths and not to park where they are blocking access and causing a visual obstruction to other road users, including pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.

Although the nature of the roads means that drivers on the internal roads rarely exceed 30 mph, many have been observed to drive too fast for the prevailing road conditions. For example parents are nervous about allowing their children to walk to and from the school.

T2 Policy - The speed limit on the internal roads should be 20 mph.

This should preferably be achieved by use of a control zone rather than repeated limit signs.

The internal roads are not suitable for fast travel, and can be dangerous if drivers do not limit their speed. In most cases there is little that can be done to avoid the need for great care. The following places on the internal roads have been identified as suitable for safety improvements.

T3 Policy - Prior's Corner is a blind corner with a junction leading to the Village Hall, the School and Mock Beggars Farm. It is dangerous for pedestrians and cars, and awkward for farm machinery and heavy goods vehicles. It also suffers from severe flooding in wet weather. A comprehensive solution is required.

T4 Policy - Berry Lane is very narrow at the point it crosses the Mill Brook. Any pedestrian can be vulnerable. A solution which allows the pedestrians to walk the road without danger from motor vehicles is required.

T5 Policy - The maintenance of the internal roads should be improved. In particular Church End leading to the Church, parts of Church Road and Chapel Lane are dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians, especially at night.

4.4 Footpaths and Cycling

T6 Policy - The Parish supports the proposed cycle paths to Upton and the Astons. It would be desirable to permit the use of the Hagbourne path by cycles. The permission of the landowners concerned should be sought and with this permission it would be necessary to replace the stiles on the path.

T7 Policy - The footpath beside the A417 from Westbrook Street to Nottingham Fee is unsatisfactory, and is flooded for much of the winter. A long term solution is required not only to eliminate flooding, but also to give adequate width and stability for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

The Village has an excellent set of internal footpaths. In the past these have been designated for pedestrians, and they have been blocked each end with barriers. In view of the traffic on the roads it now seems desirable to encourage cyclists – particularly young cyclists – and those in wheelchairs to use the internal paths. The necessary changes would also be more convenient for pushchairs. However motor cycles and horses are inappropriate on these paths, and there is concern that adapting the paths for other traffic may make them less attractive for pedestrians. Some barriers are required to discourage cyclists from emerging directly onto roads. A barrier should be retained on the Bessels Lea end of the footpath from London Road to discourage the use of this path by motor cycles and horses. For the same reason the end barriers on the path between Rubble Pit Lane and Cow Lane should be retained.

T8 Policy - The aim is to allow internal paths to be used by young cyclists and wheelchairs. As an experiment Watts Lane should be opened as an off road route for cyclists and wheelchairs. Its use should be monitored with the possibility of extending the scheme to other paths.

T9 Policy – The width and surface treatment of internal footpaths, including those across the Playclose, should be maintained so that wheelchairs and pushchairs have convenient access to all parts of the Village.

With the relatively elderly population, there is a benefit in off-road paths suitable for fairly short walks.

T10 Policy – Permission to use additional routes linking existing footpaths to allow circular walks from the Village should be sought from landowners.

It is not necessary for such links to be official rights of way.

4.5 Physical Recreation

The facilities for physical recreation include a Recreation Ground of about 11 acres, with a pavilion, a cricket square, two football pitches, four tennis courts, a skateboard installation and two full size croquet courts. This leaves space on the Recreation Ground for general recreation, which could be developed for other specific sporting activities if required. The ground includes a Scout Hut which is rarely used, and a room used by the Blewbury Brass Band.

Elsewhere there is a young children's Play Park near the school and a single tennis court which was the original public court, but is now redundant. The Village Hall is used for Badminton.

4.5.1 Management of the Recreation Ground

The Recreation Ground is managed by the Recreation Ground Management Committee. This is a Parish Council committee with representatives from the clubs using the Ground. Under the current central direction the sports clubs using the ground are not required to take on collective responsibility for the development of central facilities and the overall development of the Recreation Ground. It is also likely that a different management structure would be better placed to obtain grants for the development of the common facilities of the Recreation Ground. This was the advice given to the Parish during the preparation of a lottery bid for the Recreation Ground.

Any solution must be compatible with the terms on which the land for the Recreation Ground was given to the Parish, and must also consider the interests of users of the Recreation Ground who are not members of the sports clubs. It is also very desirable that the youth of the Parish are involved in plans for the ground, even though they are not normally in official positions in individual sports clubs.

The pavilion has proved difficult to maintain as an attractive and welcoming facility. It is believed that an improved venue on the site could be run in a way which generates the funds to maintain it.

L1 Policy - The management of the Recreation Ground should be reconsidered with a view to setting up a management structure devolving more responsibility for developments on the Recreation Ground and its management on the users of the Recreation Ground, and particularly the active sports clubs using the Ground and the Pavilion.

4.5.2 Additional Facilities

Ideas for additional facilities which have been raised include

- Boules,
- a Multiple Use Games Area (MUGA) to accommodate basketball and floodlit croquet, and to provide a training area for football, and
- Bowls.

Ideas for indoor recreation have included indoor croquet and carpet bowls.

L2 Policy - Additional provision for sport is to be welcomed provided there is a suitable group or club who will sponsor and oversee the provision. The community should not develop such provisions speculatively without such sponsorship.

L3 Policy - Any new provision for active outdoor sport should be sited on the Recreation Ground. This allows best use of the common facilities on the site such as the pavilion.

L4 Policy - A larger pavilion with more facilities is required. Redevelopment on the current site may be appropriate.

There are plans to improve and extend the pavilion at the Recreation Ground to include a larger social area/function room which would be available for general use.

4.5.3 The Scout Hut

The Scout Hut is a good sized building controlled by the Scouting Association. It is rarely if ever used. There is no longer a Scout Group in Blewbury.

L5 Policy - The Parish Council should seek arrangements for the use of the Scout Hut so that this valuable asset can be of more benefit to other organisations in the Village.

4.5.4 The Old Tennis Court Site

As new sporting facilities should be on the Recreation Ground this site is now redundant.

L6 Policy - Consideration should be given to the redevelopment or sale of the old tennis court opposite the Barley Mow and to the use of any money raised to provide or improve other facilities in the Village, provided the relatives of the donor who kindly provided this tennis court for the Village are happy with the proposal.

4.6 Meetings and other Indoor Activities

Most public indoor activities take place in the Village Hall. This has two meeting rooms, a doctors' surgery and the post office. The main hall is suitable for meetings of 100 or more, or activities such as badminton and a youth club. The smaller Vale Room is about 7 metres square.

Other places used for public activities in the Village include:

- The Methodist Church,
- The Benefice Centre near St Michael's Church. This can hold meetings of about 20.
- The School - though for obvious reasons the school caters better for junior children than for adults.
- St Michael's Church. This has been used for operas and concerts, and
- The open air theatre in the private garden of Orchard Dene. This holds around 250 and is used for a few days each summer.

The Village Hall meeting rooms are heavily booked for weekday evenings, in many cases on a regular weekly basis. There is pressure for more rooms to book. The current supply makes it difficult to arrange occasional activities. At present noisy activities in one part of the hall affect the other part. Some users, notably the Bridge Club and the Mothers Union, find the Vale Room is too small for their purposes and would benefit from a rather larger venue. The school would like to make more use of the hall, for example for music. The Methodist Church would like to enhance its role as an alternative venue; however additional facilities at the Village Hall site have the advantages of parking and shared use with other facilities.

M1 Policy - The Parish supports efforts to upgrade the facilities at the Methodist Church.

M2 Policy – The Parish supports efforts to upgrade the facilities and appearance of the Village Hall.

This probably requires finding additional sources of funds.

M3 Policy - The Parish should enhance the Village Hall, providing a third attractive meeting and activity room in the Village Hall Complex. This should be able to be let independently and be larger than the Vale Room. It should be linked to the other meeting rooms so that functions may use all three when appropriate, but should not be affected by noise in the main hall. It should be able to be shared with the School. It will require additional storage, catering and toilet facilities. A joint development with the School for shared use should be sought.

4.6.1 Parking Facilities

Parking for large events with participants from outside the Village can be a problem.

M4 Policy - Public events should make use of existing parking facilities at the Village Hall and/or Ticker's Folly Field.

These need sign posting as specified in Policy E4, and any such use must be agreed with the appropriate Management.

4.6.2 Co-operation with Neighbouring Parishes

More should be done to work with the surrounding villages to provide activities which may not be viable in a single village. Examples might be 'Evening Classes' on topics of interest to residents in all co-operating villages.

M5 Policy - The Parish will actively seek greater co-operation with its neighbours, including the use of each other's facilities and shared initiatives.

4.7 Conclusion

Blewbury is already a very attractive village, with a unique character, a lively community, many communal activities, and some excellent facilities. This Parish Initiatives section of the Parish Plan provides a set of policies to maintain and enhance the Parish over the next ten years.

5 Action Plan

The method chosen for the implementation of this plan is for different existing organisations to accept responsibility to lead the implementation of individual policies.

The lead organisations who have accepted responsibility for implementing each policy are given below.

E1	Parish Council	T1	Parish Council
E2	Cob Wall Fund	T2	Parish Council
E3	Parish Council	T3	Parish Council
E4	Parish Council in consultation with the BVS Environment Group	T4	Parish Council
E5	Parish Council	T5	Parish Council
E6	Parish Council in consultation with BVS Environment Group	T6	Parish Council
E7	BVS Environment Group in consultation with the Parish Council	T7	Parish Council
E8	BVS Environment Group	T8	Parish Council
E9	BVS Environment Group in consultation with Parish Council'	T9	Parish Council
S1	Parish Council	T10	Depends on those desiring the facility
S2	Parish Council	L1	Parish Council
S3	Parish Council	L2	Parish Council
S4	County Councillor	L3	Recreation Ground Management Committee
S5	Blewbury Village Society	L4	Recreation Ground Management Committee
S6	Parish Council	L5	Parish Council
S7	Parish Council	L6	Parish Council
M1	Methodist Church		
M2	Village Hall Management Committee		
M3	Depends on an initiative by those requiring the facility		
M4	Depends on those organising public events		
M5	Parish Council		

The BVS Environment Group will take an overall interest in all the Environmental policies E1 to E9.

6 Appendix A – Results of 2001 Census

6.1 Resident Population and Age

The resident population of Blewbury and Upton, as measured in the 2001 Census, was 1,942 of which 48 per cent were male and 52 per cent were female. The resident population of Vale of White Horse was 115,627, of which 50 per cent were male and 50 per cent were female.

Resident population (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
Under 16	17.2	20.5	20.2
16 to 19	3.9	5.0	4.9
20 to 29	8.2	10.7	12.6
30 to 59	42.1	43.5	41.5
60 to 74	19.5	13.1	13.3
75 and over	9.1	7.2	7.6
Average age	43.3	38.8	38.6

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

6.2 Marital Status

Resident population aged 16 and over (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
Single (never married)	21.0	26.0	30.1
Married or re-married	60.1	58.2	50.9
Separated	1.9	1.7	2.4
Divorced	8.5	7.0	8.2
Widowed	8.6	7.1	8.4

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

6.3 Ethnic Group

Resident population (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England
White	98.0	97.6	90.9
Mixed	0.9	0.8	1.3
Asian or Asian British	0.4	0.7	4.6
Indian	0.2	0.4	2.1
Pakistani	0.2	0.1	1.4
Bangladeshi	0.0	0.1	0.6
Other Asian	0.2	0.1	0.5
Black or Black British	0.2	0.2	2.1
Caribbean	0.2	0.1	1.1
African	0.0	0.1	1.0
Other Black	0.0	0.0	0.2
Chinese or other Group	0.4	0.7	0.9

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

6.4 Religion

Resident population (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England
Christian	75.9	75.8	71.8
Buddhist	0.2	0.2	0.3
Hindu	0.0	0.2	1.1
Jewish	0.2	0.2	0.5
Muslim	0.4	0.5	3.0
Sikh	0.0	0.1	0.6
Other religions	0.4	0.2	0.3
No religion	15.8	15.8	14.8
Religion not stated	7.2	7.0	7.7

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

6.5 Health and Provision of Care

The 2001 Census asked people to describe their health, over the preceding 12 months as 'good', 'fairly good' or 'not good'.

Resident population (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
Good	73.8	74.9	68.6
Fairly good	19.6	19.3	22.2
Not good	6.6	5.8	9.2

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

It also asked questions about any limiting long-term illness, health problem or disability which limited people's daily activities or the work they could do.

Resident population (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
With a limiting long-term illness	14.8	13.1	18.2

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

For the first time, the 2001 Census asked a question about any voluntary care provided to look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of long term physical or mental ill-health or disability, or problems relating to old age.

Resident population (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
Provided unpaid care	10.1	9.4	10.0

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

There are two main benefits associated with health that are paid to people needing help with personal care. They are the 'Disability Living Allowance' and the 'Attendance Allowance'.

The Disability Living Allowance is a benefit paid to people under 65, who are disabled, and need help with personal care, and/or getting around. In August 2000, 2,010 people in Vale of White Horse received this benefit.

Source: Department for Work and Pensions, 2000

The Attendance Allowance is paid to people over the age of 65, who are so severely disabled, physically or mentally, that they need supervision or a great deal of help with personal care. In May 2000, 1,795 people in Vale of White Horse received this benefit.

Source: Department for Work and Pensions, 2000

6.6 Economic Activity

Resident population aged 16 to 74 (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
Employed	65.6	69.1	60.6
Unemployed	1.6	1.6	3.4
Economically active full-time students	1.5	2.6	2.6
Retired	19.1	12.9	13.6
Economically inactive students	2.4	3.7	4.7
Looking after home/family	5.7	6.0	6.5
Permanently sick or disabled	2.0	2.3	5.5
Other economically inactive	1.9	1.7	3.1

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

Within Blewbury and Upton, 22 per cent of those unemployed were aged 50 and over, 0 per cent had never worked and 17 per cent were long term unemployed.

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

In August 2000, there were 335 Jobseeker Allowance claimants in Vale of White Horse of which 42 per cent had child dependants. The Job Seeker Allowance (JSA) is payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, and actively seeking, work of at least 40 hours a week. Figures produced here are those only for people claiming income-based JSA.

Source: Department for Work and Pensions, 2000

In August 2000, there were 3,230 Income Support claimants in Vale of White Horse, of which 2 per cent were aged under 20. Income support was introduced on April 11th 1988 and can be paid to a person who is aged 16 and over, is not working 16 hours or more a week, and has less money coming in than the law says they need to live on.

Source: Department for Work and Pensions, 2000

6.7 Students and Qualifications

Students and schoolchildren aged 16 to 74

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
Total number of full-time students and schoolchildren aged 16 to 74	57	5,171	2,648,992
Percentage of total resident population	2.9	4.5	5.1
Total number aged 16 to 17	31	2,469	1,014,284
Total number aged 18 to 74	26	2,702	1,634,708

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

Note: Students and schoolchildren were counted at their term-time address.

Resident population aged 16 to 74 (percentage)

Blewbury and Upton Vale of White Horse England and Wales

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
Had no qualifications	19.1	21.0	29.1
Qualified to degree level or higher	37.8	28.2	19.8

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

6.8 Housing and Households

In Blewbury and Upton there were 862 households in 2001. 100 per cent of the resident population lived in households. The remainder of the population lived in communal establishments. The number of households in Vale of White Horse was 45,759.

Number of households (percentage)

	Blewbury and Upton	Vale of White Horse	England and Wales
One person households	29.1	24.2	30.0
Pensioners living alone	15.8	12.5	14.4
Other All Pensioner households	14.5	10.8	9.4
Contained dependent children	23.4	30.4	29.5
Lone parent households with dependent children	3.1	4.1	6.5
Owner occupied	78.9	74.4	68.9
Rented from Council	1.7	1.9	13.2
Rented from Housing Association or Registered Social Landlord	7.8	10.9	6.0
Private rented or lived rent free	11.6	12.8	11.9
Without central heating	2.9	3.8	8.5
Without sole use of bath, shower or toilet	0.4	0.2	0.5
Have no car or van	11.6	13.8	26.8
Have 2 or more cars or vans	48.0	44.7	29.4
Average household size (number)	2.2	2.5	2.4
Average number of rooms per household	6.1	6.0	5.3

Source: 2001 Census, ONS

£'s and number of households (percentage)

	Vale of White Horse		England and Wales	
	Average price	Percentage of households living in this type of property	Average price	Percentage of households living in this type of property
Detached	£267,306	38.7	£178,806	22.8
Semi-detached	£148,126	31.4	£101,733	31.6
Terraced	£130,259	18.5	£89,499	26.0
Flat	£100,445	10.1	£120,185	19.2
All property types	£178,641		£119,436	

Source: The Land Registry

The Land Registry, 2001

6.9 Area Statistics

6.9.1 Levels Of Crime in Vale of White Horse

Notifiable offences recorded by the police. April 2000 to March 2001.

	Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Robbery	Burglary from a dwelling	Theft of a motor vehicle	Theft from a motor vehicle
Total number of offences recorded, Vale of White Horse	562	64	26	357	339	572
Rate per 1,000 population, Vale of White Horse	4.9	0.6	0.2	3.1	3.0	5.0
Rate per 1,000 population, England and Wales	11.4	0.7	1.8	7.6	6.4	11.9

Source: Home Office, 2001

In addition to the figures shown in this summary there are more detailed statistics available within Neighbourhood Statistics

6.10 About this summary

1. This summary brings together data from a number of sources, all of which are available elsewhere within the Neighbourhood Statistics website. More detailed information on these topics and others, is available within the site and can be viewed through a number of ways.

by subject;

by a list of areas;

by using the interactive map.

2. In some cases the data shown in this summary may have been rounded and figures shown may differ slightly from those published elsewhere. Due to rounding of percentages, the addition of categories may not sum to exactly 100 per cent in all cases. It should also be noted that in some cases, different tables may show different counts for the same population, due to disclosure protection measures used to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of information about identifiable individuals. Figures quoted should therefore be used for guidance only.

3. These summary statistics are based on administrative ward boundaries legally in force at the end of 2002, which includes ward boundaries that became operative in a number of Local Authorities in May 2003, and some others that will become operative in May 2004.

4. The symbol ".." is used to indicate that the value is not available.

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7 Appendix B – Listed Buildings

The listed buildings in the Village are given in road order below. The reference number identifies the building on the **Conservation and Growth Map**.

Berry Lane:

1. Blewbury Manor
 - + 2 cow houses approx. 120m SW
 - + Sheltershed approx. 100m SW
 - + Stable, house and attached sheltershed approx. 75m SW
2. Millbrook Cottage

Chapel Lane:

22. Cleve Cottage and attached cob wall
23. 81m length of cob wall approx. 10m NE of The Red Lion Public House
24. 42m length of cob wall approx. 35m NNE of The Red Lion Public House
25. The Red Lion Public House
26. Hall Barn Close
27. Stocks
28. Nottingham Fee
29. Great Tree and Ilburys

Church End:

3. Carpenters Cottage
4. Healwic Cottage and Holly Tree Cottage (was Church End)

Church Road:

30. Church of St. Michael
 - + Group of three headstones including one to William Hope, and one to Bibilla Hope, approx 20m S of Church tower
31. Almshouse approx. 40m W of Church of Saint Michael
32. Almshouse approx. 30m W of Church of Saint Michael
33. Malthus Schoolhouse
34. St Michaels
35. Spring Cottage
36. Blue Haze
37. Nayles Bridge Cottage
38. Abners
 - Barn approx. 10m NW of Abners
39. Carramores
40. Farnley Tyas
41. Plentys

Grahame Close:

17. Cob wall forming southern boundary (locally known as Curtoys Lane) to housing estate

London Road (north side):

48. Milestone at SU 5253 8574
49. Yew Tree
50. Corrydon house
51. Ayres Cottage
52. Great Tree Farm Barn and attached covered gateway
53. Humphreys
54. Turnpike House

London Road (south side):

- 55. Double Doors
- 56. New Inn Cottage and Felixstowe Cottage
- 57. Blueberry Inn Public House – now King William House
- 58. Highclere – now known as Cottrills
- 59. Meers Parcel
- 60. No.1 Treble House Terrace
No.2 Treble House Terrace (Ickleton House)
No.3 Treble House Terrace
- 61. Tudor Cottage

Rumsey's Lane (the footpath by the Cleve):

- 42. The Cleve
+ Granary approx. 2m NE

South Street:

- 43. The Cottage and End Cottage
- 44. East Brook
- 45. Dragonwyke and Winding Way Cottage
- 46. Dibleys House
- 47. Borlase

Watery Lane:

- 18. Chapmans and attached barn
- 19. Turkeys
- 20. Nottingham Fee Cottage
- 21. Laurences

Watts Lane:

- 5. Orchard Dene House
+ Barn and outbuilding approx. 30m E
- 6. Clunch Wall approx. 35m E of Orchard Dene House at junction with South Street

Westbrook Street:

- 7. Boham's House
+ Barn approx. 10m NE
- 8. Curtoys
- 9. Greenbushes
- 10. Hall Barn
- 11. The Forge House
- 12. Fron Deg
- 13. Wayside Cottage
- 14. Brookside
- 15. Ashbrook House
+ Barn approx. 25m SE
- 16. No.1 (Ashbrook Cottage) and No.2 (Bakers Cottage)

Parish of Blewbury

-  Parish Boundary
-  Paved Road
-  National Trail
-  Road used as Public Path
-  Byway open to All Traffic
-  Public Bridleway
-  Public Footpath
-  Selected Other Paths
-  Proposed Cycle Route
-  Area of Trees
-  Site of Special Scientific Interest
-  Areas of Local Interest

Official Rights of Way numbers are shown outside Village.
 In neighbouring Parishes they are numbered in this style e.g. 11
 Rights of Way data taken from Oxfordshire County Council Definitive Map 1st May 1999
 Produced using Ordnance Survey Data with permission Crown Copyright reserved.
 Prepared for Blewbury Parish Plan 2004
 Map Version: 16 June 2004

