



Hallow

Neighbourhood Development Plan

2020-2041

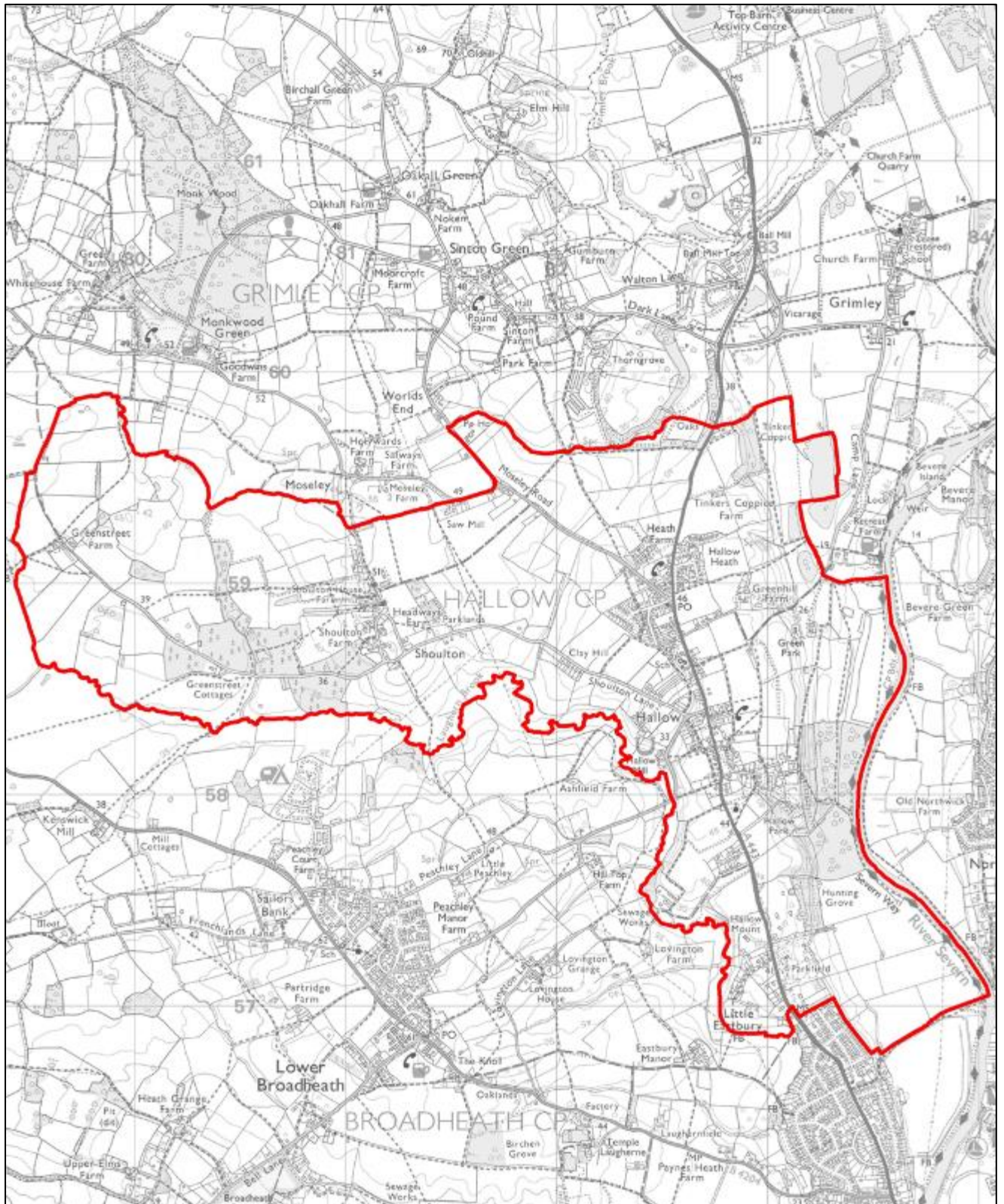
Regulation 14 Draft

June 2020

Table of Contents

Section	Page Number
1.0 Introduction and Background	5
2.0 Parish Portrait and Key Issues	11
3.0 Planning Policy Context	23
4.0 Hallow Vision and Objectives	29
5.0 Hallow Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies	33
6.0 Housing	35
7.0 Natural Environment and Rural Character	53
8.0 Community and Recreation Facilities	83
9.0 Built Heritage	91
10.0 Transport and Infrastructure	103
11.0 Monitoring and Review	109
Glossary of Terms	111
Appendices	117
Acknowledgements	123

Map 1. Hallow Designated Neighbourhood Area © Crown copyright and database rights [2020]
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Map 2. The Neighbourhood Area within Worcestershire



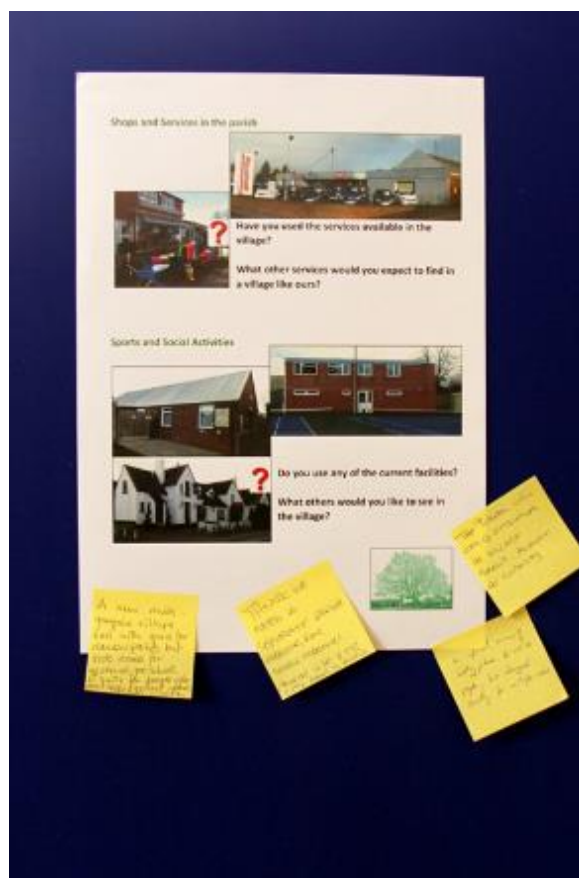
1.0 Introduction and Background

Neighbourhood Planning

- 1.1 Hallow Parish Council has the power to prepare a statutory neighbourhood development plan (NDP). NDPs can be used by local people to help shape development in their area. This is because planning applications are determined in accordance with the development plan (including NDPs), unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Through the consultation on the Hallow Neighbourhood Development Plan (HNDP), local people now have the chance to get involved and help prepare planning policy for Hallow and the surrounding area.

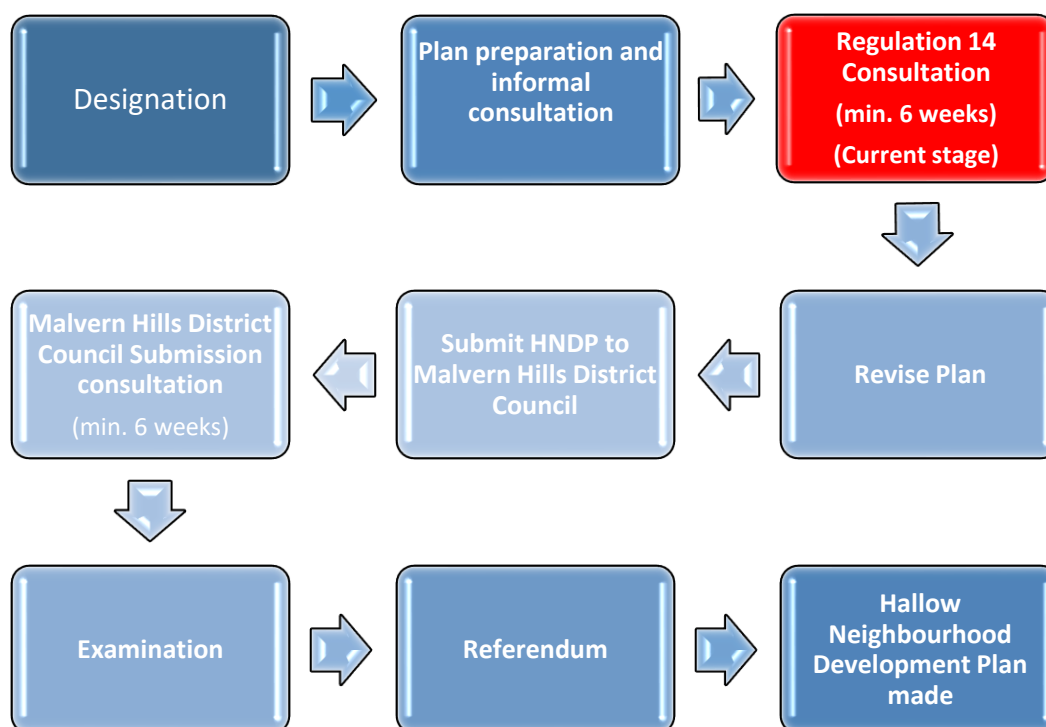
Neighbourhood Plan Process and Preparation

- 1.2 The preparation of the HNDP must follow a process set by government (Figure 1). The first stage in the process is designation and Hallow parish was designated as a neighbourhood area on 14th July 2017. The designated Neighbourhood Area is shown on Map 1
- 1.3 To progress the HNDP through the process, a steering group, comprising parish councillors and local residents was established. Following earlier surveys and consultations the Parish Council have now approved this Draft of the HNDP for formal “Regulation 14” consultation.



Community consultation

Figure 1. Neighbourhood Plan Preparation Process



1.4 The Regulation 14 Draft HNDP has been prepared following a series of earlier community engagement and consultation activities, these include:

Date	Activity
March/April 2017 – Focus Groups	Three focus groups were held with a wide range of residents to establish key issues for Hallow and the level of support for Hallow preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan. The focus groups also assisted in recruiting a cross section of residents for the HNDP Steering Group.
April 2017 – Public Meeting	NDP presentation to village and Hallow Parish Council (HPC) by NDP Lead Officer from Malvern Hills District Council.
June 2017 – Parish Council meeting	HPC agree to commence preparation of an NDP.
November 2017 – Walkabout	A Parish Walkabout to survey the built environment using the ‘My Place Matters Toolkit’ by 26 volunteers from across the village, with the assistance of Hallow History Group.
February- March 2018 – Public Information Events	Five Public Information Events on key issues to establish general village views and to establish key areas for the community questionnaire to cover, with a total of 228 villagers attending.
April 2018 - Walkabout	Second Parish Walkabout to survey important views and local green spaces (using NPPF

Date	Activity
	criteria), by 24 volunteers from across the village.
June 2018 – Community Survey	Community Survey with 390 completed responses out of 558 delivered or requested. Forms completed per household, for those aged 16 or over, representing a 63% completion rate.
June 2018 - Business Survey	43 businesses contacted, including farms, retail outlets, and a wide range of commercial and community services. A total of 15 responses were received, representing a 35% completion rate.
June 2018- Hallow Country Fayre.	Stall at Hallow Country Fayre, June 2018.
September-October 2018 - Public Information Events	Four Public Information Events on results of surveys and draft vision and policies published with a total of 111 residents attending.
October 2018 – Young people’s focus group	Focus group with young people aged between 8 and 13, Hallow Scout Hut.
Autumn 2018- Hallow C of E Primary School	Classroom discussion Hallow C of E Primary School, autumn term, 2018.
May 2019 Annual Parish Meeting	Presentation to Annual Parish Meeting.
October/November 2019	Consultation on housing site options.

1.5 In addition to these events and activities regular updates were provided to those interested in the HNDP through:

- Monthly updates in the Parish Magazine and monthly progress reports to meetings of the Parish Council;
- Updates on the Hallow Neighbourhood Development Plan website since January 2018, including Steering Group agendas and minutes: <http://hallowndp.co.uk/>;
- Updates in the Hallow School newsletter; and
- By placing updates, agendas and minutes on Hallow Village Community Group notice board and Hallow Parish notice board.

1.6 The HNDP has now reached an important stage and is published for six-weeks of formal consultation **June 15 to August 8th 2020** (8 weeks). The HNDP and supporting documents can be found at:

Hallow Parish Council website Regulation 14 consultation
<https://www.hallowpc.co.uk/>

Hallow Neighbourhood Development website <https://hallowndp.co.uk/>

Paper copies of the HNDP can be obtained by contacting:

Clerk to Hallow Parish Council on 07973395361.

Comments on the HNDP should be made in writing and can be made via the above websites and by sending a comment form to Clerk to Hallow Parish Council hallowparishcouncil@gmail.com or by post to:

Clerk to Hallow Parish Council, Mrs Anne Stark, 18 Oakleigh Heath, Hallow, WR2 6NQ.

or by obtaining a comment form from the Clerk.

2.0 Parish Portrait and Key Issues

The Neighbourhood Area

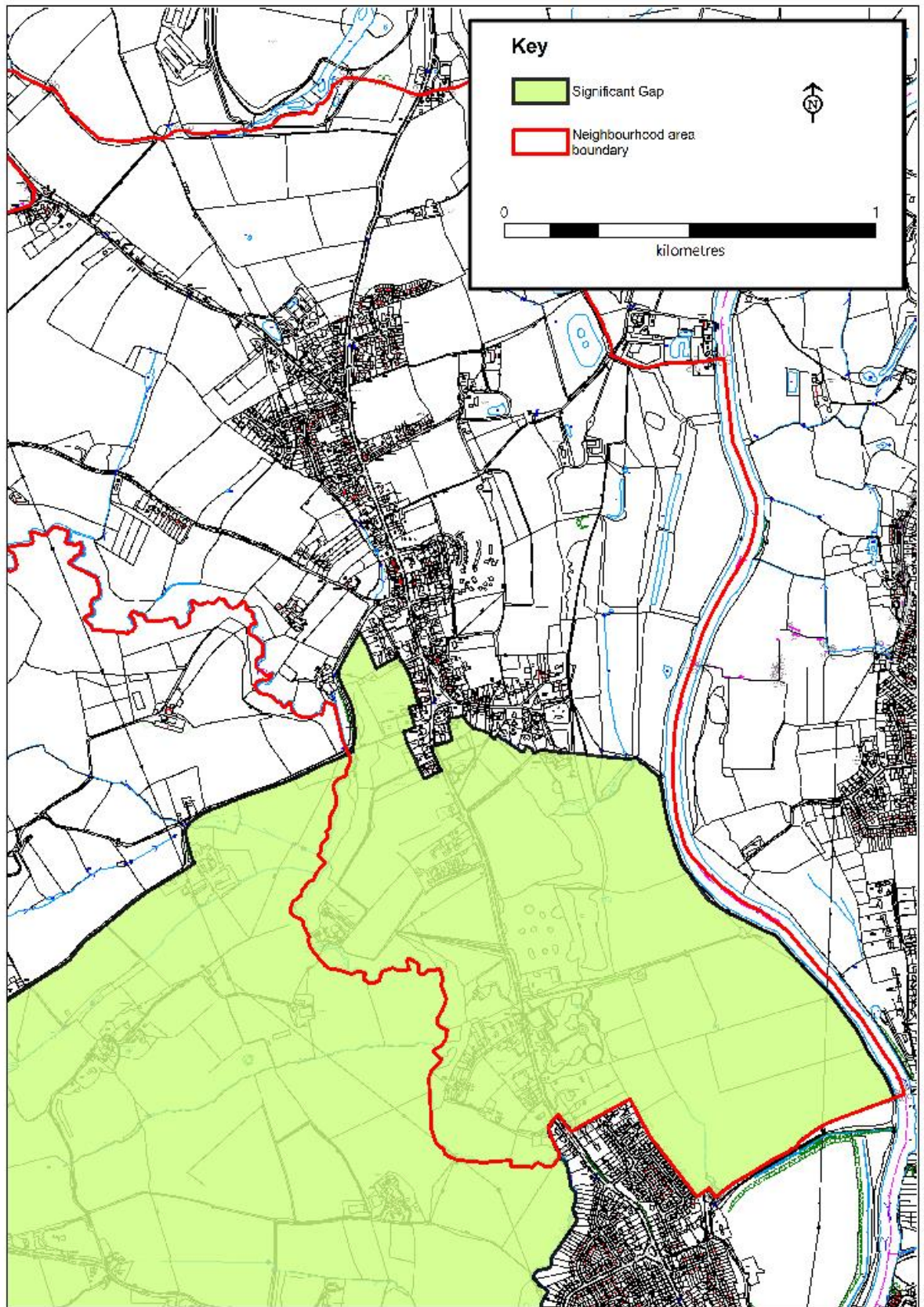
- 2.1 Hallow parish comprises of the village of Hallow. the smaller settlements of Shoulton and Little Eastbury/Parkfield and the surrounding countryside. Hallow village has a shop, Post Office, two car showrooms, a pub (The Crown Inn) and a primary school. Residents of the village also benefit from a range of community and recreation facilities that help to support a wide range of sports, clubs and general community life. The Elgar Business Centre is located to the north west of the village and other offices are sited at Hallow Park.



Hallow Primary School

- 2.2 The neighbourhood area covers 643 hectares and is situated on the north west boundary of Worcester city (Map 2). Farmland surrounds the settlements and to the east is the River Severn and its floodplain. The southern administrative boundary of the neighbourhood area abuts Worcester city, but separating Hallow village and the city are landed estates and fields. Planning policy in the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) identifies this area as a Significant Gap (Map 3). The purpose of the Significant Gap is to serve as a buffer of open land between rural settlements and the Worcester city urban area.

Map 3. Significant Gap © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940
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Hallow Village

- 2.3 Hallow is a linear settlement running on both sides of the A443 Tenbury Road that runs from Worcester city to Tenbury Wells. The A443 follows the line of a north to south ridge. The ridge is surrounded by ‘attractive open countryside’ bounded by the River Severn to the east and the Laugherne Brook to the south west. To the north there is gently undulating pasture and agricultural land.^{1 2} The two spires of the school (to the north) and church (to the south) are prominent features on the local skyline, other buildings and housing sit within, rather than dominate the landscape, and this includes the more recent development.
- 2.4 The geographic form of the ridge has constrained development within Hallow and produced the largely linear development discernible today. This pattern of development is, in turn, reflected and reinforced by the development boundary for Hallow (Map 4).
- 2.5 The neighbourhood area’s other settlements are the hamlets of Shoulton and Little Eastbury/Parkfield. Shoulton was, historically, a largely agricultural settlement and still includes working farms and converted traditional farm buildings. Spindlewood, an area of mixed woodland crossed by Public Rights of Way, is a valuable amenity for local residents and visitors.
- 2.6 Little Eastbury/Parkfield, at the southern approach to Hallow from the city, has distinctive walled and railed landed estates, providing the setting for large properties (some Grade II listed) with mature trees lining the A443. The Significant Gap continues with open pasture to the west and east of the A443, until this meets the southern edge of Hallow village and the Conservation Area.

People

- 2.7 At the time of the 2011 Census, the neighbourhood area had a population of 1,219 residents, living in 532 households (Figure 2). This was a 4% increase from 2001 (1,173 residents); and a 55% increase from 1991 when the neighbourhood area had 670 residents (see also Malvern Hills District Council (MHDC) profile of Hallow, 2014)³.

¹ Hallow: Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Report, 2009. Malvern Hills District Council.
<https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/10558/125552/mhc-planning-hallowadopted.pdf/e9b496a5-32c9-47b7-8483-8fa8e76e8538>

² GB Historical GIS / University of Portsmouth, History of Hallow, in Malvern Hills and Worcestershire | Map and description, *A Vision of Britain through Time*.
URL: <http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/9891>; accessed October 23, 2018

³ <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/10558/3228718/Hallow+PP.pdf/c7ee6845-1134-47ea-899b-afefc5f699b8>

Map 4. Development Boundary © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey
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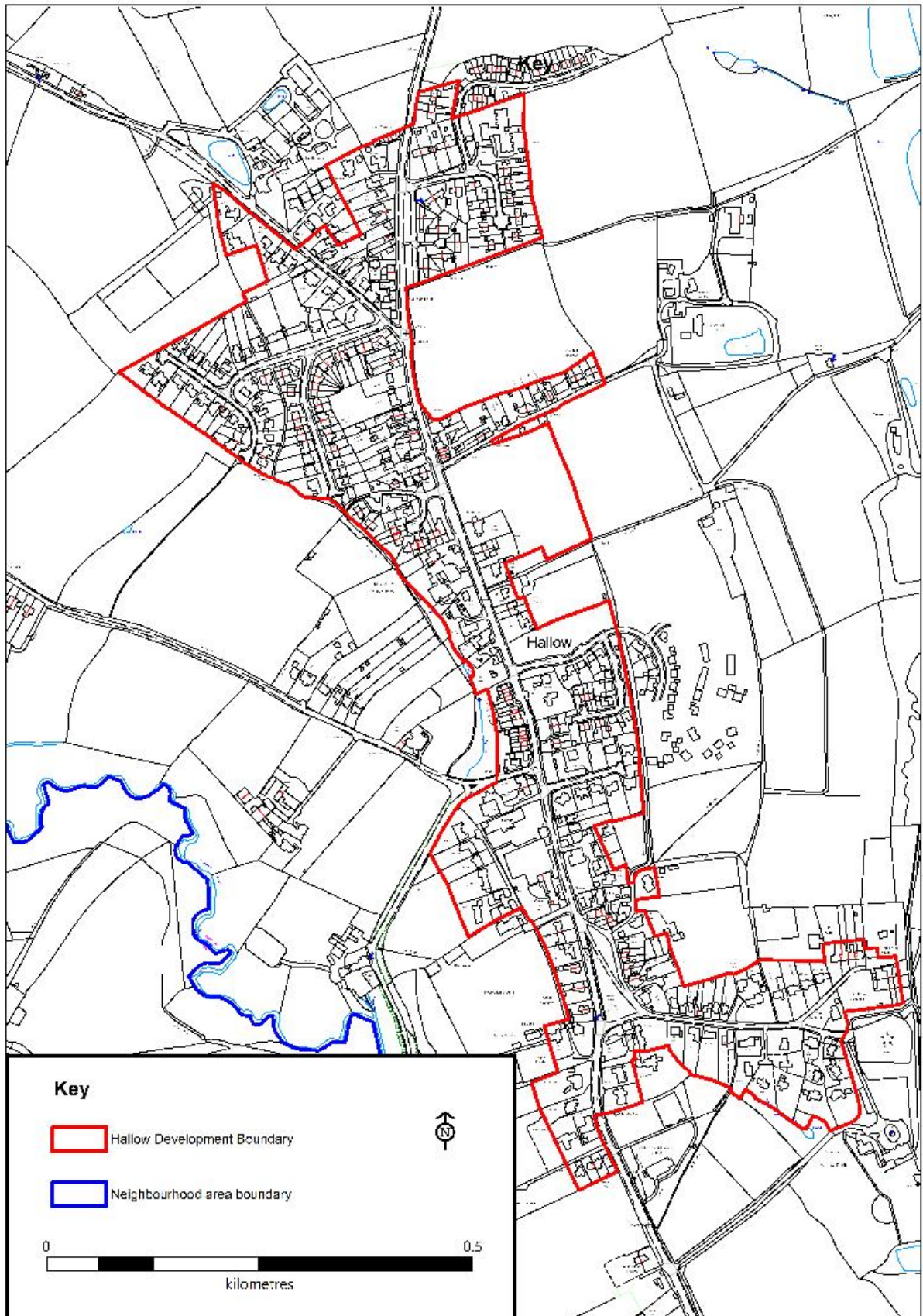
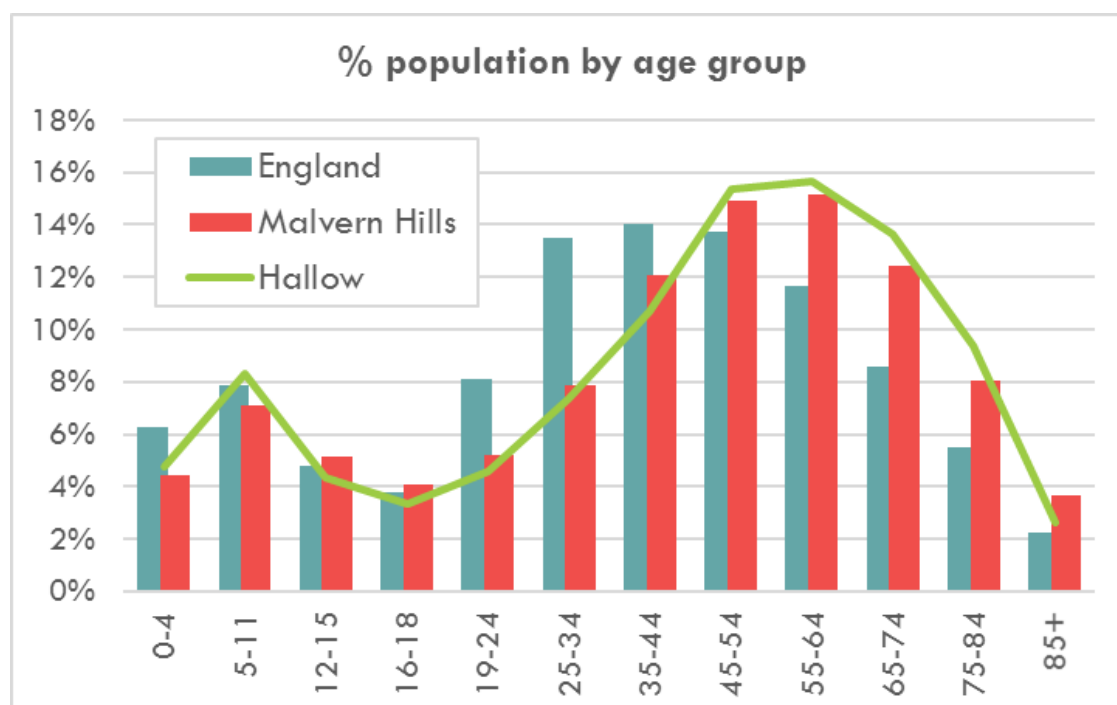
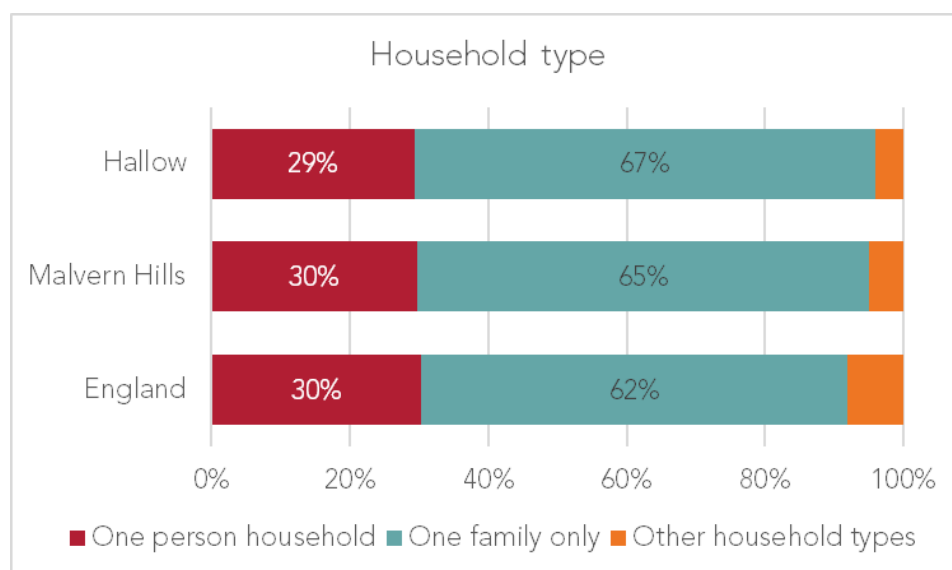


Figure 2. 2011 Population by Age Group (Source: 2011 Census)

- 2.8 To provide more up to date information to support the work on the HNDDP a *Community Survey*⁴ was carried out in June 2018. This identified 591 households in the area, 59 more than in 2011, a further 11% increase.
- 2.9 The 2011 Census shows that the population of the neighbourhood area had a similar age structure to that of residents across Malvern Hills District, but an older population than England (Figure 2).
- 2.10 Two-thirds of households (67%) in Hallow consist of a single family and just under a third (29 %) are one-person households (Figure 3), similar to that for Malvern Hills District and England. 25% of households have dependent children and 10% have grown-up (non-dependent) children living at home, again a similar proportion as Malvern Hills District. 14% of households are families aged 65 and over and 18% are lone pensioner households, both figures higher than across the District and England. A slightly smaller proportion of households are lone parents (7%) compared to Malvern Hills (8%) and England (11%). 36% of households have married couples and 9% have cohabiting couples.

⁴ Hallow NDP Community Survey Report, Data Orchard (2018) <http://hallowndp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Hallow-NDP-Community-Survey-Report-Issue-1.0-FINAL.pdf>

Figure 3. 2011 Household Type (source: 2011 Census)



3

- 2.11 Of those of working age, 66% were economically active, including 2% unemployed. Only 3% of the workforce were employed in agriculture, with the largest groups being employed in the wholesale, retail and motor trade (20%), human health and social work activities (13%) and education (11%).

Health and Wellbeing

- 2.12 Generally, people in Hallow consider themselves to be in good health, 82% felt they had very good/good health, but 18% felt themselves to have a limiting long-term illness (Table 1). One of the key issues facing the area, like many areas in the UK, is the area's ageing population. Planning can help to prevent and mitigate health issues, some more prevalent in older people, by creating opportunities for active lifestyles: e.g. use of open space and recreation facilities; improving access to services and facilities and places to meet; and by improving road safety and air quality. The promotion of better health and wellbeing and a high quality of life is embedded into the policies of the HNPD.

Table 1. Health (source: 2011 Census)

Health and Provision of Unpaid Care ⁵	Hallow		Malvern Hills	England
All Usual Residents	count	%	%	%
Residents who said their health was:				
Very good/Good	996	82%	81%	81%
Fair	168	14%	14%	13%
Bad/Very bad	55	5%	5%	5%
Residents with limiting long term illness:				
all ages	220	18%	20%	18%
daily activities limited a little	125	10%	11%	9%
daily activities limited a lot	95	8%	9%	8%
aged 16 to 64	78	6%	7%	8%
daily activities limited a little	47	4%	4%	5%
daily activities limited a lot	31	3%	3%	4%
Residents who provide unpaid care for:	152	12%	13%	10%
1 to 19 Hours a Week	101	8%	9%	7%
20 to 49 Hours a Week	15	1%	1%	1%
50 or More Hours a Week	36	3%	2%	2%

Housing

- 2.13 The 2011 Census identifies 88% of the accommodation in Hallow as houses and bungalows (District 85%, England 77%). 67% of homes in Hallow have three bedrooms or more, the same proportion as for Malvern Hills, but greater than the 60% in England.
- 2.14 Since 2016, and the adoption of the SWDP, planning permission has been granted for 98 new dwellings, with a planning application for a further 33 pending – 131 dwellings. More than the planned for figure of 93 new dwellings set out in the 4 SWDP allocated housing sites. New housing built since 2011 has been in the form of houses or bungalows, with the majority being 3-4 bedroom houses. The majority of this development has been in the northern parts of Hallow village, probably a reflection of the success of strategic planning policy that seeks to preserve the Significant Gap to the south of the village.
- 2.15 At time of the 2011 Census 73% of households in Hallow were owner-occupiers, including the 47% of households who owned their home outright – higher than Malvern Hills (42%) and nationally (31%). There were nine households living in shared ownership properties at the time of the 2011 Census. One in six households lived in socially rented properties, slightly

higher than in Malvern Hills. The area has a higher proportion of houses in the higher Council Tax bands than the District as a whole.⁵

Transport and travel

- 2.16 The *Community Survey* identified that of those working, 21% of respondents work within 20 miles of home; 16% work within 5 miles of home; and 9% of residents work from home⁶, the latter figure slightly higher than that from the 6% in the 2011 Census. Despite this reasonable proximity for some residents to their place of work, Hallow has relatively poor public transport links. Bus services are limited, providing travel to and from Worcester and to a limited extent to Kidderminster and Tenbury, with no services outside of peak times. There is a lack of dedicated cycle lanes and off-road cycling facilities. This means that car use in the neighbourhood area remains high: 74% of Hallow residents in employment travel to work by car, compared with 68.9% for Malvern Hills District (Source: 2011 Census).
- 2.17 Traffic volumes, speeding and car parking are significant concerns for residents (*Community Survey 2018*). The recent addition of a lit pedestrian crossing on the A443 aids safer crossing to the primary school, shop and other facilities.
- 2.18 Access to key services such as doctors' surgeries in west Worcester, Ombersley or Witley, and to Worcester Royal Hospital is very difficult by public transport. This particularly impacts on older residents and others without access to a car. These views are supported by the findings of the Worcestershire County Council *Overview and Scrutiny Report Bus and Community Transport Provision, December 2018*. This report recognised that it was 'vital to have a baseline, daily timetabled service between larger villages', such as Hallow, this report also found a 'widespread lack of services in the evenings and Sundays', and 'loss of off-peak services, and services finishing too early in the day.' All features relevant to the public transport serving Hallow.⁷

⁵ <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/10558/3228718/Hallow+PP.pdf/c7ee6845-1134-47ea-899b-afefc5f699b8>

⁶ N= 390. 558 paper surveys were delivered to households (out of 591 household addresses) and an additional 8 paper copies were requested by individuals. 354 of these were filled in and returned (63 % of those delivered or requested). An additional 36 chose to complete the survey online giving a total response of 390. This represents 39 % of the population aged 16 and over who completed a survey (1,007 residents at the 2011 Census).

⁷ <https://worcestershireintranet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=2163&Ver=4>

Employment, Commerce and Industry

- 2.19 Some 43 businesses were identified as operating in Hallow in the *Business Survey*⁸ including farms, retail outlets, and a wide range of commercial and community services.
- 2.20 The 2011 Census occupational profile of Hallow residents was similar to that for Malvern Hills District, with 20% being in 'professional' occupations and one in seven in 'managerial' and 'skilled trade' occupations. Compared to national figures there are more residents in 'managerial', 'professional' and 'skilled trade' occupations and fewer in 'administrative and secretarial' and 'process, plant and machine operative' occupations. The *2018 Community Survey* identified that a large proportion of respondents to the survey were not working (46 %), largely attributable to the older age profile of Hallow.

Landscape and Ecology

- 2.21 The *Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Guidance (2012)* completed by Worcestershire County Council categorised the greater part of the neighbourhood area as 'principal timbered farmlands', with those areas nearer the River Severn being 'settled farmlands on river terraces' and 'riverside meadows'⁹. These areas are shown on Map 12 of the HNDP. The *Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2013-18* identified Hallow as an area where green infrastructure should be protected and improved.
- 2.22 The biodiversity assets of the neighbourhood area include parts of two Local Wildlife Sites – Laugherne Brook and River Severn; and two Grassland Inventory Sites (Margate Farm Meadows and Hallow Meadows). The area also includes a number of protected and notable species, see Maps 10, 11 and 16-18 of the HNDP.

⁸ From the MHDC data base and local knowledge <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/business-rates-datasets>



Parkland to the North of Parkfield



Parkland and Hallow Mount

Built Heritage

- 2.23 Hallow has 21 statutory Listed Buildings (Appendix 1) these include the church, school and farmsteads.
- 2.24 The Church of St. Philip and St. James, built in 1869, has a significant spire forming a dominant feature on the skyline of Hallow, particularly when entering the village from Sinton Green and Broadheath. The Church is a

visible focal point for the village and Conservation Area and can be seen from miles around.



View of Hallow Church from the South

- 2.25 Hallow School is a Grade II listed building and has been part of the village for over 300 years. Again, the spire of the school is a dominant feature in the local landscape and forms a second important visual landmark for Hallow. The church and school spires bookend Main Street.
- 2.26 In addition to designated heritage assets, there are a number of non-designated heritage assets in the neighbourhood area. Many of these are identified in the Worcestershire County Council's *Heritage Environment Record* (HER), MHDC's *Hallow Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy*¹⁰. This work is supplemented by the work of Hallow History Group.

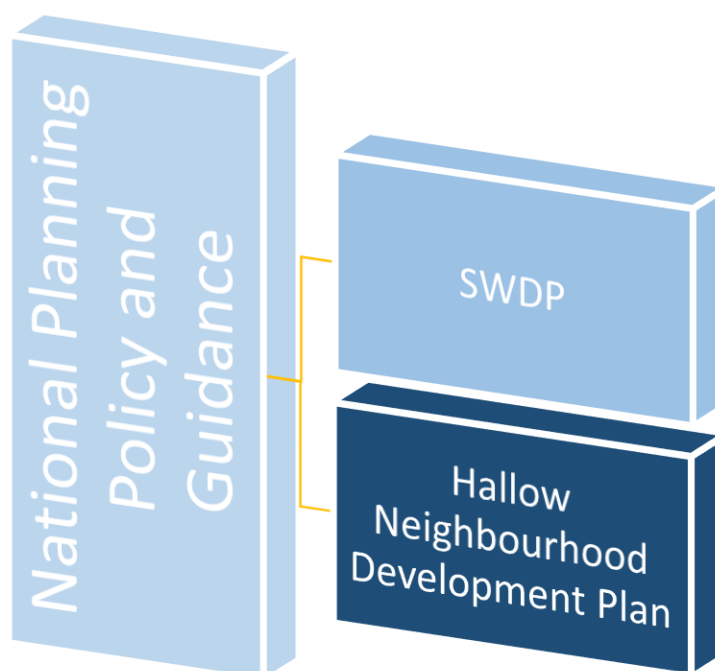
¹⁰ <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/10558/125552/mhc-planning-hallowadopted.pdf/e9b496a5-32c9-47b7-8483-8fa8e76e8538>; accessed 4/12/18

3.0 Planning Policy Context

National and Strategic Planning Policy

- 3.1 NDPs must have regard to national policies and advice and be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area (Figure 4), in this case the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP). It is therefore important that HNDP policies reflect this higher-level planning policy framework.

Figure 4. Relationship of the HNDP, national policy and guidance and the SWDP



National Planning Policy and Guidance

- 3.2 National planning policy is set out in the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)¹¹ published in February 2019. The NPPF sets out that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
- 3.3 The NPPF sets out the scope of policies that can be used in NDPs. These can be “more detailed policies for specific areas, neighbourhoods or types of development” (paragraph 28), this can include “allocating sites, the provision of infrastructure and community facilities at a local level, establishing design principles, conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment and setting out other development management policies.” More specifically for neighbourhood plans the NPPF states:

¹¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

“29. Neighbourhood planning gives communities the power to develop a shared vision for their area. Neighbourhood plans can shape, direct and help to deliver sustainable development, by influencing local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan. Neighbourhood plans should not promote less development than set out in the strategic policies for the area or undermine those strategic policies.

30. Once a neighbourhood plan has been brought into force, the policies it contains take precedence over existing non-strategic policies in a local plan covering the neighbourhood area, where they are in conflict; unless they are superseded by strategic or non-strategic policies that are adopted subsequently.”

- 3.4 The HNDP has also been prepared by taking into account guidance in the National Planning Practice Guide (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>).

Strategic Planning Policy

South Worcestershire Development Plan

- 3.5 Following its adoption in February 2016, the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP)¹² provides the local strategic planning context for the HNDP (Map 5). This shows the land use designations relevant to Hallow village: 4 allocated housing sites, development boundary, conservation area, protected open space and significant gap.



Significant Gap with Worcester Cathedral in long distance view

¹² <http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org/>

- 3.6 The HNDP has been prepared to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the SWDP and aims to supplement the SWDP by:
- Providing a vision for the future of the parish. This is a broader community-based perspective than one relating simply to the development and use of land.
 - Setting out planning policies that are additional or supplementary to those in the SWDP. These will be used to help determine planning applications in Hallow.
- 3.7 The SWDP sets planning policy, subsequently the development at SWDP59/5, land north of Orchard Close, that had been a 1.55 hectare site, with an envisaged 40 new dwellings, became part of a larger site of 5.11 hectares, granted planning permission (planning approval 18/00851/FUL) in November 2018. 65 new dwellings have been built on this site. This extended part of SWDP59/5 will remain outside the Development Boundary until this is reviewed (Map 6).

South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (SWDPR)

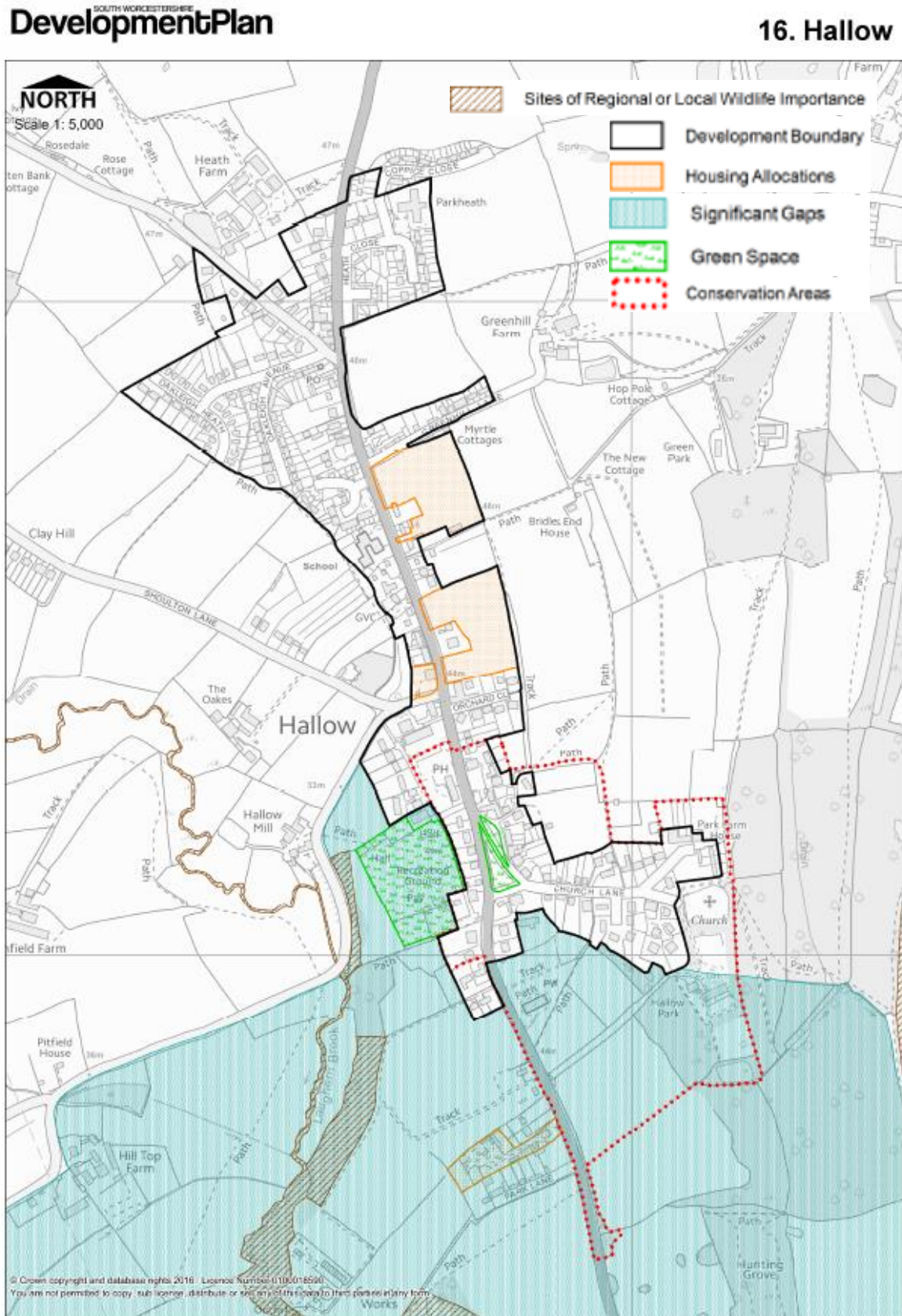
- 3.8 The South Worcestershire Councils (Malvern Hills, Worcester City and Wychavon) have commenced a review of the SWDP (SWDPR). This is in line with national requirements that local plans should be updated every five years. A revised SWDP is required by 2021. The SWDPR will provide an updated plan period to the year 2041. The SWDPR has been through a Preferred Option consultation¹³. The HNDP has been prepared to take account of the SWDPR and its evidence base, this is in line with national planning guidance. One issue that will be left to the SWDPR is the identification of any changes necessary to the Hallow Development Boundary.

Strategic Environmental Assessment/Habitat Regulations Assessment

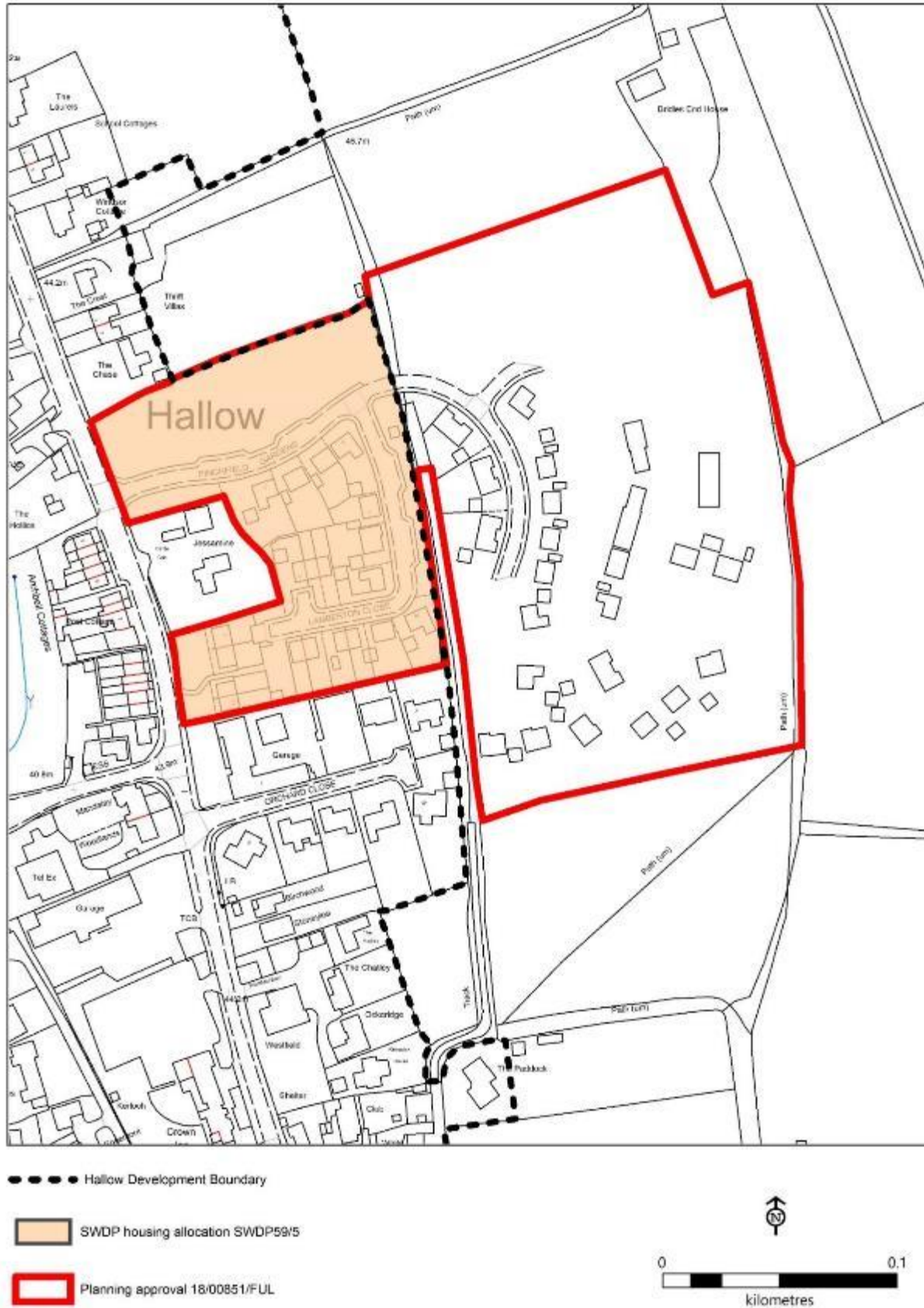
- 3.9 The HNDP must be screened for the purposes of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)/Habitat Regulations Assessment. These screenings undertaken by MHDC and consulted upon with the relevant statutory bodies have concluded there is no need for a full SEA or Appropriate Assessment. Copies of the screenings are available on the Hallow Parish Council website Regulation 14 consultation <https://www.hallowpc.co.uk/> or the Hallow Neighbourhood Development website <https://hallowndp.co.uk/>

¹³ https://www.swdevelopmentplan.org/?page_id=13748

Map 5. Adopted SWDP Strategic Planning Context Source: SWDP



Map 6. Orchard Close, SWDP Allocation and Final Planning Approval © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940 Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758



4.0 Hallow Vision and Objectives

Hallow NDP Vision 2041

Hallow will continue to be an attractive, healthy place to live, a place that caters for the needs of all age groups. The HNDP will do this by:

- Helping to manage housing growth, so that it meets the needs of local people.
- Protecting and improving valued services and facilities.
- Preserving and enhancing Hallow's built and natural environment.

4.1 The Hallow NDP vision 2041 sets out the community's ambition for the parish in 20 years' time. In the *Community Survey*, respondents generally agreed with the Draft Vision Statement:

- **78% of respondents entirely agreed with the Draft Vision Statement.**
- **15% said they partly agreed.**
- **7% did not agree or had no opinion**

Why Vision 2041? The HNDP must be in general conformity with strategic planning policy for the area. This is set out in the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP). The SWDP is currently being reviewed and will cover the period up to 2041 – the HNDP therefore plans for the same time period.

Neighbourhood Plan Objectives

4.2 In order to achieve the Hallow NDP Vision 2041 a set of objectives have been defined for the HNDP:

Hallow NDP Objectives

Housing

OBJECTIVE 1 - To promote managed, sustainable housing growth within the development boundary for Hallow village and on allocated sites. This housing will:

- a) provide a mixture of open market and affordable housing that meets the needs of all age groups; and**
- b) meet the affordable housing needs of people with defined local connections.**

OBJECTIVE 2 - The scale and phasing of development should meet the needs of the local community and enable new residents to be accommodated into the community.

Rural Character

OBJECTIVE 3 - To protect and enhance the rural character of Hallow village, Shoulton, Little Eastbury/Parkfield within an open landscape of fields, woodlands and riverside meadows.

Community and Recreation Facilities

OBJECTIVE 4 - To provide a healthy and stimulating community life for all the people in the area by protecting and enhancing community and recreation facilities.

Built Environment

OBJECTIVE 5 – To conserve and enhance the built heritage of the area, including the Conservation Area, designated and non-designated heritage assets and archaeology.

Transport

OBJECTIVE 6 - To maintain and enhance public rights of way and other routes.

OBJECTIVE 7 – To improve infrastructure and a mix of land uses that promote more active, healthy forms of travel (walking and cycling) and improved public transport so that Hallow residents have less need to use private motor vehicles.

Utilities

OBJECTIVE 8 - To support improvements to local public services and infrastructure and to facilitate access to both high speed broadband and reliable mobile-phone coverage.

5.0 Hallow Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies

- 5.1 The following sections (6 to 10) of the HNDP set out the NDPs planning policies. This is the real heart of the HNDP. Each policy is set out under the corresponding HNDP objective and is accompanied by supporting evidence in a “Background/Justification” section. It should be remembered that the HNDP should be read as a whole and alongside the SWDP and national planning policy and guidance. The policies in this section should also be read alongside the HNDP Policies Map that covers the whole neighbourhood area and accompanies this written document.

6.0 Housing

Neighbourhood Plan Housing Objectives

OBJECTIVE 1 - To promote managed, sustainable housing growth within the development boundary for Hallow village and on allocated sites. This housing will:

- a) provide a mixture of open market and affordable housing that meets the needs of all age groups; and
- b) meet the affordable housing needs of people with defined local connections.

OBJECTIVE 2 - The scale and phasing of development should meet the needs of the local community and enable new residents to be accommodated into the community.

Policy HAL1 – New Housing Development in Hallow Village 2021-2041

The following site is allocated to meet housing requirements to 2041:

HAL1/1 - Land at Green Hill Lane, Hallow (2.23 hectares gross, minimum 40 dwellings)

Development of HAL1/1 will have to take account of the following:

- a) access should be via 2016 SWDP allocation SWDP59zzi;
- b) the need to provide an easement/buffer strip to separate the development from the gas pipeline to the south of the site; and
- c) the development should provide part of a dedicated cycle path between points 14 and 16 of the Broadheath Hallow Cycle Loop (Map 9).

Outside of the Hallow development boundary, where development is more strictly controlled, other proposals for new housing development will be assessed against all the relevant policies in the SWDP and the HNBP.

Background/Justification

- 6.1 Existing planning policy in the SWDP for Hallow defines a Development Boundary for the village and allocates 4 housing sites, Map 5. The HNBP does **not** seek to change this strategic planning policy approach.
- 6.2 At the strategic level the use of Development Boundaries is a key policy tool that seeks to ensure new development is concentrated in the most urban

areas (e.g. Worcester), and that open countryside is safeguarded and where possible enhanced (SWDP Policy 2 Development Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy).

- 6.3 In Hallow this strategic approach directs new development to within the Development Boundary. This helps to direct new development in a way that helps to maintain Hallow's sustainable size and pre-dominant linear form. Directing new development in this way, and through allocating housing sites, also helps to protect the open countryside in the more environmentally sensitive areas of the neighbourhood area found to the north, west and south (here, including the Significant Gap between Hallow and Worcester) of Hallow village.
- 6.4 The HNDP seeks to work within this strategic planning policy framework (subject to any amendments through the SWDPR) by using existing policy tools such as the Development Boundary and, in addition, sets out complementary non-strategic planning policies that seek to help direct development to the most sustainable locations and help to protect and enhance other key aspects of the local environment. Taken as a whole the SWDP's strategic planning policies and the HNDP's non-strategic planning policies will ensure new development in Hallow, both within and without the Hallow Development Boundary is sustainable.
- 6.5 SWDP strategic planning policy currently covers the period up to 2030. Strategic planning policy is being reviewed and the SWDPR will plan for the period up to 2041. The SWDPR has recently completed a Preferred Options consultation. This included a suggested housing site for Hallow:
- Land lying to the south of Tinkers Coppice Farm, Main Road (Map 7)
- 6.6 At the same time as the SWDP Preferred Option consultation the Parish Council consulted (October/November 2019) on an alternative site option:
- Land at Green Hill Lane (Map 7)

From the feedback to this consultation, meetings and discussions with MHDC, discussions with the landowners, and statutory providers, the Parish Council formally responded to the SWDPR Preferred Option. This formal response sought the replacement of the land lying to the south of Tinkers Coppice Farm, Main Road and its replacement with the Parish Council alternative option of land at Green Hill Lane. This alternative approach has the support of Malvern Hills District and to this effect a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being drafted. The allocation of the Green Hill Lane site will enable the HNDP to meet any identified housing requirement for Hallow over the period 2021 to 2041 that will be set in the SWDPR.

- 6.7 A feature the two potential future housing sites have in common, a feature they also have in common with the two larger sites allocated in the adopted SWDP (Map 5), is their central location within Hallow village on the eastern

side of the A443. By using these locational principles : east of the A443, on identified sites close to village amenities and services, helps to avoid housing development in more remote and more environmentally sensitive locations to the north, south and west of the village. These locational principles reinforce Hallow's predominant historical, linear form of development. These locational principles and the Development Boundary in strategic planning policy should be used to identify any future land for housing development, through further reviews of the HNDP and SWDP.



Hallow has seen significant levels of housing growth

- 6.8 Hallow's housing requirement has been identified through a methodology prepared by the South Worcestershire Joint Advisory Panel – *Indicative Housing Requirements for Hallow Neighbourhood Area 2021-2030 and 2031-2041*.
- 6.9 Using this methodology, the indicative housing requirement for Hallow for the periods 2021 – 2030 and 2031 – 2041 are as follows:

Indicative Housing Requirement – 2021 – 2030

Based on the current SWDP planning strategy, 450 additional dwellings will be required between 2021 and 2030 across the SWDP area. 13% of the 450 additional dwellings (58 dwellings) will be distributed amongst the rural parishes in proportion to their population (as based on the 2011 Census).

The population of Hallow in 2011 was 1,219, 1.2% of the total population of the rural parishes in south Worcestershire.

The indicative additional housing requirement for the parish of Hallow for the period 2021 - 2030, based on 1.2% of the 58 dwellings equates to **1 dwelling over the period 2021-2030.**

Indicative Housing Requirement – 2031 – 2041

A further 13,550 additional dwellings have been identified for SWDP area between 2031 and 2041. 13% of the 13,550 dwellings, 1,761 dwellings would be distributed amongst the rural parishes, again, in proportion to their 2011 population.

On this basis, the indicative housing requirement for Hallow for the period **2031 - 2041 is 21 dwellings.**

- 6.10 Bringing the 2021-2031 and 2031-2041 figures together produces a total residual indicative housing requirement for the plan period of 2021 to 2041 of **22 dwellings.**
- 6.11 Recent planning approvals and completions have produced a further 30 new dwellings or commitments to meet this residual requirement of 22 dwellings, leaving theoretically no dwellings to find up to 2041 (Table 4).
- 6.12 In discussions with the Parish Council, MHDC have indicated that the 2021 to 2041 requirement, in line with national planning policy and guidance, is *only* a minimum and could increase as part of the SWDPR. For this reason, and to ensure that the HNDP provides choice and flexibility to meet changing future needs, the housing allocation at Green Hill Lane, HAL1/1, is being allocated through the HNDP. The *Community Survey* lends support to this approach – 43% of respondents to the survey rejected the option that - “No new homes should be built in the next 12 years” as against 28% of respondents who supported this approach, (Figure 5).



Focussing new housing within the Development Boundary protects the local countryside

Map 7. SWDP Review and HNDP Housing Sites © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940 Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758

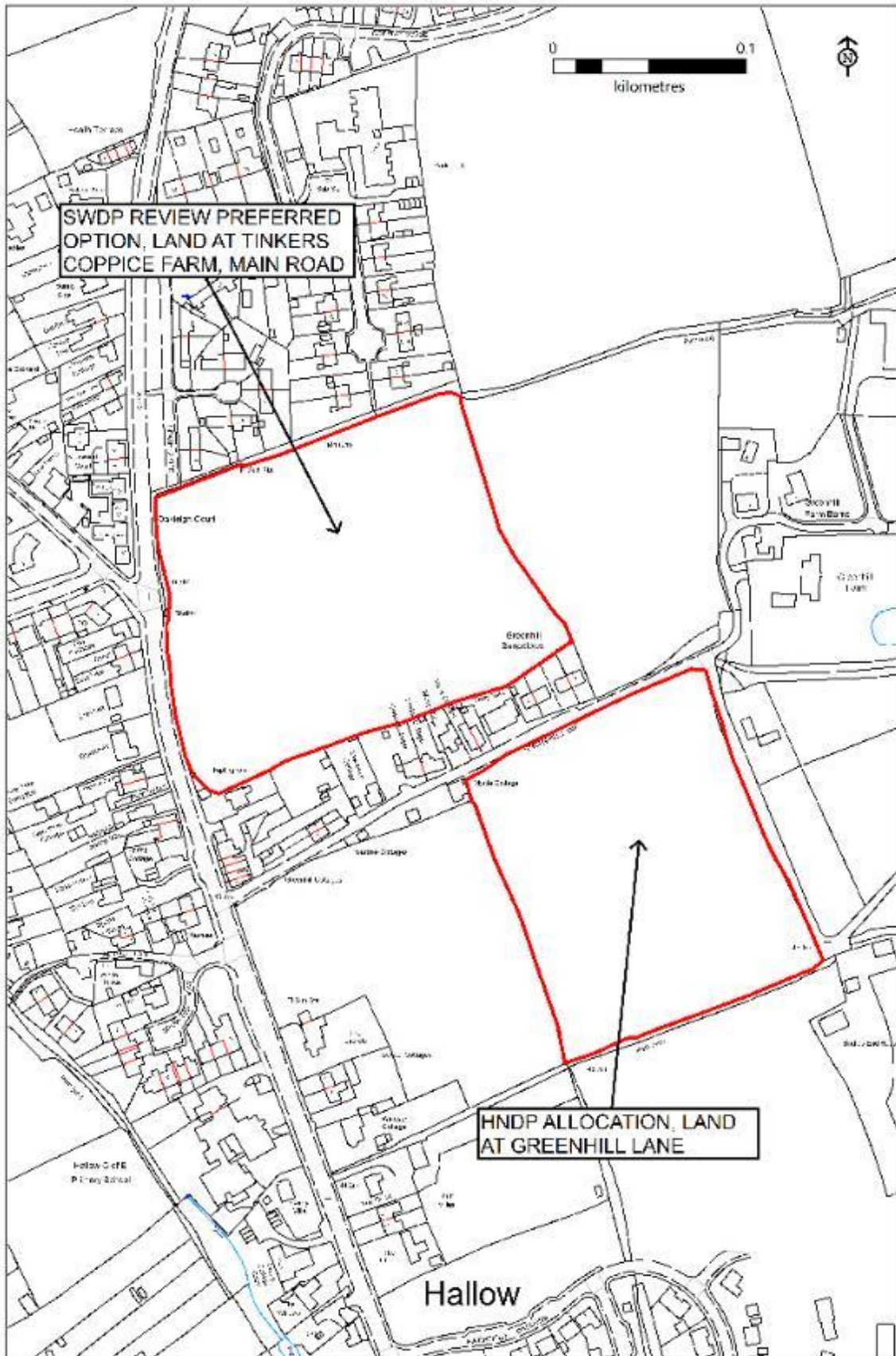


Table 4. Additional Housing Commitments and Completions – from 1st 2016

Planning Approval/Additional houses	Description of approved/proposed development
19/00561/FUL 3 additional dwellings	SWDP59zzi provided an indicative allocation for 30 dwellings on land south of Greenhill Lane. Application 19/00561/FUL is for 33 dwellings. 3 extra dwellings count towards meeting the housing requirement figure.
19/00559/GPDP 1 additional dwelling	The change of use from a storage building to a dwelling house, approved in June 2019, is windfall development in the neighbourhood area post February 2016
18/00851/FUL 19 additional dwellings	SWDP59/5 provided an indicative allocation for 46 dwellings on land north of Orchard Close. Application for 65 dwellings approved in November 2018.
19/00367/FUL 3 additional dwellings	Application for construction of 3 dwellings at Glynannis, Main Road, Hallow, Worcester, WR2 6LQ approved July 2019
Completions 4 additional dwellings	17/01647/FUL, 17/00881/FUL, 17/00182/FUL, 16/00379/FUL.
Total additional dwellings above SWDP allocation 30	

- 6.13 The allocated site at Greenhill Lane, along with other potential sites, has come forward after site appraisals by consultants AECOM (<https://hallowndp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Hallow-Site-Assessment-Report-FINAL.pdf>) and by MHDC (<https://www.swdevelopmentplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Hallow.pdf>).
- 6.14 The Parish Council has also worked with MHDC and, separately, the site owners of HAL1/1. This work has established the following principles:
- MHDC and the Parish Council have signed a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing that HAL1/1 will be the site allocated to meet the housing requirement identified in the SWDPR;
 - The site will form a new phase or extension to the existing SWDP allocation (SWDP59zzi) (Map 5). Development of the site will reinforce the recent focus of housing development on the eastern side of Hallow in more central locations. This directs development to the most sustainable and accessible areas, areas with the least environmental impact, in particular directing development away from the north, south and west of the neighbourhood area where

impacts on landscape and open countryside would be greater. It also helps to direct development away from the SWDP protected Significant Gap to the south of Hallow;

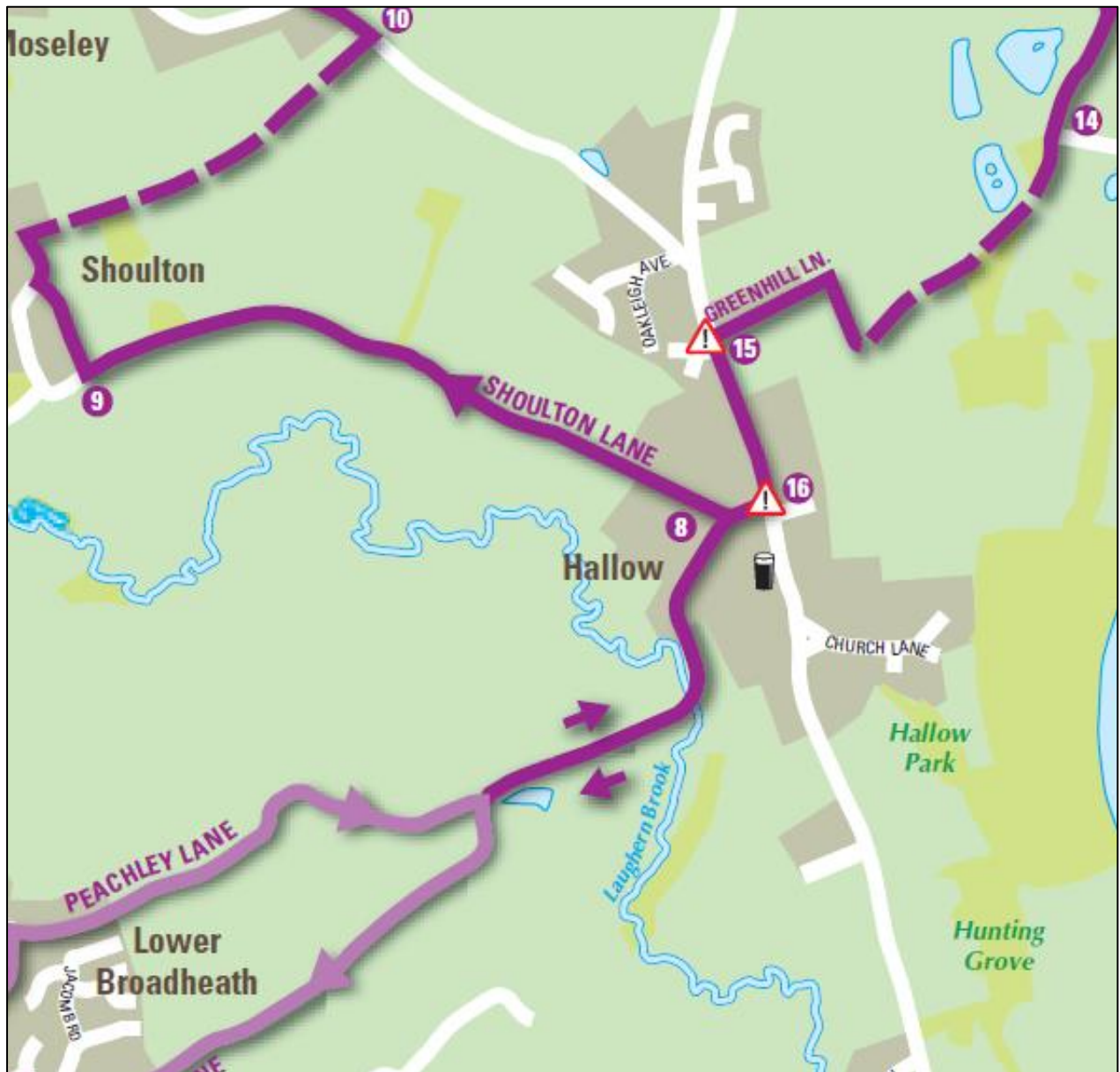
- The access to HAL1/1 would be via this earlier phase of development (site SWDP59zzi). This avoids the need for the creation of a new access point on to the already heavily used A443;
- A buffer zone and open space will separate HAL1/1 from the gas pipeline to the south, this will also meet Health and Safety Executive requirements;
- The site is capable of meeting the identified housing requirement and will help to meet existing and future housing needs (see Policy HAL2);
- the development should provide a dedicated, off road, cycle path between points 14 and 16 of the Broadheath Hallow Cycle Loop (Map 9); and
- The landowner has confirmed the site is suitable, available, viable and deliverable.

A masterplan has been prepared for site HAL1/1 and this shows how the principles set out above can be achieved (Map 8). Overall a third phase of development will be brought forward east of Main Road. This third phase will extend the previous phases of development and all the phases can be linked by public open space. Any development of HAL1/1 will also have to meet other policy requirements in the SWDP and HNDP, for example retaining Public Rights of Way and design requirements.

Map 8. HAL1/1 - Land at Green Hill Lane, Hallow Masterplan Source: Claremont Planning Consultancy



Map 9. Cycle path between points 14 and 16 of the Broadheath Hallow Cycle Loop
 Source: Worcestershire County Council



Key

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| | Start and finish of route | | Route description point |
| | Short route option | | Caution busy junction |
| | Long route | | Public House |
| | Bridleway | | Church |
| | Direction of route | | Railway line |



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Policy HAL2 – Housing Need

To be supported, all new housing development proposals of 5 or more units (subject to viability considerations) must demonstrate that they provide a range of types, sizes and tenures of housing to meet local housing need. Within the Neighbourhood Area there is a particular need for:

- **Affordable housing (particularly 1 bedroom social rented units)**
- **Affordable and open market 1 and 2 bedroom homes (e.g. starter homes for young people or homes for older people wishing to downsize)**
- **Bungalows of different tenures**

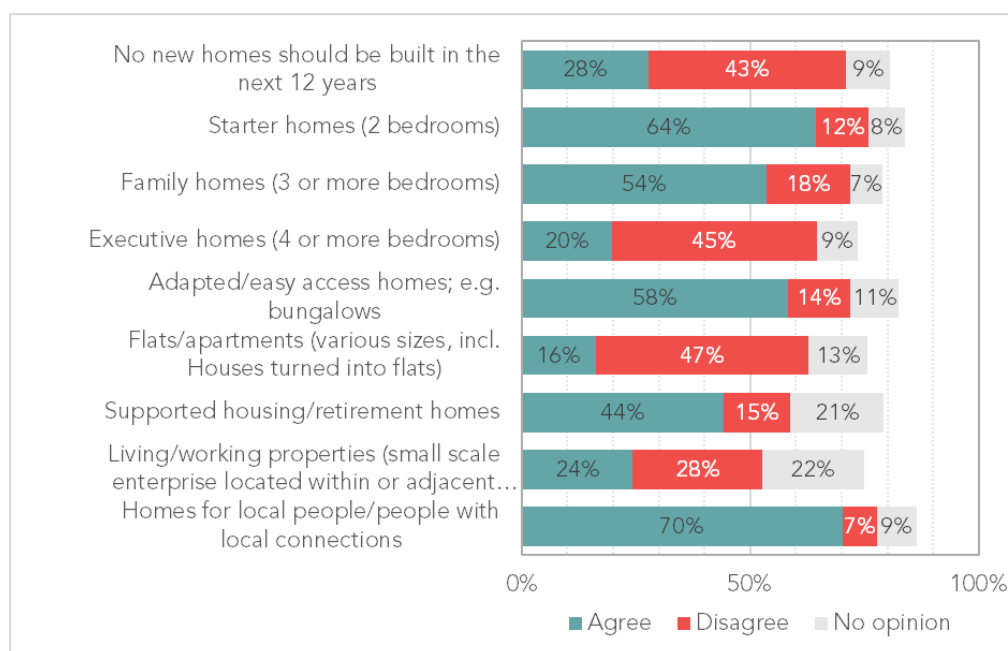
When determining the housing mix on a site, applicants should take account of, and demonstrate how their proposal meets the needs identified in the most up-to-date, local Housing Needs Assessment/Strategic Housing Market Assessment.

Or where such assessments are considered to be out of date applicants should carry out and provide their own assessment of existing local housing needs and how their proposal will meet such needs.

Background/Justification

- 6.15 The *Community Survey* demonstrated strong support for new housing development to provide a mix of homes that is appropriate to meet the needs and demands of local people. These needs and demands vary from issues of affordability for those seeking a foot on the housing ladder e.g. starter homes; to downsizing opportunities and bungalows for those who already own a home seeking to downsize; and for people of all ages seeking adapted easy access homes. Housing allocation HAL1/1 will provide a range of types of housing to meet such demand and need. Other proposals of 5 or more units should also include a mix

Figure 5. What type of new housing should be built over the remaining plan period? (Source: Community Survey).



6.16 To inform the HNDP a local *Housing Needs Survey*¹⁴ has been carried out. This provides a snapshot in time of what local people consider to be current demands and needs: 29 households returned the housing needs survey questionnaire. In 2018 13 households were seeking a new home, with the following more detailed requirements, a mix of households seeking homes on the open market and households seeking some form of affordable housing:

- **11 households were seeking a 2 bedroomed house and 2 households a 3 bedroomed house;**
- **7 of these households were seeking to buy; and**
- **7 households were looking for an affordable route to home ownerships and 3 households were considering both the ‘owner occupation’ and ‘low cost purchase’ options.**

Since the *Housing Needs Survey* was carried out 39 affordable housing units have either been completed or granted planning permission. These include a mix of 1, 2 and 3 bedroomed homes, but only 1 bungalow. These homes more than meet the need identified in the *Housing Needs Survey*.

6.17 These were more immediate demands and needs in 2018, in terms of longer term future demand and need, the *Housing Needs Survey* revealed the following:

- **23 households indicated a likely future need for additional homes over the next five years;**

¹⁴ Hallow Neighbourhood Development Plan: Housing Needs Survey Report, Data Orchard (2018). <http://hallowndp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Hallow-NDP-Housing-Needs-v1.2.pdf>

- **13 of these households were likely to be seeking a 2 bedroomed house;**
- **4 households a 1 bedroomed house;**
- **4 households 3 bedrooms;**
- **Only 1 household would be seeking a 4 bedroomed house; and**
- **In terms of tenure, 57% of households would ideally be seeking to purchase a home on the open market and 35% would be looking for a low cost route into home ownership; and**
- **4 households would require an adapted home e.g. for an older person.**

Much of these demands/needs may have been met through development since the survey was conducted, particularly the 57% seeking an open market home to purchase. Similarly, some of the need for affordable housing may well have already been met.

- 6.18 In terms of these broad demands and needs the *Community Survey* revealed a desire for downsizing i.e. moving from a larger to a smaller home. 56 households said they were considering this option, 88% of these respondents were over the age of 54, and 59% over the age of 64 (Table 5). Ultimately downsizing could benefit all age groups, with older residents moving to a smaller home releasing larger homes for families.

Table 5. Are you considering downsizing? (Source: Community Survey)

Responses to Question 8a by age category	No	Yes
16-17	3	
18-24	3	
25-34	12	
35-44	36	
45-54	45	7
55-64	54	16
65-74	56	19
Over 75	68	13
No age given	6	1
Total	283	56

- 6.19 Not surprisingly, for those considering downsizing when asked the question “to what kind of property?”. Most households, given the age of respondents, answered ‘Bungalow’ (34 households) or a ‘smaller house’ (27 households). 34% of those who wanted to downsize wanted to do so within the parish (Table 6).

Figure 6. What kind of property would you consider downsizing too?
(Community Survey)

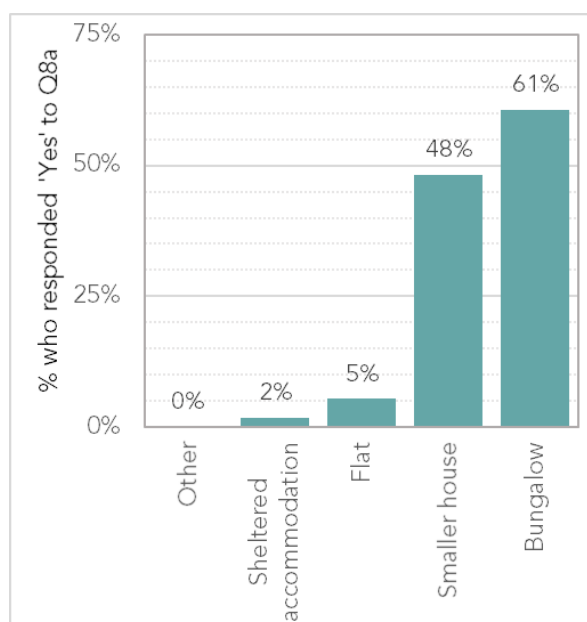


Table 6. Where would you consider downsizing to? (Source: Community Survey)

	Count	% response*
In the parish	19	34%
Close to the parish	10	18%
Further afield	6	11%
Not sure	15	27%

- 6.20 Based on the available surveys and from consultation Policy HAL2 is designed to help address some of these local housing needs. It has to be recognised surveys are only a snapshot in time: the *Housing Needs Survey* was carried out 2 years ago and only looked forward 5 years. This survey can only be relied upon to provide a broader indication of the type of homes that should be provided on sites of 5 or more units. Therefore, those preparing planning proposals, including the allocated site (HAL1/1), need to be mindful of this, and there will be a need for applicants to use information from the Strategic Housing market Assessment and/or commission more up to date assessments of need as the HNDP progresses.
- 6.21 From consultation the local community have identified that affordable housing should, where possible, meet the needs of local people and allow them to stay in the village. To do this, any identified affordable housing will be subject to the MHDC *Rural Lettings Policy* (current version 2005). This policy includes a cascade mechanism whereby priority is given to those with a local connection

to the parish, followed by surrounding parishes, then to the district and finally to other identified needs.

Policy HAL3 – Housing Design

New development should be informed by and retain and enhance the defining characteristics of the area of Hallow, Shoulton, Little Eastbury/Parkfield and the surrounding countryside in which it is situated. In identifying these characteristics applicants should use the *Hallow Design Guide* and other relevant studies e.g. those relating to landscape and heritage.

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate how a development proposal has taken account of, and been designed to incorporate, the recommended approach for each design element (e.g. windows, materials, boundary treatments, landscaping etc.) as set out in the *Hallow Design Guide*. This does not preclude innovative or contemporary design, where such design can be shown to respond to and provide a contemporary design solution that complements and reinforces local character.

Where relevant, development proposals should have a positive impact on the health and well-being of those living in, working in, otherwise using, or affected in other ways by the proposal. In this regard proposals should:

- a) enhance neighbourhood attractiveness, layout and design;**
- b) provide opportunities for physical activity, active travel (walking, cycling, use of public transport);**
- c) produce buildings and places that are accessible to all, but pay special attention to the needs of people with disabilities, older people, children and those with children; and**
- d) should create healthy, safe, physically and visually attractive environments that promote social interaction, physical activity and opportunities for food growing.**

Background/Justification

- 6.22 Policy HAL3 seeks to secure the national planning policy aim of “achieving good design”. Policy HAL3 complements Policy 21 of the SWDP that sets out that:

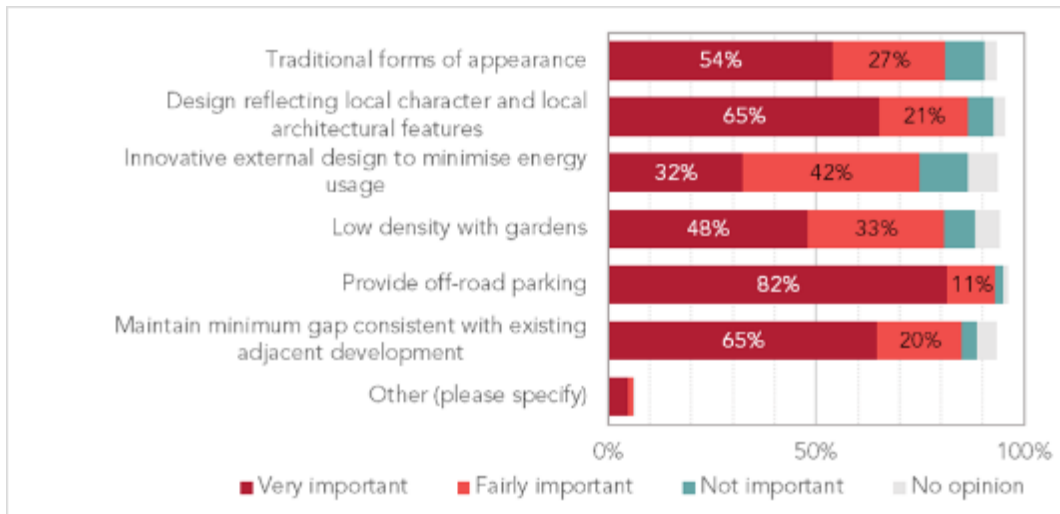
‘Proposals for development should have regard to the locally distinctive character of South Worcestershire and appropriate weight will be given to those characteristics identified when determining proposals’ (SWDP, 2016: 93).

- 6.23 Paragraph 5 of the ‘Reasoned Justification’ for SWDP 21 encourages Neighbourhood Plans to provide “local design detail’. Policy HAL3 provides this more detailed local design detail, particularly when used in conjunction with the accompanying *Hallow Design Guide* (AECOM, 2019). The *Hallow Design Guide* provides:
- A set of key elements to consider when assessing a design proposal. These are presented as a series of questions, e.g. “Does the new proposal respect or enhance the existing area or adversely affect its character?”; “Does the proposal use high quality materials?” Applicants should use the *Guide* and respond to these questions when preparing development proposals; and
 - The second part provides more specific design guidance for Hallow and different character areas. These more detailed guidelines include:
 - Pattern and layout of buildings
 - Heritage assets
 - Views and landmarks
 - Building line and boundary treatment
 - Building heights and roofline
 - Building modifications, extension and plot infill
 - Architectural details
 - Materials and colour palette
- 6.24 Those preparing development proposals should use the *Guide* and where Design and Access Statements are required should be able to demonstrate, how a proposal meets SWDP, local design policy HAL3 and how it has taken account of and responded to the relevant elements in the *Hallow Design Guide* (Figure 7). Poor design will not be supported.
- 6.25 The *Community Survey* (Figure 8) demonstrated considerable resident support for better design. The following were considered ‘very important’:
- ‘provide off-road parking’ (82 %)
 - ‘design reflecting local character and local architectural features’ (65 %)
 - ‘maintain minimum gap consistent with existing adjacent development (65 %)
 - ‘traditional forms of appearance’ (54 %).

Figure 7. Hallow Design Code (Source: AECOM, 2019)



Figure 8. How important to you are the following when considering new housing development? (Source: Community Survey).



6.26 One of the key issues the HNDP seeks to address is health and wellbeing. Good design of buildings and places is a key way to address these issues e.g. by providing a green environment with tree planting that is aesthetically pleasing, or by minimising noise and air pollution. In implementing Policy HAL3 the health impacts and benefits of a development will be a key consideration, again, where required, these should be set out and addressed in any submitted Design and Access Statement.

7.0 Natural Environment and Rural Character

Neighbourhood Plan Objective

OBJECTIVE 3 - To protect and enhance the rural character of Hallow village, Shoulton, Little Eastbury/Parkfield within an open landscape of fields, woodlands and riverside meadows.

Introduction

- 7.1 National and strategic planning policy seek to conserve and enhance the natural environment including landscape, countryside and biodiversity.
- 7.2 The SWDP's strategic planning policies covering such matters, include: SWDP Policy 22 Biodiversity and Geodiversity, and Policy 25 Landscape Character. These policies set out detailed criteria against which development proposals will be assessed and the planning policies in the HNDP seeks to be in general conformity with these policies.



Hallow is surrounded by open countryside, view to north east

- 7.3 The HNDP, therefore, seeks to complement the policies by adding more detailed local planning policy for the Hallow neighbourhood area. All of the policies in this section of the HNDP have been informed by the *Parish Search for Hallow Neighbourhood Development Plan* prepared by Worcestershire County Council Ecology Service¹⁵. This details the various landscape types and the biodiversity assets of the neighbourhood area: these include parts of two Local Wildlife Sites – Laugherne Brook and River Severn; and two

¹⁵ <http://hallowndp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Hallow-Parish-Neighbourhood-Plan-bio-evidence-base-v3.pdf>

Grassland Inventory Sites (Margate Farm Meadows and Hallow Meadows). The area also includes a number of protected and notable species (Maps 10, 11 and Maps 16 to 18).

Policy HAL4 – Landscape

New development should be designed so that it protects or enhances the local landscape. Where appropriate and relevant, development proposals should be able to demonstrate (through submitted statements and studies) how they have taken into account the following:

- a) Impact on the form, pattern, relationship, and character of the neighbourhood area's separate and distinct settlements;**
- b) Respect for field systems and other historic boundaries;**
- c) The relationship of buildings to key features in the landscape, such as, but not limited to, routeways, hedgerows, trees, water features and watercourses; and**
- d) Where landscaping is used, new planting (e.g. of trees, hedgerows and other vegetation) should be of native species, compatible with the surrounding landscape. Where considered necessary (e.g. larger areas of landscaping or publicly accessible landscaping areas) such proposals should be accompanied by a plan setting out proposals for their long-term management and maintenance.**

New development, where relevant, should also be informed by Worcestershire County Council's *Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Guidance* and those sections of the *Hallow Design Guide* dealing with landscape matters. For proposals requiring a *Design and Access Statement* such statements should set out how the proposal has taken into account and responded to this and other relevant planning guidance.

[Note: proposals for housing development will also be assessed against Policy HAL3 – Housing Design.]

Background/Justification

- 7.4 As well as County level studies, Natural England produce National Character Areas (NCA) for England. This is a recommended tool for neighbourhood planning and has also been used to inform the HNDP. The neighbourhood area is in the north west part of *NCA 106, Severn and Avon Vales*, an area where the dominant feature is the lower valleys of the River Severn and its tributaries.

7.5 The NCA include 'Statements of Environmental Opportunity' (SEO). Two of these have particular relevance to the neighbourhood area:

“SEO 2: Seek to safeguard and enhance this area’s distinctive patterns of field boundaries, ancient hedgerows, settlements, orchards, parkland, small woodlands, chases, commons and floodplain management with their strong links to past land use and settlement history, and for the benefits this will bring to soil erosion, soil quality and biodiversity (Maps 10, 11 and 16-18).

SEO 3: Reinforce the existing landscape structure as part of any identified growth of urban areas, hard infrastructure and other settlements ensuring quality green infrastructure is incorporated enhancing health, access, recreation, landscape, biodiversity and geodiversity” (Maps 10, 11 and 16-18).



River Severn

7.6 The HNBP has also been informed by more detailed local work, firstly the *Worcestershire County Landscape Character Assessment*. This places Hallow neighbourhood area in the Regional Landscape Character Area (RCA) of '**Mid-Worcestershire Forest**'. This RCA is characterised by a broad rolling plain, mostly underlain by red Triassic mudstones, with alluvial floodplains along the River Severn Valley. This area formed part of the Royal forests found across the centre of the West Midlands. Today, this leaves a legacy of

farmsteads and wayside dwellings, small coppices and trees in hedgerows (Maps 10, 11 and 16).

- 7.7 The second source used is the County Council's *Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Guidance* (2012). This defines smaller, more localised landscape character areas for the County.
- 7.8 Based on this *Assessment* the greater part of the Hallow neighbourhood area, the area to the west covering Hallow, Shoulton and the open countryside, lies within the character area defined as '**principal timbered farmlands**'. To the east of this character area, those areas adjoining the River Severn lie within two other character areas: to the north the '**settled farmlands on river terraces**' and to the south the '**riverside meadows**' landscape character types (Map 12).
- 7.9 Each of these character areas has distinctive features e.g. principal timbered farmlands have an ancient wooded character, with fields bound by hedgerows and a notable pattern of hedgerow trees, predominantly oak. The enclosure pattern is organic, and settlements dispersed. Worcestershire County Council produce Landscape Type information sheets, this includes guidelines on protecting each landscape type, for the principal timbered farmlands, this includes:
- **maintain** the tree cover character of hedgerow oaks, and enhance the age structure of the hedgerow oak population
 - **conserve** all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species
 - **seek to** bring about coalescence of fragmented relic ancient woodlands
 - **encourage the planting** of new woodlands, reflecting the scale, shape and composition of the existing ancient woodland character, favouring oak as the major species
 - **conserve and restore** tree cover along water courses and streamlines
 - seek opportunities to enhance tree cover along highways and other non-farmed locations
 - **conserve and restore** the pattern and composition of the hedgerow structure through appropriate management, and replanting
 - **conserve** the organic pattern and character of the lane networks
 - maintain the historic dispersed settlement pattern
- 7.10 The River Terraces are mostly arable farmland, gently rolling into the river valley, whereas Riverside Meadows are seasonally grazed by livestock and often flooded in winter and spring. Guidelines to protect these landscape types include:
- **retain the integrity** of the dispersed settlement pattern
 - **conserve and enhance** tree cover along watercourses

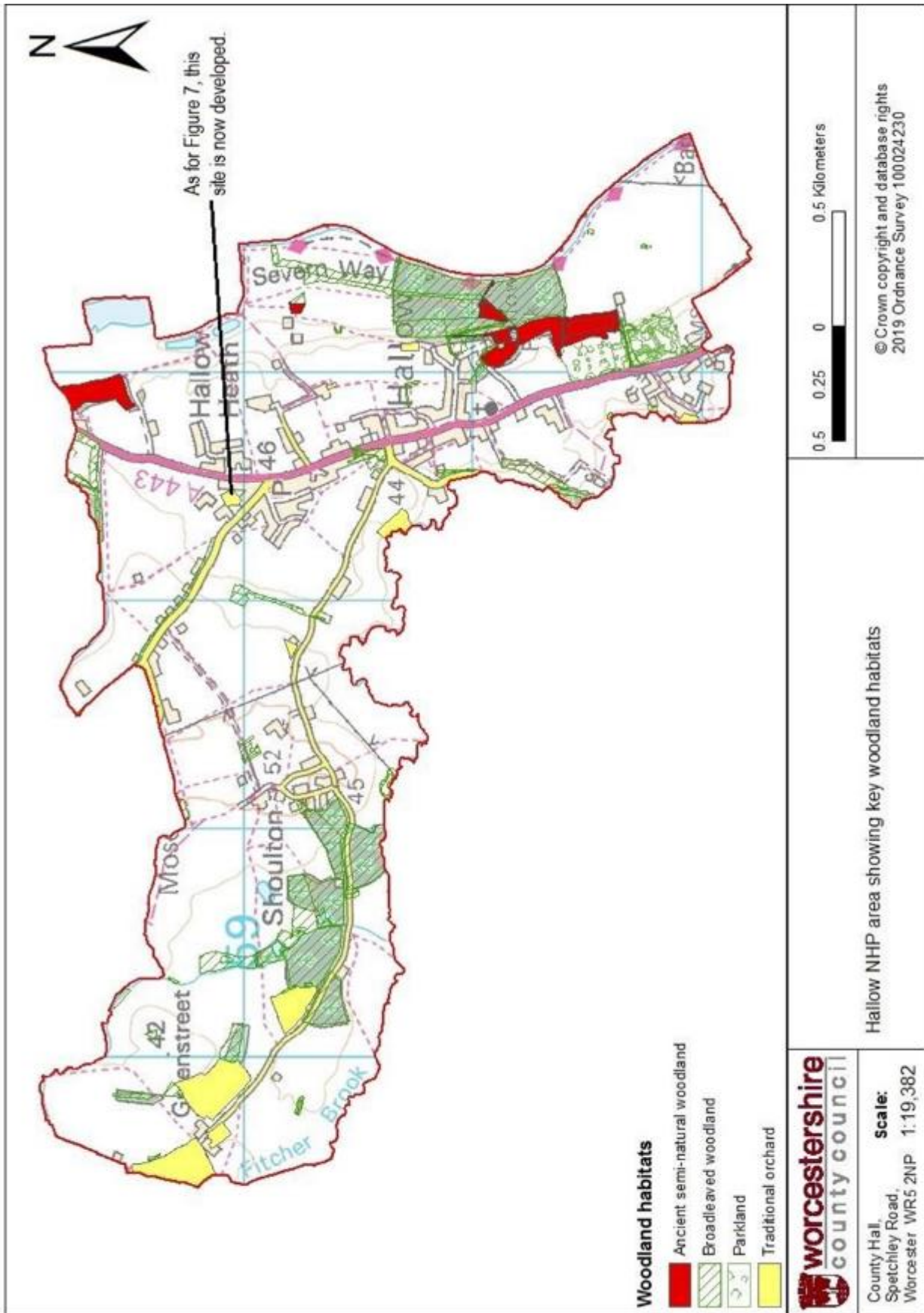
- **seek to maintain** cropping/horticultural land uses
- **enhance** patterns of tree cover associated with settlement
- **conserve and enhance** patterns of hedgerows / conserve and enhance continuous tree cover along hedgelines, ditches and watercourses
- **seek to retain** the unity of the linear form of these landscapes
- **conserve** all existing areas of permanent pasture
- **seek opportunities to encourage** the conversion of arable land back to pasture
- **conserve existing** wetland habitats and seek opportunities for further wetland habitat creation (Map 18)
- **avoid** building or road construction works
- **avoid** further drainage of waterside meadows
- **explore opportunities** to return to patterns and processes of natural flooding cycles where feasible

7.11 As well as protecting the local landscape for its own value Policy HAL4 will also provide significant benefits in terms of health. Access to the local countryside provides opportunities for recreation and contributes to wellbeing as people appreciate the aesthetic value of the area. The local countryside is also important in terms of the ecosystem services the neighbourhood area's landscape provides - such as air quality, water supply, reducing flood risk and soil conservation.

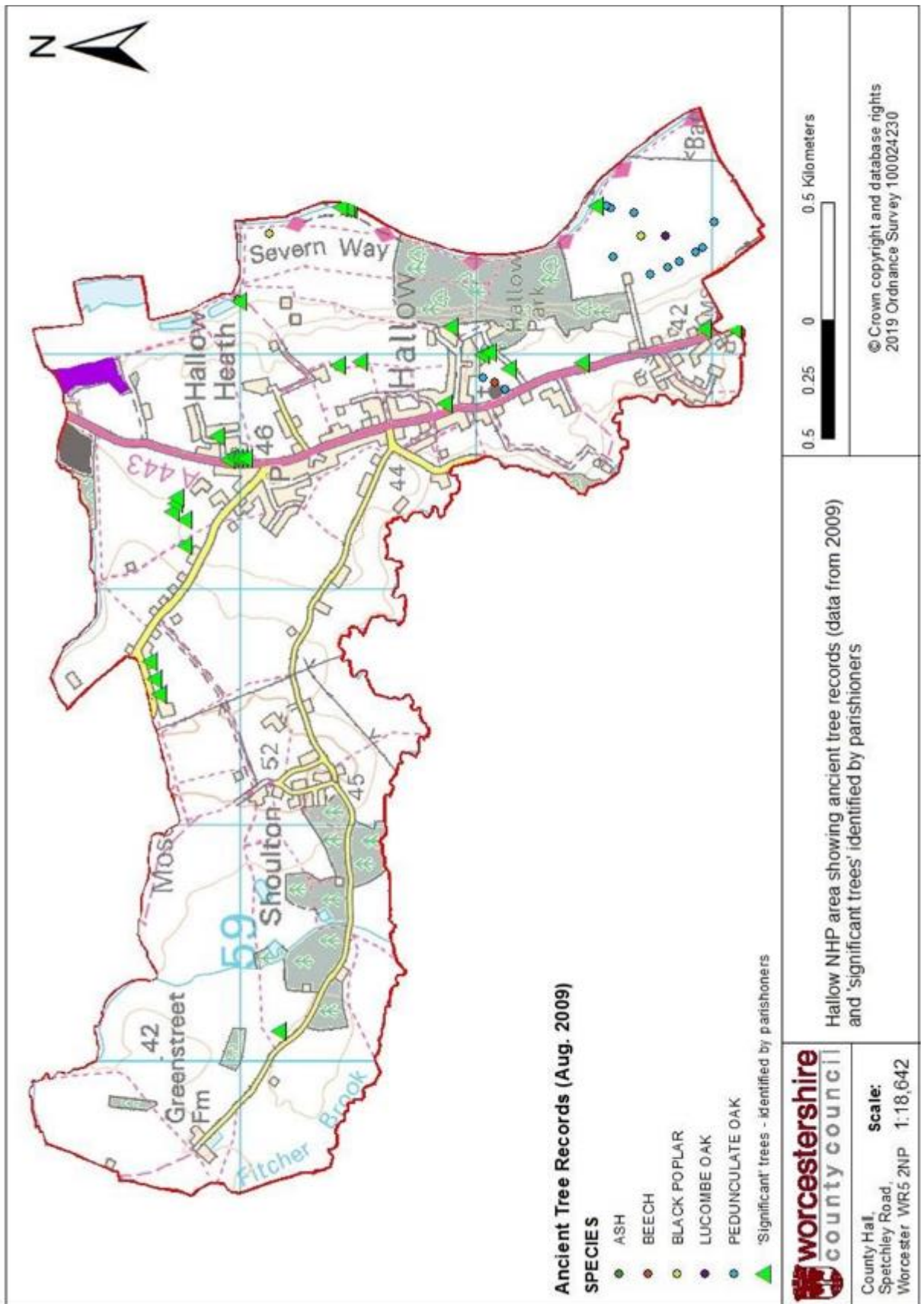


Spindlewood

Map 10. Key woodland habitats in Hallow NDP area







Map 11. Ancient tree records and further notable trees identified by parishioners



Map 12. Landscape Character Types (Source Worcestershire County Council.
<http://gis.worcestershire.gov.uk/website/LandscapeCharacter/>)



Map 12 Key

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Principal timbered farmlands |  |
| Settled farmlands on river terraces |  |
| Riverside Meadows |  |
| Neighbourhood area boundary |  |

Policy HAL5 – Dark Skies

To minimise light pollution and improve views of the nighttime sky, planning proposals that include external lighting will have to demonstrate the following:

a) They have undertaken an assessment of the level of obtrusive light that would be created and can demonstrate a need (e.g. for reasons of health or safety) for the level of external artificial lighting proposed; and

b) That if the level of external lighting proposed is considered necessary, such lighting is limited in number, uses design features (e.g. siting, position, shielding, lighting technology and systems) that area designed to reduce any identified obtrusive lighting nuisance to a minimum.

Where buildings form part of new development light spill should also be reduced to a minimum by sensitively locating and orientating buildings within a site and by avoiding large areas of permanently exposed glazing.

Background/Justification

- 7.12 Artificial light is not always necessary. It has the potential to become what is termed ‘light pollution’ or ‘obtrusive light’, and not all modern lighting is suitable in all locations. Light can be a source of annoyance to people, can be harmful to wildlife (e.g. bats) and undermine enjoyment of the countryside and views of the night sky, especially in areas with intrinsically dark landscapes. Intrinsically dark landscapes are those entirely, or largely, uninterrupted by artificial light. Hallow has no street lighting and retains relatively dark skies. Reducing unnecessary lighting can also help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 7.13 Along with a number of other villages in Worcestershire Hallow is, and wishes to remain, a ‘Dark Sky’ village: 79% of respondents to the *Community Survey* supported this. Dark Skies are also acknowledged as important to the well-being of people and nature and enable people to enjoy the wonder of a night sky¹⁶.

¹⁶ <http://darksky.org/about/>; and <http://darksky.org/light-pollution/human-health/>
See also: American Medical Association (AMA) Council on Science and Public Health (2016) CSAPH Report 2-A-16

For UK map of Dark Skies and Light Pollution see: <http://www.nightblight.cpre.org.uk/maps/> and <http://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/countryside/dark-skies> for research reports

Policy HAL6 – Local Green Spaces

The Local Green Spaces listed below and shown on the Policies Map and Map 13 will be protected.

**HAL6/1 – Tinkers Coppice Wood
HAL6/2 – Gravel pit
HAL6/3 – Old Churchyard
HAL6/4 – Village Green
HAL6/5 – Greenhill Fishing Ponds
HAL6/6 – Woodland, east of Church Lane**

Where development of Local Green Spaces is proposed it must be consistent with national planning policy for Green Belt.

Background/Justification

- 7.14 Paragraph 99 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out that local communities can use the Local Green Space designation “to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them”. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services.



Gravel Pit

- 7.15 Paragraph 100 sets the criteria for designation of Local Green Spaces; such 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) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.”
- 7.16 The spaces identified in Policy HAL6 have been assessed against the criteria in national planning policy (Table 7 and Map 13). In total, 14 potential Local Green Spaces were assessed against the national planning policy criteria for designation as Local Green Spaces, this full assessment is available as a separate background report accompanying the HNBP.
- 7.17 The 6 spaces identified in Policy HAL6 are considered to be the green spaces that meet the national policy criteria for designation and protection as Local Green Space. These spaces are significant for a number of reasons as set out in Table 7.
- 7.18 Once designated, in line with national planning policy, development of these 6 Local Green Spaces will only be permitted when consistent with national planning policy for Green Belt.

Map 13. Sites proposed for Local Green Space designation @Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940 Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758

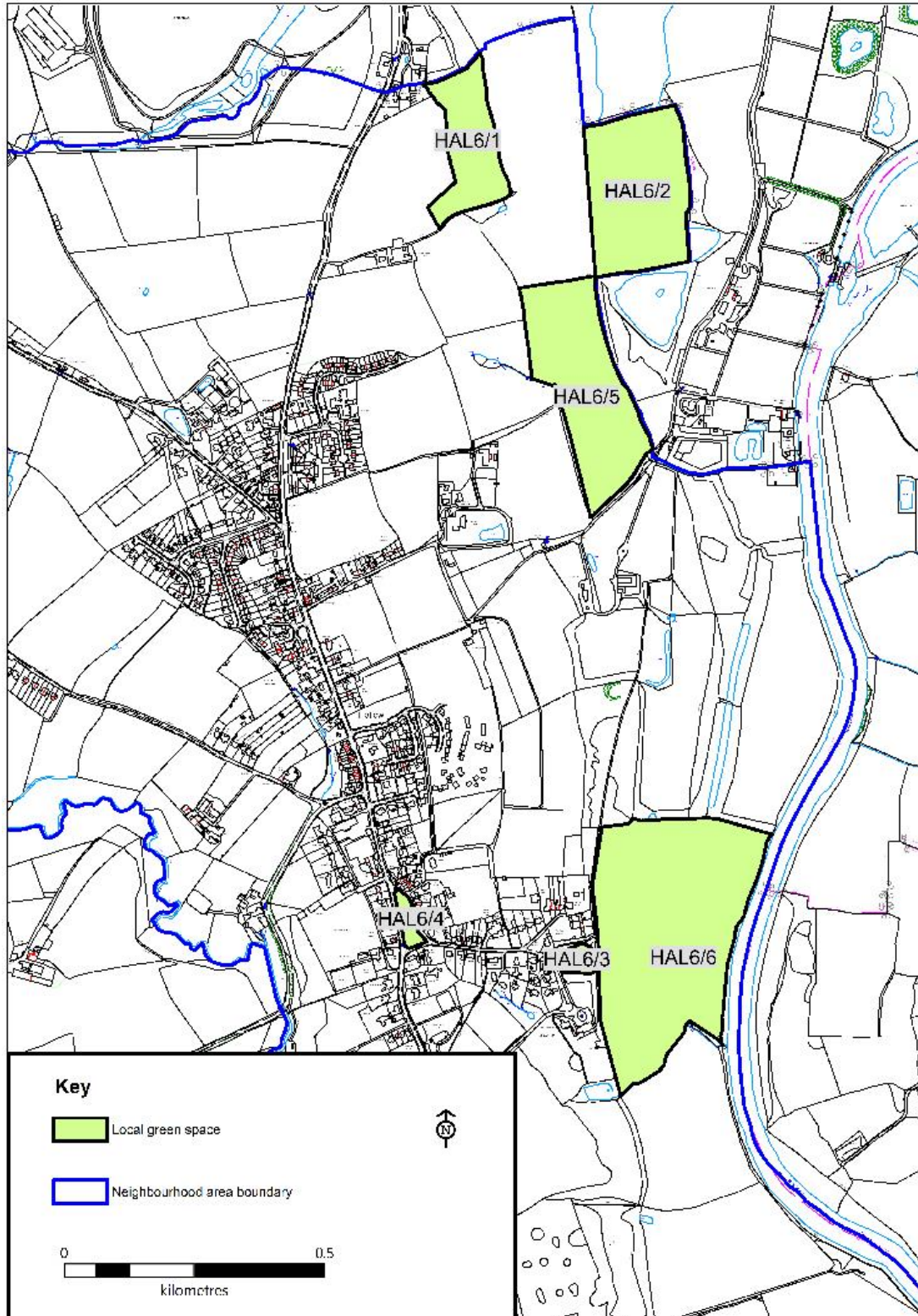


Table 7. Local Green Space Assessment (Note: the Reference numbers LGS2 etc in parentheses. refer to the original Local Green Space Assessment and should not be confused with the proposal numbers HAL6/1 etc. in Policy HAL 6. The Local Green Space Assessment is available as a separate Background Paper.)

Site Address	Site in reasonable proximity to the community it serves	Demonstrably special	Local in character and not an extensive tract of open land	Designate as Local Green Space?
HAL6/1 (LGS2) – Tinkers Coppice Wood	10 minutes' walk from north end of village. Accessible via footpaths 592c and 629c.	Coppiced ancient woodland with wide variety of flora and fauna. Significant-sized protective environment for wildlife along ridge to north east of village.	2.79ha. Woodland site with clearly defined boundaries.	Yes, HAL6/1.
HAL6/2 (LGS3) – Gravel Pit	15 minutes' walk from north end of village accessed by footpaths 630, 639,640 and 644	<p>Bird reserve and open space. Extensive piece of water that is not fished. Popular site for walking and bird-watching.</p> <p>Gravel pit: Bird species typically associated with farmland and wetland. This is a site of County level importance for birds. 10 of the 12 bird species recorded are included on the 'Red List' for birds (WCC report). http://worcesterbirding.co.uk/grimley_and_holt_worcestershire_20.html British Trust for Ornithology (2015) Birds of Conservation Concern 4: the Red List for Birds. Available at www.bto.org/science/monitoring/psob,</p>	5.54ha. Site with clearly defined boundaries.	Yes, HAL6/2.

Site Address	Site in reasonable proximity to the community it serves	Demonstrably special	Local in character and not an extensive tract of open land	Designate as Local Green Space?
		accessed on 25th March 2019.		
HAL6/3 (LGS5) – Old Churchyard	Central location, accessed via Church Road and footpath 563b	Historic churchyard with gravestones and remains of Saxon nave. Tranquil and shady spot restored by local working groups.	0.32 ha. Small site with clear boundaries.	Yes, HAL6/3.
HAL6/4 (LGS6) – Village Green	Triangular green space at centre of village.	Historic open space with iconic Oak Trees and play space. Hornbeam and maple trees. Much used as focus for village events and surrounded by historic house. Maypole dancing a big tradition.	0.32 ha., small site with clear boundaries. Protected green space in SWDP.	Yes, HAL6/4.
HA63/5 (LGS13) - Greenhill fishing ponds	15minutes' walk from north end of village accessed via footpaths 544b, 634c	Peaceful site for recreational fishing. Well-maintained natural site.	5.82ha. Site with clearly defined boundaries.	Yes, HAL6/5
HAL6/6 (LGS14) - Woodland east of Church Lane	5 minutes' walk from village green and church, accessed via footpath 563/564	Mixed woodland containing two footpaths. Much used for walking and bird-watching	12.20ha. Large area, but with clear boundaries.	Yes, HAL6/6.

Policy HAL7 – Important Views

To be supported development proposals must demonstrate that they are sited, designed and of a scale such that they do not substantially harm the important views (identified on the Policies Map, Map 14 and in Table 3) when seen from locations that are freely accessible to members of the general public.

Background/Justification

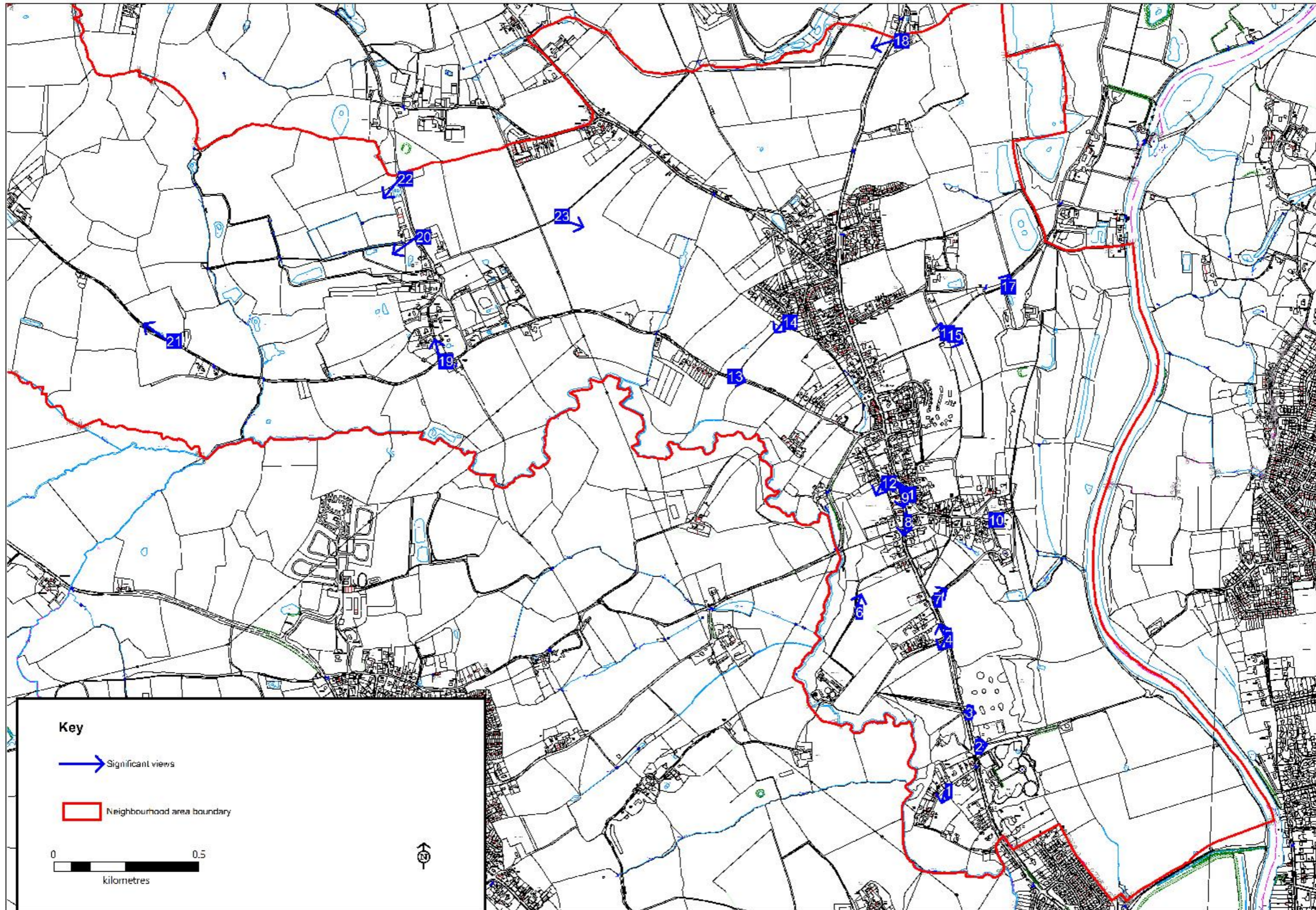
- 7.19 The important views shown on the Policies Map and identified in Table 8 will be protected. These views have been identified from the *Hallow Conservation Area and Management Plan (2009)* and through the work of the Steering Group and a well-attended community walkabout. The views have also been assessed as part of the Design Guide work completed by AECOM. A separate Background Paper setting out how the views have been assessed accompanies the HNDP.
- 7.20 Development affecting these views should be designed in such a way so as to ensure that it does not substantially harm the important view's visual quality and amenity. Where necessary applicants will be required to prepare a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA).

Table 8. Significant Views

View	AECOM page ref	Title/Description	Landmark buildings	Landscape features	Boundaries	What makes this view special
LCA01 PARKFIELD						
View 1	P17	SW view of pastureland from Parkfield Lane	Farm buildings. Eastbury Manor.	Rolling pastureland including Laugherne Brook	Main Road to left. Parkfield boundary to right. Eastbury Manor on horizon	Open view of pastureland and historic buildings marking southern edge of neighbourhood.
View 2	P17	E along 'Fishermen's path' from Main Road opposite Hallow Mount		Tree-lined path sloping down to distant river. Natural tree tunnel with pine, lime and redwood. Some specimens over 150 years	Fences to left and right of path	Historical road down to old river crossing
LCA02 HALLOW PARKLAND						
View 3	P23	SE view of Parkland from Main Road near Park Lane		Mature trees to foreground and background	Field boundaries to right and left. Mature trees in background	View of historic 'hunting grove' developed as part of Parkfield House. Best collection of mature specimen trees around the village
View 4	P23	SW to Malvern Hills where path 580b meets Main Road	Hallow Mount to left Lovington Farm. Park Lane cottages	Undulating pastureland Malvern Hills	Hedgerows of Hallow Mount (l) and Park Lane (rt). Farm centreground, hills in background	Open, elevated view from the village. Mix of rolling pasture framed by farms and Malvern Hills Favoured view of historic setting
View 5	P23	N into village near junction of Park Lane and Main Road	Church on skyline Cottages on left	Mature trees lining road	Road edges Church spire as skyline	Iconic view representing 'arrival' in the village for locals. Features on local postcards and calendars.
View 6	P23	NE from path 577b above Laugherne Brook Sewage Plant	Hallow Church and nearby houses	Mature trees behind church. Asparagus field and allotments in foreground.	Hedgerow to L; Church directly ahead in background; telegraph poles to right	One of few clear views into Church with allotments and open space. Lying on historic footpath to old mills.
View 7	P23	E along Hallow Park Drive from the main Hallow Road.	Hallow Church to left	100 year-old avenue of lime trees Spring wildflowers along the verges	Fences to left and right of drive	Historic landmark popular with locals on entry and exit to village. Full of colour in spring and autumn.
LCA03 CONSERVATION AREA						
View 8	P29	Hallow Church looking SE from Main Road	Church	Trees around church in foreground (yew, cherry, crab apple) and trees on avenue entrance to Hallow park	Church cemetery hedge to left Tree-lined avenue to rear right. Main Hallow Road to right.	A close view of the Church with cherry trees flowering in spring.
View 9	P29	Village Green looking South	Historic houses around the green	Mature trees in foreground; oak, hornbeam, Norway maple.	Access road for green to left; Church Road centre; Main Road to right	Most widely recognised view in Hallow featuring in calendars and photos now and in the past
View 10	P29	E into Old Churchyard	Historic remains of church vaults	Collection of yew, horse chestnut and redwood trees	Boundary of church yard to right and left. Woodland to the rear	Historic landmark containing restored churchyard and many mature trees.
View 11	P29	Village Green looking NW	PH The Crown. Historic houses around the green	House gardens and seating. Spring flowering bulbs	Main Road to left. Green access road to right	Historic building as landmark for passers-by and for residents.
View 12	P29	Public recreation ground looking south from village hall	Church spire background. Pavilion foreground Village houses to left	Malvern hills to SE in background. Tree-lined field to foreground	Houses to left and centre; fences to right. Village hall carpark to rear	Views of church spire and Malvern Hills across the recreation ground, a historic endowment from the 1930s.
LCA04 HALLOW VILLAGE						
View 13	P35	SE from Shoulton Lane	Church and school spires as background	Fields in foreground; trees and hedgerows	Boundary hedge bordering lane to left Laugherne Brook dip to right Spires and village roofs on skyline	Typical of the 'village in a rural setting' as seen by residents of Shoulton Lane

View 14	P35	SW from junction of PROW and field	Farm buildings in distance	Fields in foreground Malvern Hills as backdrop	Hedgerows right and left provide boundaries. Trees in middle distance. Hills on horizon	Much-loved view of Malvern Hills as walkers emerge from western edge of village. Great at sunset.
LCA05 HALLOW FARMLANDS						
View 15	P41	Looking SE from path 545b towards distant city skyline	Worcester city skyline	Rainbow Hill in background Rolling grassland down to river Historic marker oak to right	Field boundaries to left and right. city buildings on centre horizon	Sense of contrast and connection between distant city and nearby Hallow village
View 16	P41	NE from path 545b above fishponds	Droitwich TV masts Retreat Farm buildings	Clent Hills in distance, panorama round to Bredon Hills	Northern edge of gravel pit to L, Claines village on distant right Farm buildings centre middleground. Clent Hills horizon	First open view to NE from village path. Stunning view of Severn River valley and surrounding hills
View 17	P41	Looking NE from path 575b to gravel pits/bird reserve	Retreat Farm	Lake formed by old gravel pit, low tree line Clent Hills in background	Western edge of lake to left. Farm buildings to right. Hills in background	Large open breathing space with water and wildlife. River valley landscape framed by hills.
View 18	P41	SW where path 528c meets Main Rd	Heath Farm Rural houses along Moseley Rd	Hills framing rural edge of village. Pastoral fields.	Main Rd hedge to L foreground, Thorngrove to R. Malvern and Ankerdine Hills in background	Iconic view of north end of village; distant views of hills, attractive rural housing. Open gap between village and Thorngrove Estate gives distinctive character to village.
LCA06 SHOULTON FARMING HAMLET						
View 19	P47	Shoulton barns and lane near end of path 515c	Historic Barns	Mature tree-lined lane	Looking down lane with barns to left and right	A classic view of the Shoulton Farm settlement.
View 20	P47	Shoulton House Farm looking west from meeting point of paths 571b and 519c	Traditional brick farm buildings of Shoulton House Farm	Pond to centre. Pastureland and Clee Hills	Farm wall to left, Farmhouse to right Pond to centre foreground. Hills on horizon	View of historic farm buildings and courtyard with backdrop of fields and hills.
View 21	P47	Fields and hills looking NW from Shoulton on path 519c		Historic path and hills	Field boundary to left. Old drover roadtrack to right. Clee Hills on horizon	A good view of the direction of a historic drover road with old hedgerow, backed by the hills to the NW.
View 22	P47	Fields looking west along Green Lane between path 506c to NW and path 509c to SE	Green Street Farm	Open pastoral countryside on western boundary of neighbourhood	Lane boundary to left. Field boundary to right. Green Street farm buildings in middleground.	The best view of the north-eastern exit from the village showing the pastoral setting of the Shoulton Farms.
View 23	P47	SE from path 573b 'Brum'	Spires of Hallow Church and Primary School	Open fields, trees and hedges	Trees and hedges to left and right foreground. Spires in centre background	Open, elevated view into the village. Mix of rolling pasture framed by church and school spires. Favoured view from the west.

Map 14. Important Views © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940 Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758



Policy HAL8 – Green Infrastructure

Where appropriate and relevant applicants should be able to demonstrate how new development:

- a) Maintains Hallow’s green infrastructure (Policies Map and Map 15), including the:**
 - i. Recreational, ecological, historic and landscape character functions of natural habitats;**
 - ii. Drainage and ecological value of the network of watercourses and features; and**
 - iii. The recreational function of existing footpaths, bridleways, public rights of way and publicly accessible green space.**
- b) Responds to opportunities to restore existing green infrastructure; and**
- c) Where possible and feasible it incorporates new green infrastructure that creates connections and links to the surrounding network of existing green infrastructure.**

Development that would disrupt or sever the existing green infrastructure network will not be supported.

Where new green infrastructure is created as part of a development proposal this should be accompanied by a management plan setting out how the resource will be managed and maintained.

Background/Justification

- 7.21 Green infrastructure (GI) is the network of multi-functional green spaces and water features that delivers a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for residents and visitors. The extent of such networks can be seen in Maps 10, 11 and 16 -18 of the HNBP these show habitat core areas, woodland, ancient and notable trees, and ponds in the neighbourhood area. Running through the area, of course are the key GI networks of the Severn and Laugharne Brook.
- 7.22 In Worcestershire GI has been categorised within Environmental Character Areas (ECAs) – in Hallow’s case, the Teme Valley and Wyre Forest ECA and the Severn Meadows Corridor ECA. The strategic GI approach for the Teme Valley and Wyre Forest ECA is to **protect and enhance** GI. The overarching principles identified by the GI partnership are to:
- Enhance stream and river corridors,
 - Protect ancient countryside character,

- Protect and enhance the ancient woodland habitats of the Wyre Forest; and
- Enhance and expand acid grassland habitats.

7.23 The strategic GI approach for the Severn Meadows corridor ECA is to **protect and restore**. The overarching principle identified by the GI partnership is to protect and enhance the multi-functional Severn River corridor. With regard to this, the landscape and biodiversity priorities identified for the Severn Meadows Corridor ECA are:

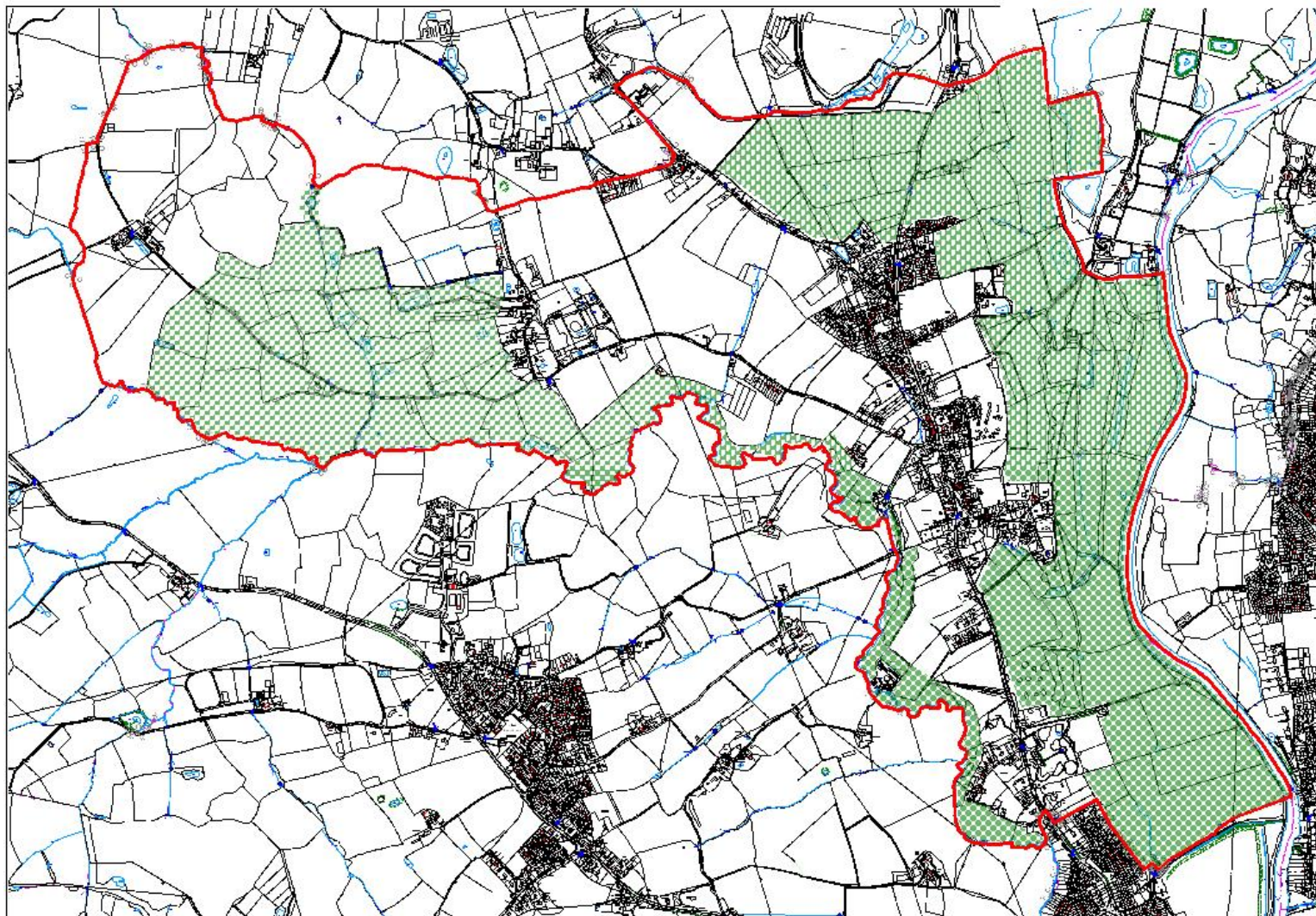
- to retain pastoral land use and management regimens that support natural river and flood plain function in the northern parts of the entirely unsettled Riverside Meadows Landscape;
- to protect and enhance hedgerow field boundaries in a planned enclosure pattern of medium-to-large fields and to seek opportunities to address density and age structure in linear tree belts along hedgerows, ditches and watercourses;
- to prioritise protection and enhancement of existing biodiversity interest. In implementing this and delivery to be directed to existing site management and buffering as a first principle, with linking of networks to be applied where practicable; and
- to restore functional stream corridors, and re-link flood plain corridors, in particular, wet and floodplain grassland, reedbed and wet woodland.

7.24 The key attribute of GI is its continuity and connectivity, linking various GI assets to create a network of natural areas that support biodiversity and enable species to move within and between habitats.

7.25 Policy HAL8 encourages a comprehensive and integrated way of planning for GI when considering site design and future management. This includes identifying and retaining existing on-site green infrastructure and the functions it performs; restoring degraded and neglected on and related off-site GI; and incorporating new GI or creating new links to the existing GI network.

7.26 Given the key attributes of continuity and connectivity development that would lead to the disruption or severance of the existing GI network will not be supported. The *Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2013-18* designated the Hallow area as an area where the approach to GI should focus on 'Protect and Invest' in terms of the Strategy's Overall Spatial Approach Plan, with the conclusion Hallow be designated as an area for green infrastructure improvement. The HNBP supports this approach with protection and enhancement being the key principles underpinning Policy HAL8.

Map 15. Green Infrastructure Network © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940 Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758



Policy HAL9 – Biodiversity

Where appropriate and relevant new development will be expected to provide a net gain in biodiversity, by:

- a) Retaining existing wildlife habitats and landscape features (such as woodland, ancient and notable trees (Table 9 and Map 16), watercourses, ponds, unimproved grassland and orchards) to support biodiversity;**
- b) Creating new wildlife habitats**
- c) Including native flora in new planting such as hedgerows, landscaping and open spaces;**
- d) Creating a biodiversity-friendly environment by including features such as bat boxes, bird boxes, nest cups, and bee bricks; and**
- e) By including wildlife friendly boundary treatments that facilitate the movement of species.**

Residents of new dwellings should be provided with information on the biodiversity features integrated into new housing development.

Background/Justification

- 7.27 Hallow’s location on the Severn is part of a wider geography that connects wildlife across Worcestershire and further afield. The valleys are particularly sensitive with development impacts having the potential to be felt well beyond development site boundaries, and indeed the neighbourhood area. Map 17 shows the *Biodiversity Action Plan* core areas and how these relate to wider areas for species dispersal.
- 7.28 Similarly, woodland and hedgerows and trees that make up field boundaries connect the agricultural landscape in the western part of Hallow neighbourhood area to the river corridors to the east (Maps 10 and 11). For example, hedgerows perform an important role acting as links and corridors along which wildlife can travel and disperse. Ponds and watercourses perform a similar function (Map 18). Retaining, maintaining and re-connecting existing hedgerows is key to the health of the local ecosystem. Hallow's location in the Severn Meadows Corridor and Severn Valley North ECAs is key to its value to wildlife. The river and stream corridors and their associated flood plain meadows and riparian vegetation are part of a much wider network of natural habitats: protecting the areas within Hallow parish is critical to the wider corridors.
- 7.29 To identify notable trees in the neighbourhood area the Woodland Trust’s guidance: “*What are Ancient, Veteran, and other trees of special interest?*”¹⁷ (2008) was used (see Table 9 and Map 16). Using this methodology and by

¹⁷ <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/publications/2008/11/what-are-ancient-trees/>

measuring girth the age of tree is then calculated. Each tree was photographed with a person standing at base of tree to verify proportions (see “Folder of Significant Tree Photos” hallowndp.co.uk). The trees around the recreation area do not fit into any of these categories, (they are too young), but are included as they form part of the character and landscape of the recreation area. In addition, The Woodland Trust specify that trees of *special interest* meet the following criteria: an important haven for wildlife; the biggest of their species; historically or culturally important; and these criteria were also applied, e.g. where a local tree was the biggest of its size locally (e.g. the two Oaks on the Pinch public footpath).



Pinch marker oak

- 7.30 Incorporating specific measures for wildlife into development ensures that opportunities for foraging, roosting, resting and nesting are not entirely lost. For example, across the UK the hedgehog population is thought to have declined by more than 30% in the last 10 years, yet simple measures such as new hedgerows and access to and between domestic gardens may help to reverse the downward population trend¹⁸.
- 7.31 National and strategic planning policy require biodiversity net gain on development sites. The NPPF states that impacts on biodiversity must be minimised and net gains provided, and SWDP Policy 7 seeks to minimise the impact of development and to 'conserve and enhance on-site biodiversity corridors/networks'. Achieving 'biodiversity net gain' means leaving biodiversity in a better state than before development started. The most expedient and appropriate measures for each site should be advised upon by

¹⁸ Wilson, E. & Wembridge, D. (2018) *The State of Britain's Hedgehogs 2018*. British Hedgehog Preservation Society and People's Trust for Endangered Species. Available at: https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/SoBH-2018_final.pdf. Accessed on 15/05/2019.

a competent ecologist in a preliminary ecological appraisal that follows published guidelines¹⁹. Policy SWDP 22 (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) also sets out that development which would compromise the favourable condition or the favourable conservation status of a Grassland Inventory Site (GIS), a Local Wildlife Site (LWS), a Local Geological Site (LGS), an important individual tree or woodland and species or habitats of principal importance recognised in the Biodiversity Action Plan, or listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, will only be permitted if the need for and the benefits of the proposed development outweigh the loss.

¹⁹ CIEEM (2019) *Biodiversity Net Gain. Good Practice Principles for Development: a Practical Guide*. Available at <https://cieem.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/C776a-Biodiversity-net-gain.-Good-practice-principles-for-development.-A-practical-guide-web.pdf>, accessed on 23/05/2019.

Map 15. Green Infrastructure Network © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940 Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758

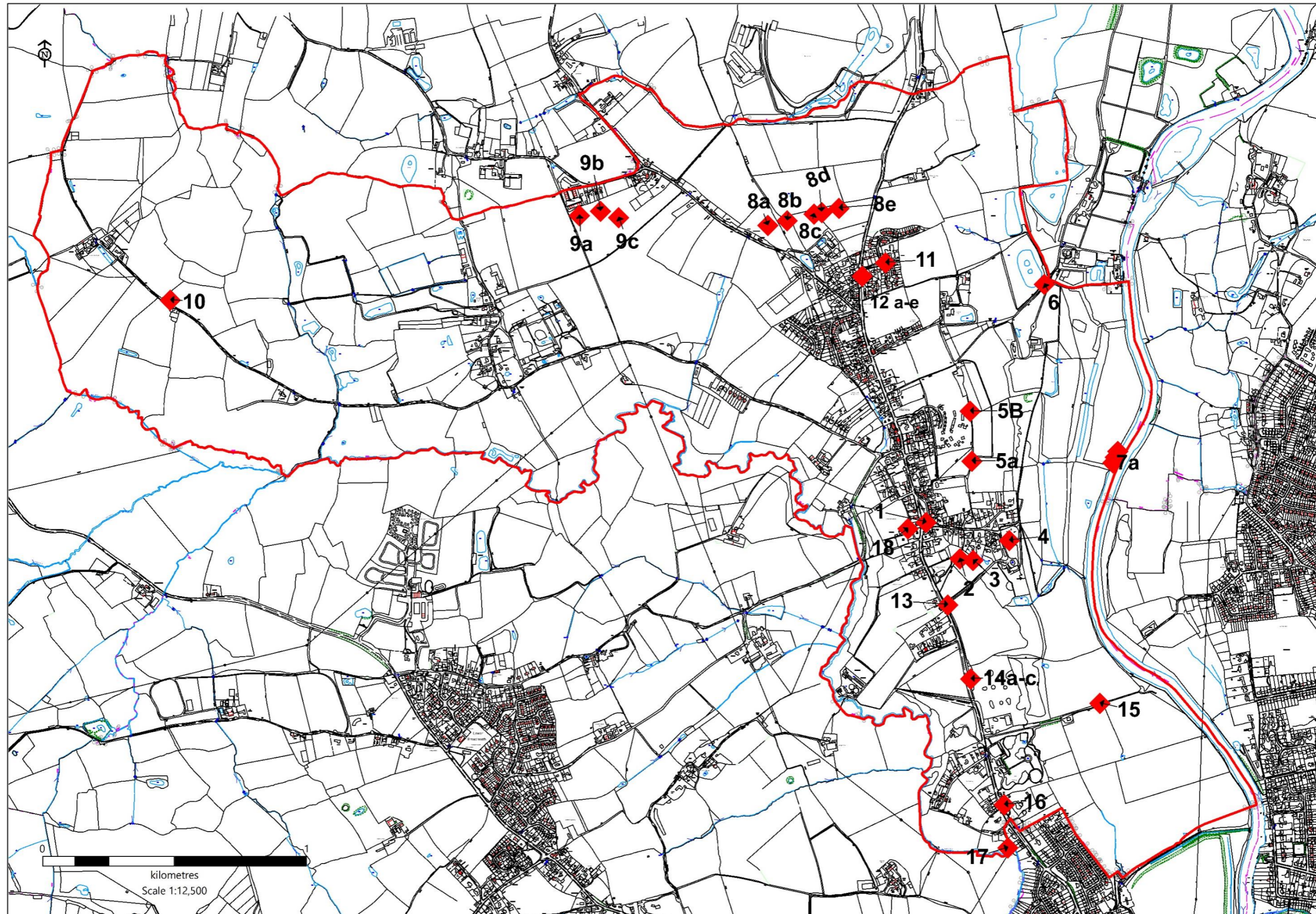


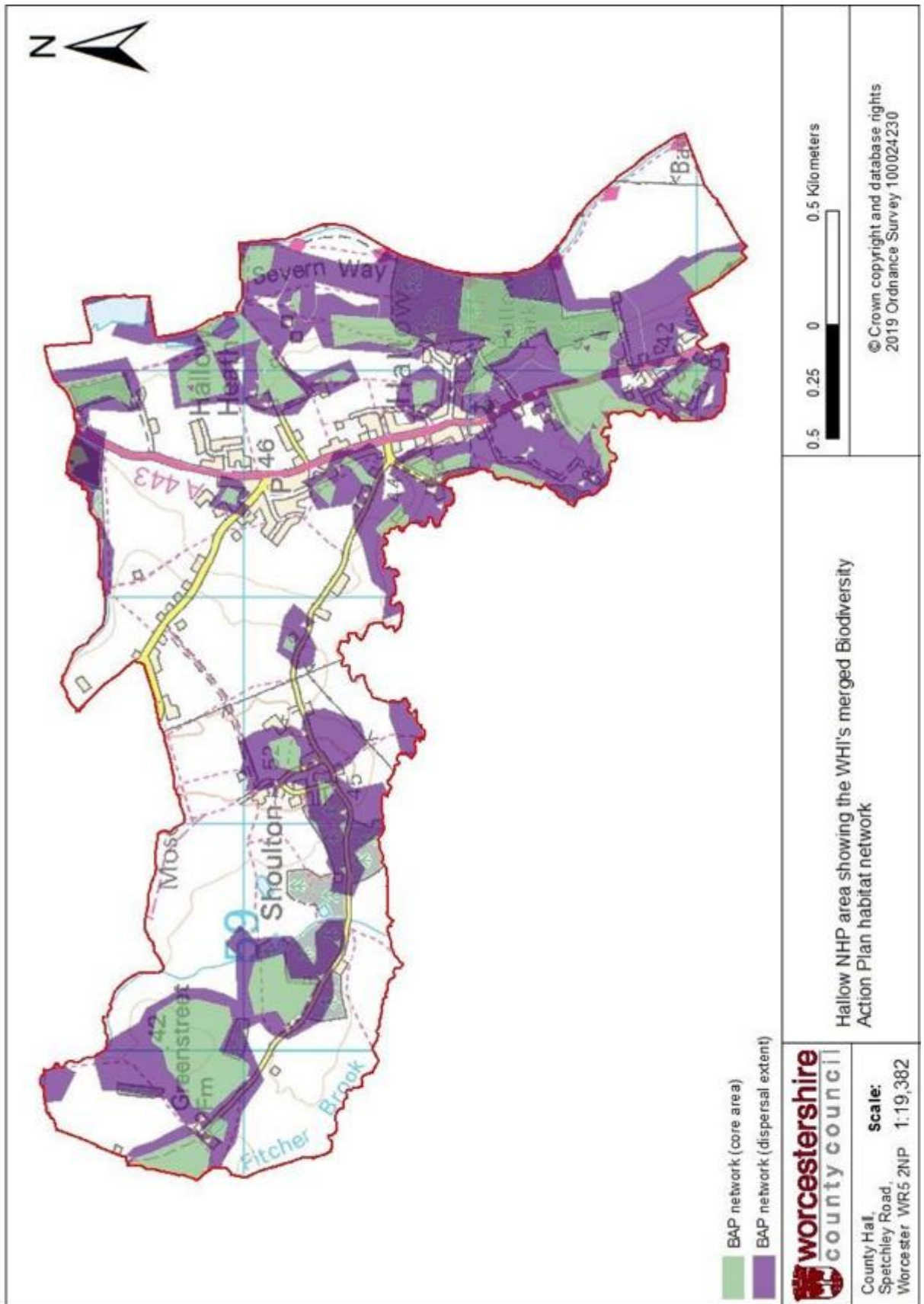
Table 9. Significant Trees

No on map	Location No	Title/Description	Girth in metres	Height in metres	Approx age(years)	Map reference
1	Village Green Largest of three trees in centre of triangular green	Oak	4m	12m	200	SO 82798 58122
2	Border of field adjacent to south side of Church. In second of two sections of field	Oak	4m	8 m (blasted)	200	SO 82925 57985
3	Border of field on south side of Church. At furthest easterly end of field.	Oak	2.5m	11m	100	SO 82974 57981
4	Old Churchyard at easterly end of Church Lane. Towards the right hand (southerly) edge.	Giant Redwood	4m	12m	200	SO 83112 58056
5a 5b	Pinch Footpath (545b) to east of new Hayfield development. One centre of field, one to northern edge of field	2 marker Oaks	5-6m	14-15m	350	SO 82969 58356 SO 82963 58546
6	Bottom of bridle path 576 b running from Bridles End Cottage towards Camp Inn. Near fishing ponds entrance	Black Poplar (TPO)	4m	15m	200	SO 83245 59025
7a 7b 7c	Footpath along Severn Way section 561b directly east of centre of Hallow	Oaks	2m	10-11m	80	SO 83503 58350 SO 83512 58371 SO 83521 58393
8a 8b 8c 8d 8e	Field to north west of Heath Farm, Moseley Rd running in roughly west to east line across path 530c	5 marker Oaks	4m	10-12m	200	SO 82200 59247 SO 82271 59266 SO 82373 59289 SO 82402 59297 SO 82467 59314
9a 9b 9c	Field to west of Mosely Rd crossed by FP 573 b (Brum). Trees lie along edge of house gardens on northern edge of field.	3 Oaks	2.5m	15-20m	100	SO 81485 59285 SO 81564 59302 SO 81634 59275
10	Edge of field to the right at north-western most perimeter of Hallow beyond Shoulton Barns and Spindlewood	Oak	2.5m	20m	100	SO 79939 58967
11	Heath Close at north end of village to right of main road. Tree is situated in the middle of a small green	Oak (TPO)	1.5m	10m	80	SO 82645 59106

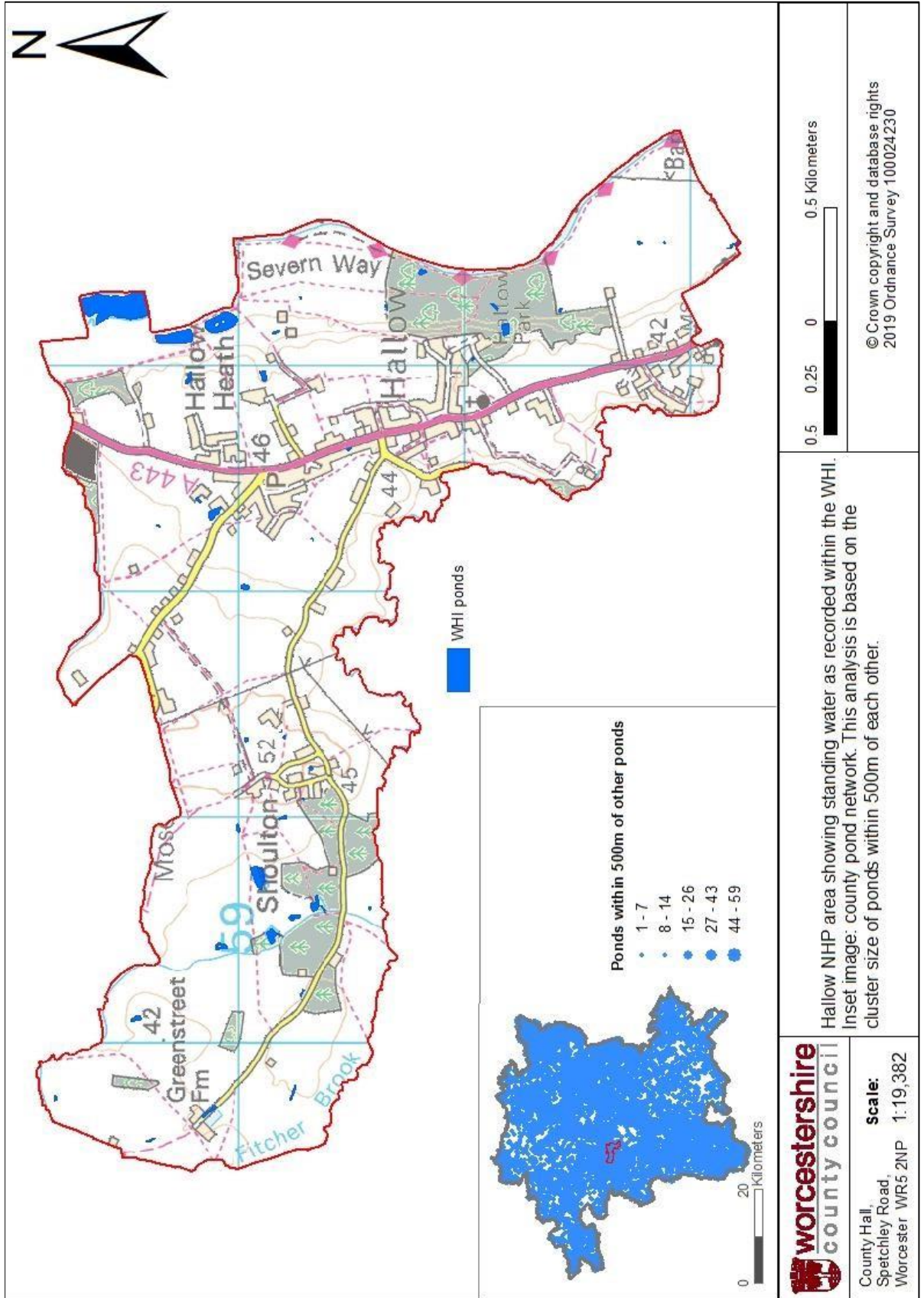
Table 9. Significant Trees

12a 12b 12c 12d 12e	Verge of main Hallow Rd (A443) by Heath Close to north of village	Group of 5 Limes	1m	9m	80	SO 82557 59056 to SO 82557 58982
13	Hallow Park Drive to east of A443 main road between church and Park Lane	Avenue of Limes	2.5m	12m	150	SO 82878 57813 to SO 82988 57901
14a 14b 14c	East edge of Hallow Rd (A443) between Park Lane and Parkfield Lane	3 Pine	2m	15m	100	SO 82966 57532
15	Bottom of Fisherman's Path towards River Severn on eastern side of A443 between Park Lane and Parkfield Lane	Oak (recently damaged by high winds)	4-5m	25m	250	SO 83454 57440
16	Grounds of Worcester Gate. Property on eastern side of A443 to south of Parkfield Lane	Pines/Oak (TPO)				SO 83092 57057
17	Bottom of path 545c by bridge across Laugherne Brook to south west of main road A443	Oak	2m	18m	80	SO 83107 56892
18a 18b 18c	Field beyond Laugherne Brook to south of Hallow on continuation of path 545c (visible from edge of neighbourhood). Trees lie on a line running north-west across the field	3 Oaks	4-5m	17m	250	SO 82994 56779 SO 82955 56797 SO 82918 56823
19	Edges of recreation ground in south centre of Hallow to west of A443	Variety of trees which frame the ground			85	SE corner of rec ground is SO 82729 58098

Map 17. Biodiversity Action Plan habitat core areas and mean dispersal extent in Hallow NDP area



Map 18. Ponds recorded in Hallow NHP area. Nb. this map has not been ground-truthed, it is based on interpretation of aerial images taken in 2005.



8.0 Community and Recreation Facilities

Neighbourhood Plan Objective

OBJECTIVE 4 - To provide a healthy and stimulating community life for all the people in the area by protecting and enhancing community and recreation facilities.

Policy HAL10 – Community Facilities and Local Shops

The following community facilities identified and shown on the Policies Map and Map 19 are protected.

- HAL10/1 – Church of St Philip and St James**
- HAL10/2 – Hallow Parish Hall**
- HAL10/3 - The Crown Inn**
- HAL10/4 – Hallow Sports and Social Club**

Proposals that would result in the loss of these community facilities will only be supported if the criteria set out in SWDP Policy 37B (or its successor) are met.

Proposals for enhancement of the identified community facilities or new community facilities, particularly health facilities, will be supported when positively assessed in relation to SWDP Policy 37A (or its successor).

The following local shops identified and shown on the Policies Map and Map 19 will be protected:

- HAL10/5 - Post Office Stores**
- HAL10/6 - Ladygo stores**

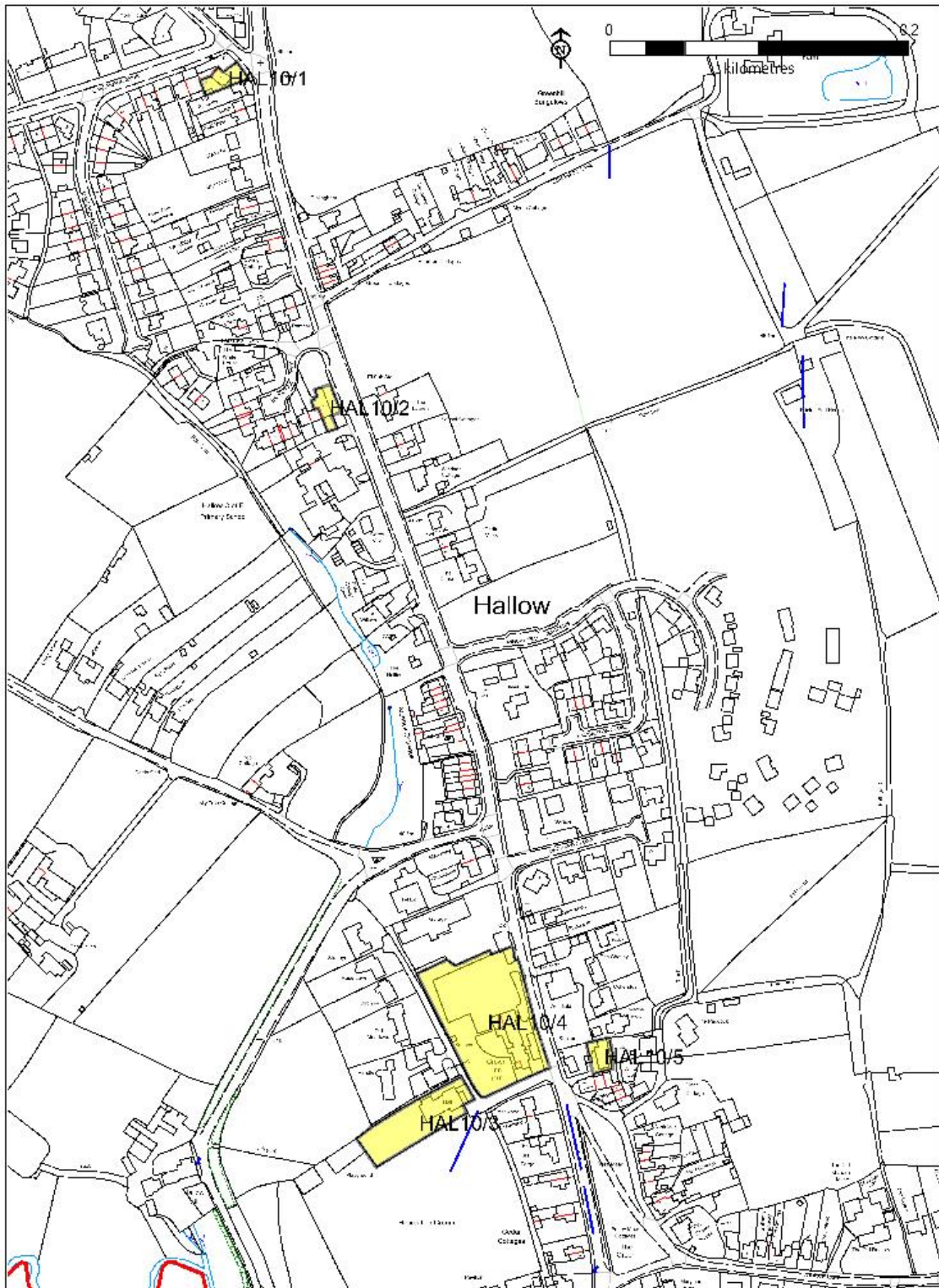
Proposals for change of use of these local shops will only be supported where the shop use is no longer commercially viable and it has been demonstrated that the premises have been marketed (including locally) for retail use for at least 12 continuous months; or there is an alternative equivalent retail unit within safe walking distance to the local community.

Background/Justification

- 8.1 One of the many reasons that Hallow is such a popular place to live is the sense of community and the large number of community activities it offers. Hallow's community facilities support a wide range of activities and provide places for people to meet and interact. In this way these facilities also help to

support healthy lifestyles and promote better mental health. The facilities are all located in Hallow village and serve the wider neighbourhood area.

Map 19. Community facilities and local shops © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940 Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758



8.2 Hallow's community facilities include:

- The church of St Philip and St James open every day from 9 am to early evening. In addition to worship and its own groups, it is used for concerts and other local events.
- Hallow Parish Hall has a capacity of 200. It has a large main hall with stage, a well-equipped kitchen and facilities for people with disabilities. There is a smaller room used by the playgroup during the day and for evening meetings. There is a large car park. The Hall is adjacent to the children's playground and the playing fields.
- The Crown Inn is the only remaining public house in the neighbourhood area.
- Hallow Sports and Social Club is a private members' club it has a skittle alley, snooker table and a regular bingo night. It holds monthly coffee mornings, open to the community.

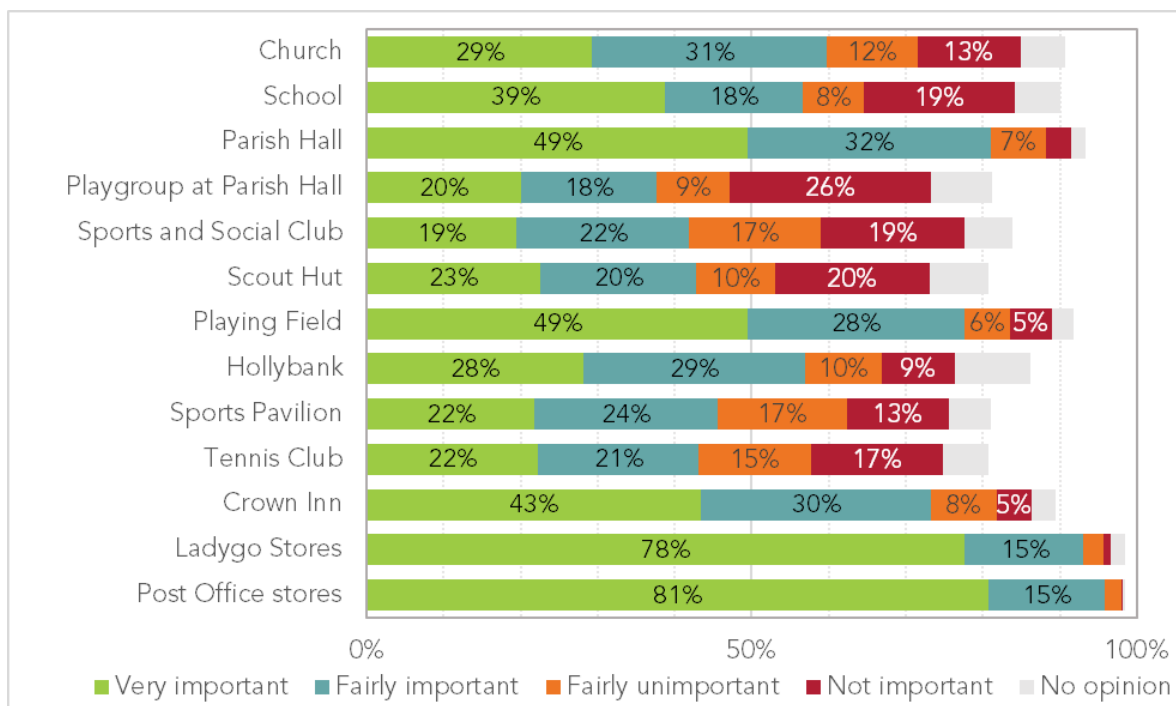
8.3 The *Community Survey* showed a high level of support for community facilities (Figure 9), especially Ladygo Stores and Post Office Stores. These local shops are also protected under Policy HAL10.



The Crown Inn

- 8.4 Some of the responses on the importance of facilities reflect the age of respondents and the community facilities they use, e.g. playgroup, Sports and Social Club. Focus groups of young people were also facilitated through the Scouts, these demonstrated the importance of existing recreational facilities to younger children, and the need for more facilities for older children.
- 8.5 Policy HAL10 will help to protect and enhance Hallow's community facilities. The facilities identified in Policy HAL10 are part of the essential glue that helps bring the community together and maintain and create social interaction. This contributes significantly to the health and well-being of those who live in Hallow and the surrounding communities.

Figure 9. How important are Hallow’s community and recreation facilities to you? (Source: Community Survey).



Policy HAL11 – Recreation

The following recreation facilities, also shown on the Policies Map and Map 20 will be protected.

- HAL11/1 – Playing Fields and pavilion
- HAL11/2 - Hollybank and children’s playground
- HAL11/3 - Scout hut
- HAL11/4 – Hallow Tennis Club
- HAL11/5 – Allotments

Development affecting these sites will be considered against SWDP Policy 38.

Background/Justification

8.6 Hallow also has a small number of very important recreation facilities (Figure 8 and Map 20). These 5 facilities will be protected so that they can continue to provide the various benefits they provide in terms of relaxation, sport, play, health, well-being and social interaction. Sport and recreation are key ways of fostering healthy, active lifestyles, helping to reduce things such as obesity and risk of heart disease.

- 8.7 Hallow Playing Fields are leased and managed by Hallow Parish Council from Fields in Trust². They cover an area of 1.82 hectares and include a football pitch, cricket pitch, pavilion and play area and play facilities. The site is used for the annual Hallow Country Fayre. A fitness boot camp operates on the playing field.
- 8.8 Hallow Tennis Club is situated adjacent to the playing fields and has approximately 100 members.
- 8.9 There is an enclosed playground between the Scout Hut and Parish Hall which is well used and maintained. There is also a play area (Hollybank) north and west of the Playing Fields. This includes a zipwire and single swing. The cycle track and zipwire have had maintenance problems and much of the site is overgrown with nettles and brambles. Hallow Parish Council are actively pursuing ways to address these issues.

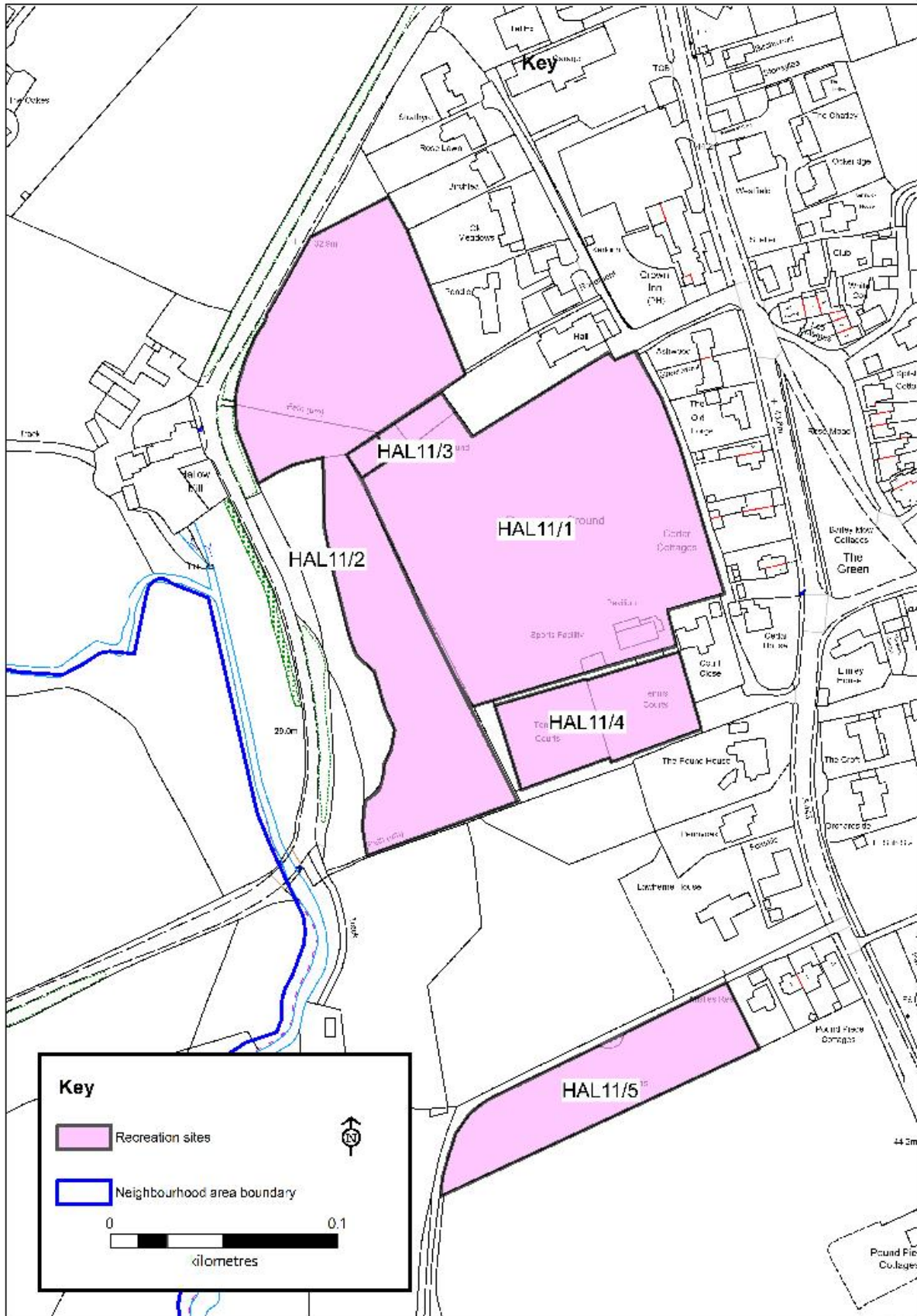


Allotments with view of the Malverns

- 8.10 The allotments lie to the south of the village and provide the equivalent of 15 plots (7 full size, 16 half size – only one of which is currently vacant) for local people to grow their own food. The site is well maintained and provides a number of benefits for local people, not least the health benefits of working on the plots and growing a healthy range of fruit and vegetables²⁰.
- 8.11 The Parish Council will support improvements to key facilities such as the pavilion and Scout Hut.

²⁰ <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/10558/125552/OSSR+Report+Nov+07+-+Part+9+Allotment%2C%20Community+Garden%2C%20City+Farm1.pdf/3cde65a5-3a5b-4b73-b5c5-b2f2ee73a9c7>

Map 20. Recreation facilities © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940
Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758



Potential Actions for Parish Council

Protection of community assets

To support the maintenance of village facilities (shops, schools, public houses, churches, recreational facilities) the Parish Council will nominate or support nomination of local facilities as Assets of Community Value. Once identified such assets, if put up for sale, are subject to a local community opportunity to purchase at market value. There are no Hallow properties currently on the register.

<https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/community/localism-and-communities/assets-of-community-value> accessed 05/02/20

9.0 Built Heritage

Neighbourhood Plan Objective

OBJECTIVE 5 – To conserve and enhance the built heritage of the area, including the Conservation Area, designated and non-designated heritage assets and archaeology.

Introduction

- 9.1 Much of Hallow village is within a Conservation Area – a designated heritage asset. This is an area of special architectural and historic interest. The heart of the Conservation Area is The Green, a traditional village green. The Green is a community focal point around which the surrounding buildings have grown incrementally over time. These buildings date from many different periods, providing a richness and variety of styles and materials.



The Green

- 9.2 In Hallow such incremental additions to the housing stock have resulted in a blend of old and new buildings. These include black and white properties, Tudor houses and Georgian buildings with occluded windows. Properties were added during the Victorian period and further development occurred between the wars. In the 1970s, there was further expansion in Church Lane with three significant developments of larger red brick dwellings. At the end of Church Lane lie the Hop Kilns and Barns of an historic 18th Century farmstead, Park Farm, this formed part of Hallow Park. The Kilns and Barns have been sympathetically converted to dwelling houses.
- 9.3 To the south of the neighbourhood area lies the Hallow Park estate, originally a deer park dating from 1312 and later used by Elizabeth I. This area is

recognised as important historical parkland (Lockett, 1997²¹). Subsequently developed as part of a Victorian estate this area has a distinctive character all of its own.

Policy HAL12 – Hallow Conservation Area

New development should preserve Hallow Conservation Area (Map 21) within the setting of Hallow’s semi-rural character. New development should:

- a) Maintain the historic pattern of built form and open spaces by respecting the pre-dominant character and architectural style of the historic zone (as identified in the *Hallow Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy* (MHDC 2009)), within which the development is situated, such as The Green and Hallow Park;**
- b) Complement and be sympathetic to the scale, height and massing of existing historic development in the context of both the immediate surrounding area (i.e. the defined zone in which the development is to be situated) and the wider Conservation Area;**
- c) Retain and reflect the fenestration and roof height, design and orientation found in the elevations of the historic zone and adjacent traditional buildings;**
- d) Retain, replace, employ key features such as window openings, sash windows, local detailing and architectural decoration;**
- e) Retain existing road, street and lane patterns e.g. Church Lane;**
- f) Use high-quality local and traditional materials sympathetic to the building and historic zone within which the development is situated (these include, but are not limited to, clay tile, brick, render and timber);**
- g) Retain historic building plot and field boundaries, and where these include replacement boundary treatments, such treatments are of good quality and appropriate by way of materials (brick, fencing, hedges), design (informal e.g. hedges and formal e.g. walls) and construction to the building plot and those of adjacent building plots;**
- h) Retain key elements of public realm (e.g. the K6 telephone kiosk) and where new public realm is proposed this should seek to retain the area’s semi-rural character through its design and use of materials. Where opportunities arise removal of unsympathetic elements of the public realm e.g. highway and telecommunications infrastructure;**
- i) Protect the important views into and out of the Conservation Area and between buildings as identified in the *Hallow***

²¹ *A survey of historic parks and gardens in Worcestershire* (1997). Published by Hereford and Worcestershire Gardens Trust.

Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy. See also Policy HAL3;

- j) Retain mature trees, landscaping and hedges, public and private green spaces (including private gardens). Within a building plot the ratio of buildings to open space should be broadly retained to preserve the area's predominant open, green character. If opportunities arise to create new open areas these should use sympathetic materials for their boundaries and surfacing, so that they are appropriate to a semi-rural location and avoid introducing urban designs, styles and materials; and**
- k) Where possible and appropriate, remove and replace negative features within the Conservation Area that are the product of previous unsympathetic development or alterations, e.g. car parking and drive surfaces, windows, uPVC conservatories, boundary treatments and unsympathetic domestic extensions.**

Background/Justification

- 9.4 Central to the distinctiveness of Hallow is the Conservation Area designated in 1976, Map 21. Conservation Area status gives this area a statutory protection. Also important is the setting of the Conservation Area.



Tudor Cottage

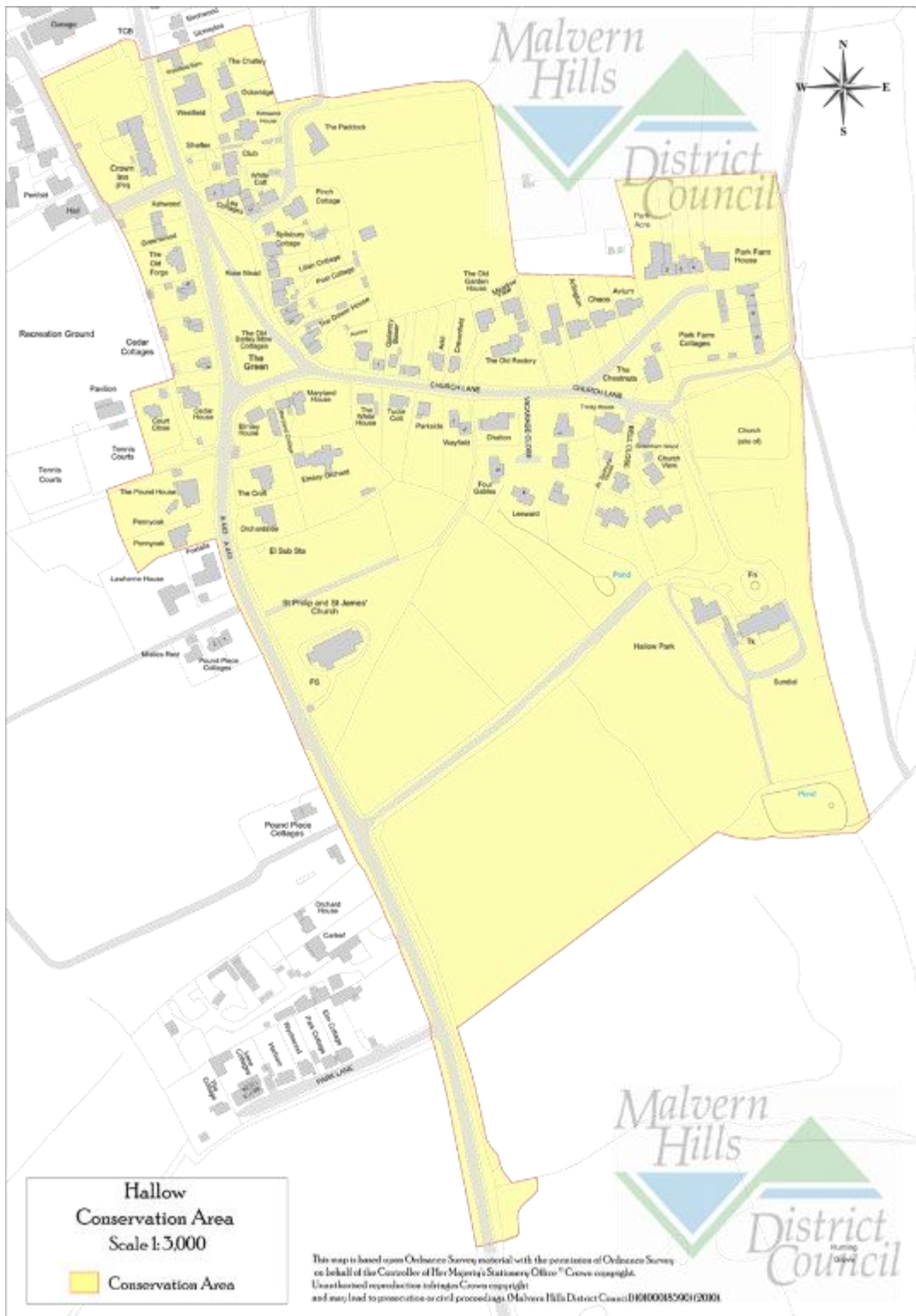
- 9.5 The overall character of the village of Hallow is that of a semi-rural village, comprising a rich mix of buildings centred on The Green. The Green is the historic core of Hallow and the heart of the Conservation Area. The Green is surrounded by properties dating from the 17th, 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. The varied building styles and construction materials reflect the age in which they were built: timber framed cottages and later brick-built buildings.

- 9.6 The street pattern of the areas that surround The Green has remained relatively unaltered over time. To the east of The Green older buildings occupy the full width of their plots and appear to jostle for the prime position overlooking The Green itself. This complements the open aspect of The Green that has a variety of mature trees, enabling the area to retain its feeling of semi-rural open spaciousness.
- 9.7 On the west side of Main Road, opposite The Green, the area takes on a different character. The properties known as 1-6 Cedar Cottages are all Victorian brick-built cottages with a uniform architectural style. This contrasts with the individually designed vernacular dwellings on the opposite side of the road. Furthermore, these dwellings all occupy spacious plots with a wide gap between them. Each cottage is set back from the edge of the footway and it is possible to see their front gardens. The spaces between the buildings has ensured that a feeling of open space has been retained.
- 9.8 The large open fields on the western boundary of the Conservation Area are flat, open land, used for a variety of sports. From this viewpoint, there are views through mature trees to the Malvern Hills which rise up above the flat landscape.
- 9.9 During the 20th century, the village expanded east along Church Lane consequently, large wooded areas were lost to development. Fortunately, these more modern dwellings have been carefully sited amongst the remaining trees. The modern houses have, in the majority of cases, been set back from the public highway and only glimpses of them can be seen. This, coupled with the use of appropriate materials, has helped them to integrate into their setting.



Lea House

Map 21. Hallow Conservation Area (Source: Malvern Hills District Council)



- 9.16 Further east of Church Lane open fields with mature trees create a feeling of spaciousness, this area makes a valuable contribution to the character and setting of the Conservation Area.



Hallow Old Churchyard

- 9.10 Policy HAL12 has been designed to take account of and to help implement the management strategy for the Conservation Area outlined in *Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy* (MHDC 2009)²².
- 9.11 Conserving the built environment and heritage assets of the Conservation Area was strongly supported by residents in the Community Survey, with 76% stating it was 'very important' and 16% as 'fairly important'. Draft policies on development in the Conservation Area were presented at the Public Information Events in September and October 2018, with conservation of historical features receiving support from 50 out of 111 attendees and no objections.
- 9.12 As well as Policy HAL12, applicants should also ensure that development proposals in and affecting the Conservation Area have also been prepared after having regard to the *Hallow Conservation Area and Management Strategy* (MHDC, 2009) and the *Hallow Design Guide*, see Policy HAL3 of the HNDP.

²² Hallow: Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Report, 2009. Malvern Hills District Council. <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/10558/125552/mhc-planning-hallowadopted.pdf/e9b496a5-32c9-47b7-8483-8fa8e76e8538> ; accessed 23/10/18

Policy HAL13 – Non-designated Heritage Assets

The Parish Council are seeking to add non-designated heritage assets to the Malvern Hills Local List. Comments and observations are being sought as part of the HNDP Regulation 14 consultation on the following potential additions to the Local List:

- Walls and lodges of Parkfield
- Melbourne
- Gates to Green Park
- Hallow Mount
- Shoulton Farm
- Shoulton House Farmhouse
- Hallow Park
- Archbell Cottages
- Hallow Mill
- Heath Farmhouse and barns
- Congregational Chapel
- Clematis Cottage
- Dove Cottage
- Woodmanton Cottage
- The Laurels
- Greenhill farmhouse and barns
- Hop Pole Cottage

Unlisted buildings of merit within the Conservation Area:

Main Road

- Cedar House
- The Pound House

On Hallow Green

- The Dower House
- Post Cottage
- Barley Mow Cottages
- Elmley House
- Maryland Cottages
- Post Cottage
- Barley Mow Cottages
- Elmley House
- Maryland Cottages

Other features

- The see-saw
- Telephone kiosk

The Parish Council, as part of the Regulation 14 consultation on the HNDP, would also welcome the nomination of other heritage assets for consideration and potential inclusion on the Local List.

Once added to the Local List development proposals affecting assets on the Local List and other non-designated heritage assets will be assessed against Policy SWDP24 of South Worcestershire Plan (or its successor following the SWDP Review).

Background/Justification

- 9.13 Conserving the neighbourhood area's built environment and heritage assets²³ was strongly supported by residents in the *Community Survey*. Hallow's designated heritage assets - Listed Buildings and the Conservation Area are statutorily protected. There are many other buildings, structures and historic designed landscapes with no statutory protection which the community holds dear and that make a valuable contribution to Hallow's local history, sense of place and quality of life. Such non-designated heritage assets can be a consideration in planning matters.



Hallow Park

²³ As defined by Historic England at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/hpg/generalintro/heritage-conservation-defined/>

9.14 To identify the area's non-designated heritage assets the following were undertaken:

- Desk-top research and survey;
- Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service were commissioned in 2019 to produce an Historic Environment Record Search (available at: <https://hallowndp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Historic-search-Hallow-Final120619.pdf>);
- Background work was conducted by Hallow History Group to identify buildings in Hallow worthy of non-designated asset status, utilising historical search methods and archive material to provide historical details on the buildings; and
- A walkabout was carried out to survey the built environment of Hallow using the Worcestershire County Council 'Your Place Matters Toolkit' in November 2018. The day also benefitted from the advice of Martley village NDP lead and a Locality Neighbourhood Planning Champion.

Further information on this work can be found in the Background Paper that accompanies the HNNDP.

9.15 To give non-designated heritage assets a greater level of protection Malvern Hills District is creating a Local List. In support of this work MHDC has produced a *Local List Supplementary Planning Document*²⁴ (SPD). This SPD provides guidance on how the list will be compiled for Malvern Hills District; the criteria for inclusion of a heritage asset on the list; and the implications of an asset's inclusion on the list. Using this guidance, a number of potential additions to the Local List have been identified in Policy HAL12. Views are now being sought, as part of this Regulation 14 HNNDP consultation, as to the suitability or otherwise of including these buildings and structures on the Local List. Other buildings and structures can also be put forward for consideration as potential assets for the Local List. Once accepted as entries on the Local List, development affecting these assets will be assessed against Policy SWDP 24 of the South Worcestershire Development Plan.

Policy HAL13 – Archaeological Assets

Development proposals should conserve or enhance known surface and sub-surface archaeology included in the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record. Lack of current evidence of surface and sub-surface archaeology must not be taken as proof of absence and where potential for such remains are considered to exist, proposals may be subject to planning condition.

²⁴ Local List Supplementary Planning (<https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/heritage-assets>), Malvern Hills District Council, 2015.

Background/Justification

- 9.16 Policy HAL13 seeks to be in general conformity with SWDP 6A and criterion (iv) of SWDP 6A seeks to:

‘conserve and enhance heritage assets, including assets of potential archaeological interest, subject to the provisions of SWDP 24. Their contribution to the character of the landscape or townscape should be protected in order to sustain the historic quality, sense of place, environmental quality and economic vibrancy of south Worcestershire’.

- 9.17 To support preparation of the HNDP Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service have provided a *Historic Environment Record Search* (HERS). The HERS lists the known archaeological remains in the area. The HERS should be consulted when preparing planning applications and is available as a separate Background Document accompanying the HNDP.
- 9.18 Policy HAL13 also seeks to conserve or enhance known archaeology identified in the HERS. Where there is considered to be potential for archaeological remains, Policy HAL12 may be used to place planning conditions on proposals so that suitable site surveys to identify, or exclude, such potential can be carried out.

10.0 Transport and Infrastructure

Neighbourhood Plan Objectives

Transport

OBJECTIVE 6 - To maintain and enhance public rights of way and other routes.

OBJECTIVE 7 – To improve infrastructure and a mix of land uses that promote more active, healthy forms of travel (walking and cycling) and improved public transport so that Hallow residents have less need to use private motor vehicles.

Utilities

OBJECTIVE 8 - To support improvements to local public services and infrastructure and to facilitate access to both high speed broadband and reliable mobile-phone coverage.

Policy HAL15 – Sustainable Transport

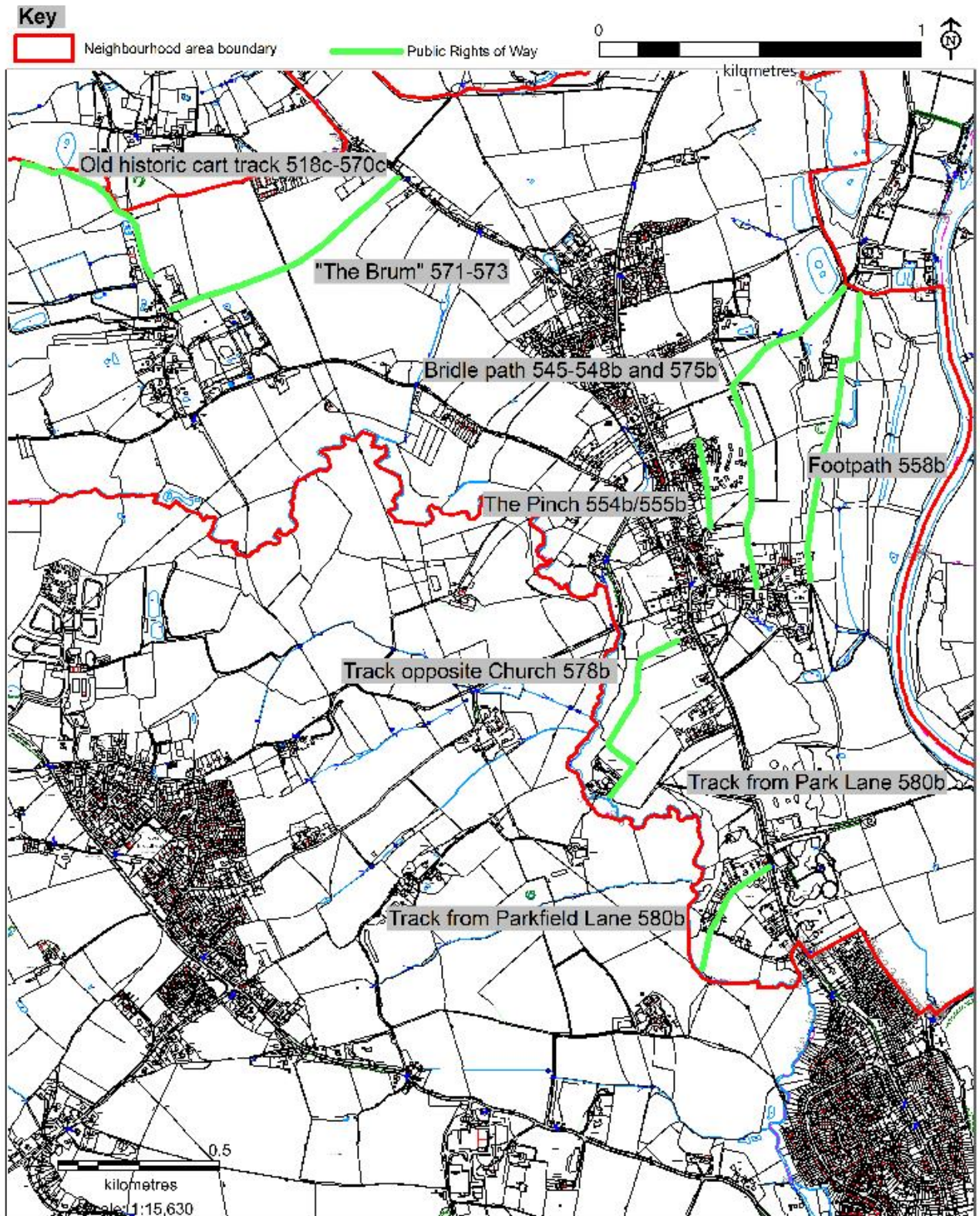
New development should seek to reduce reliance on the private car and increase opportunities for active travel (use of public transport, walking and cycling) by incorporating measures that improve facilities, infrastructure and the environment for pedestrians, cyclists, public transport and its users. In particular, the following will be supported:

- i. Provision of a cycle route on the eastern side of the village. This will also form a safe route for children cycling to and from the Primary School. Where relevant and feasible new development should include a marked cycle path to link into this new route.**
- ii. Creation of a dedicated off-road cycle route to Worcester.**
- iii. Enhanced bus transport infrastructure.**
- iv. Creation of opportunities for shared transport.**
- v. Improved pedestrian and cycle links to key facilities identified in the HNBP.**
- vi. Improvements and new connections to existing Public Rights of Way (PROW) (Table 7, Map 22) and the creation of new PROW.**

Background/Justification

- 10.1 To promote active, healthy lifestyles, a safer environment and reduce congestion and vehicle emissions, thereby improving air quality and reducing climate change impacts, Policy HAL15 seeks to reduce private vehicle use.

Map 22. Public Right of Way Improvements © Crown copyright and database rights [2020] Ordnance Survey 100055940 Hallow Parish Council (Licensee) License number 100050758



10.2 Better facilities for walking, cycling and improved public transport, allied to shared transport, can reduce the number of private car journeys both within and out of Hallow. This will improve quality of life for all residents and

especially for those without access to a private car. Such changes will help foster a strong village community, allowing for shorter journeys to be made by a wider range of people, in a safer and more relaxed environment. Becoming less reliant on the private car will increase opportunities for healthier lifestyles (more walking and cycling) and create a safer, cleaner environment. Private vehicles are the single largest source of emissions to air in the area.



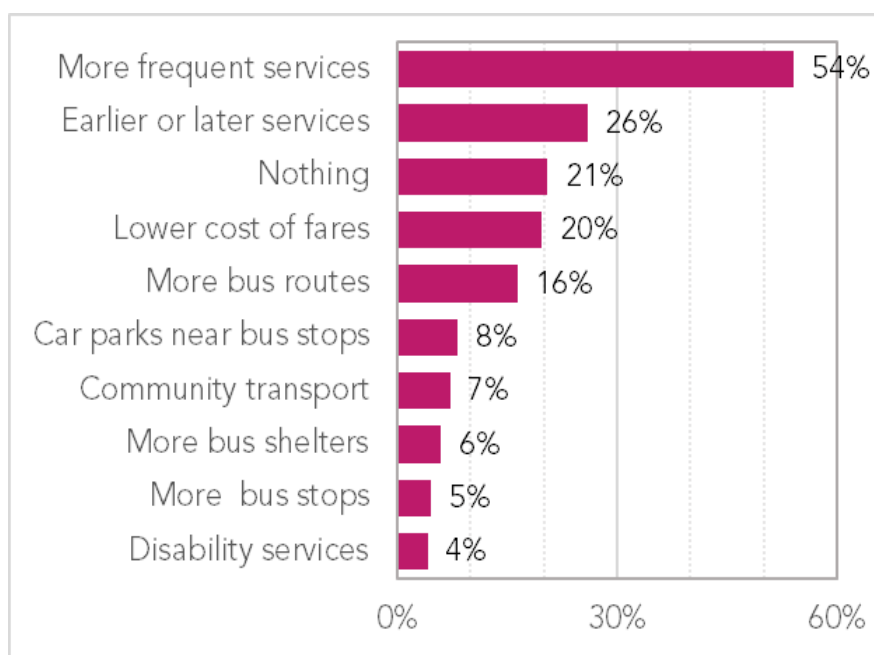
Example of parking problems outside Ladygo Stores and Hallow School

- 10.3 The Hallow *Community Survey* showed that road safety improvement was the most urgent need, and this was supported by numerous free text comments on the topic, 77% cited the need for footpath improvements.
- 10.4 A key way in which private car use can be reduce is through better bus transport provision, Figure 10. The *Community Survey* showed that nearly half of the residents never use bus services. More frequent services were cited as the most likely factor to encourage more usage, although 21% of respondents said that nothing would encourage them to use the bus.
- 10.5 Improvements to cycling provision can help to achieve the same aims. For this reason, Policy HAL15 seeks to improve off-road cycling infrastructure. The existing Broadheath-Hallow Loop²⁵ provides one example, and between points 15 and 16 shown on Map 22, improvements to enable safe off-road cycling from new developments to key village facilities will be supported. Other improvements that facilitate cycling for shorter journeys will also be supported in line with Worcester County Council's Transport Strategy²⁶.

²⁵ http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20209/cycling_and_walking/1416/worcestershire_cycle_routes

²⁶ http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/9024/worcestershire_local_transport_plan_4_2018-2030_-_adopted_2017

Figure 10. What would encourage you to use the bus services more often? (Source: Community Survey)



10.6 The neighbourhood area already benefits from a number of PROWs which provide access to the surrounding countryside and links to the area’s history. Table 7 summarises PROWs of particular significance to the local community and they are mapped on Worcestershire County Council’s web site (<https://gis.worcestershire.gov.uk/website/Countryside/>). Improvements to the existing PROW network and the creation of new PROW will be supported.

Table 7. Public Rights of Way

Title/Description	Access	History	Use
Path ‘The Brum’ 571-573	Accessible from Moseley Road and Shoulton Road, 15 mins from north west end of village	Rural path with historic ties and much used by walkers as elevation provides good views in all directions	Used by local walkers for recreation and birdwatching
Old historic Cart Track 518c, 570c	Accessible from end of Shoulton Lane/Brum footpath 15 mins from north west end of village	Historic road from 1770s	Local route appearing in 1770 maps and reference in historic accounts

Title/Description	Access	History	Use
Track from opposite Church 578b	Accessible from Main Road Centre of village	Track to historic 1770s mill on Laugherne Brook	Track 578b provides access to the allotments.
Track from Park Lane 580b	Accessible from Main Road 5 mins from centre of village	Track to historic 1770s mill on Laugherne Brook	Used for recreation by walkers, linking to Laugherne Brook and Lower Broadheath.
Track from Parkfield Lane 568c	Accessible from Main Road 10 mins from centre of village	Track to historic 1770s mill on Laugherne Brook	Used for recreation by walkers, linking to Laugherne Brook and Lower Broadheath.
Footpath 'The Pinch' 554b/555b	Path from village green towards Grimley	Historic links to strip farming; mature oak trees act as old path markers. Old hedgerows	Part of well-used circular walk around village
Footpath 558b	Central, access from Church Road	Path to Grimley past historic Park Farm House. Layered hedge. Abundant wildlife including fox, muntjac, roe deer and wildflowers.	Well-trodden path for local nature lovers and walkers
Bridle path adjacent to 'GGG' land 545-548b, 575b	Part of path from Hallow to Grimley	Bridle path with historic links for Oast Houses in Church Road and river.	Part of popular local circular walk

Potential Actions for Parish Council

Improved bus services

To work with Worcestershire County Council and service providers to improve the frequency of services serving Hallow.

11.0 Monitoring and Review

- 11.1 Hallow Parish Council will regularly monitor progress in implementing the HNBP. When new issues are identified, policies are found to be out of date or in need of change (for example due to changing national or strategic planning policy), the Parish Council, in consultation with Malvern Hills District Council, may decide to update part or all of the plan.

Glossary of Terms

Accessibility: The extent to which employment, goods and services are made easily available to people, either through close proximity, or through providing the required physical links to enable people to go to locations where they are available.

Active travel: This means making journeys by physically active means, like walking or cycling. These are usually short journeys, like walking to the shops, walking the kids to school, cycling to work, or cycling to the station to catch a commuter train.

Affordable housing: housing for sale or rent, for those whose needs are not met by the market (including housing that provides a subsidised route to home ownership and/or is for essential local workers); and which complies with one or more of the following definitions:

a) **Affordable housing for rent:** meets all of the following conditions: (a) the rent is set in accordance with the Government's rent policy for Social Rent or Affordable Rent, or is at least 20% below local market rents (including service charges where applicable); (b) the landlord is a registered provider, except where it is included as part of a Build to Rent scheme (in which case the landlord need not be a registered provider); and (c) it includes provisions to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households, or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision. For Build to Rent schemes affordable housing for rent is expected to be the normal form of affordable housing provision (and, in this context, is known as Affordable Private Rent).

b) **Starter homes:** is as specified in Sections 2 and 3 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 and any secondary legislation made under these sections. The definition of a starter home should reflect the meaning set out in statute and any such secondary legislation at the time of plan-preparation or decision-making. Where secondary legislation has the effect of limiting a household's eligibility to purchase a starter home to those with a particular maximum level of household income, those restrictions should be used.

c) **Discounted market sales housing:** is that sold at a discount of at least 20% below local market value. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices. Provisions should be in place to ensure housing remains at a discount for future eligible households.

d) **Other affordable routes to home ownership:** is housing provided for sale that provides a route to ownership for those who could not achieve home ownership through the market. It includes shared ownership, relevant equity loans, other low cost homes for sale (at a price equivalent to at least 20% below local market value) and rent to buy (which includes a period of intermediate rent). Where public grant funding is provided, there should be provisions for the homes to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households, or for any receipts to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision, or refunded to Government or the relevant authority specified in the funding agreement.

Ancient Woodlands: These are defined as areas where there is believed to have been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. It can include both ancient semi natural and ancient replanted woodlands. They are irreplaceable habitats.

Biodiversity: The variety of plants, animals and other living things in a particular area or region. It encompasses habitat diversity, species diversity and genetic diversity.

Brownfield Land: See definition for Previously Developed Land.

Connectivity: The linkages that exist between key locations.

Design and Access Statement (DAS): A short report accompanying and supporting a planning application. They provide a framework for applicants to explain how a proposed development is a suitable response to the site and its setting and demonstrate that it can be adequately accessed by prospective users.

Designated Heritage Asset: A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.

Development Boundary: A boundary drawn around the of existing built development in a village. This planning policy tool is used in the South Worcestershire Development Plan to set out where new development, i.e. within the development boundary, may be acceptable in principle.

Development Plan Document (DPD): These are planning documents forming part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) and which have a status of being part of the development plan. In order to acquire this status, they will be subject to independent scrutiny through a public examination. Certain documents within the LDF must be DPDs, for example the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP), Site Specific Allocations of land and Area Action Plan where produced. There must also be an adopted Policies Map which may be varied as successive DPDs are adopted. Current Local Planning Regulations no longer use the term DPD and refer to Local Plans instead.

Dwelling: A self-contained building or part of a building used as a residential accommodation, and usually housing a single household. A dwelling may be a house, bungalow, flat, maisonette or residentially converted farm building.

Environment Agency: This is a Public Body that is responsible for protecting and improving the environment of England and Wales, and for protecting communities from the risk of flooding and managing water resources. They are consulted throughout the plan making and decision-making process in order to promote sustainable development.

Evidence Base: The information and data gathered to justify the policy approach set out in the Neighbourhood Plan including physical, economic, and social characteristics of an area. It consists of consultation responses and the finding of technical studies.

Greenfield Land: Land which has not previously been developed, including land in agriculture or forestry and land in built up areas used for outdoor sport and recreation (including public and private open space and allotments).

Green Infrastructure: A strategically planned and delivered network of high-quality green spaces and other environmental features. It is designed and managed as a multifunctional resource capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities. Green Infrastructure includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, allotments and private gardens.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA): The process that competent authorities must undertake to consider whether a proposed development plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on a European site designated for its nature conservation interest.

Historic Environment Record (HERS): A source of, and signpost to, information relating to landscapes, buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas and archaeological finds spanning

more than 700,000 years of human endeavour. Based mainly in local authorities, they are used for planning and development control, but they also fulfil an educational role.

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA): A study to identify the effects of new development on views and the landscape.

Local Development Documents (LDDs): Any document prepared by a local planning authority individually or with other local planning authorities which deals with one or more of the following:

- the development and use of land;
- the allocation of sites for a particular form of development or use;
- environmental, social, design and economic objectives relevant to the development and use of land; and
- development management and site allocations policies which guide the determination of planning applications.

LDDs are referred to in the Regulations as Local Plans and this is the term commonly used in the Joint Core Strategy.

Local Development Framework (LDF): The name for the portfolio of Local Development Documents. It consists of Development Plan Documents, Supplementary Planning Documents, a Statement of Community Involvement, the Local Development Scheme and Annual Monitoring Reports. Together these documents provide the framework for delivering the spatial planning strategy for a local authority area and may also include local development orders and simplified planning zones. The National Planning Policy Framework no longer refers to LDFs and uses the term 'Local Plan' instead.

Local Plan: The plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the local planning authority in consultation with the community. In law this is described as the development plan documents adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Current Core Strategies and other planning policies which under the Regulations would be considered to be development plan documents, form part of the Local Plan. The term includes old policies which have been saved under the 2004 Act.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): A type of agreement between two (bilateral) or more (multilateral) parties. It expresses a convergence of will between the parties, indicating an intended common line of action.

Mode: The type of transport being used for a journey.

National Character Area (NCA) A natural subdivision of England based on a combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and economic activity. There are 159 National Character Areas and they follow natural, rather than administrative, boundaries. They are defined by Natural England, the UK government's advisors on the natural environment.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): This document sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities.

National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG): A web-based resource which brings together **planning guidance** on various topics into one place. It was launched in March

2014 and coincided with the cancelling of the majority of Government Circulars which had previously given guidance on many aspects of planning.

Non-designated heritage assets: Buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets

Physical Infrastructure: Includes existing and future development required to support utilities, transport and waste management.

Previously Developed Land (PDL): Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure (excluding agricultural and forestry buildings) and associated fixed surface infrastructure, including the curtilage of (land attached to) buildings. It includes defence buildings and land used for mineral or waste extraction when there is no requirement for subsequent restoration. Land in built up areas such as private residential gardens, parks, recreation grounds and allotments are not considered as PDL. PDL is still commonly referred to as brownfield land.

Public Realm: Areas available for everyone to use, including streets, squares and parks.

Section 106 Agreement/Contribution: Refers to Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and is a legally binding agreement or planning obligation with a landowner in association with the granting of planning permission. These agreements are a way of delivering or addressing matters that are necessary to make a development acceptable in planning terms. They are increasingly used to support the provision of services and infrastructure, such as highways, recreational facilities, education, health and affordable housing.

Significant Gap: A local planning designation intended to protect the settings and separate identities of settlements by: helping to avoid coalescence; retaining the existing settlement pattern through maintaining the openness of the land; and securing the quality of life benefits of having open land close to where people live. For example, the Significant Gap separating Hallow and Worcester.

Social Infrastructure: Includes education, healthcare, sports facilities, cultural and community facilities.

Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA): A generic term used to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The European 'SEA Directive' (2001/42/EC) requires a formal 'environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA): A technical study which assesses housing need and demand across a defined market area, and which is used to inform housing and planning policies.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD): Provides additional guidance on matters covered by a DPD/ Local Plan. They will be an important consideration in determining planning applications.

Sustainable Development: Development which meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Topography: The gradient and variations in height within a landscape.

Tree Preservation Order (TPO): An order made by a local planning authority to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity. An TPO prohibits the:

- cutting down
- topping
- lopping
- uprooting
- wilful damage
- wilful destruction

of trees without the local planning authority's written consent. If consent is given, it can be subject to conditions which have to be followed.

Viability Appraisal: An assessment of a proposed development to ensure all elements for the development, including required infrastructure and any required financial contributions can be successfully delivered in an economic context.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - National Heritage List for England

Pool Corner

List Entry Number: 1078232

Heritage Category: Listing Grade: II

Location: Pool Corner, Shoulton, Hallow, Worcester, WR2 6PX, SHOULTON, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

FORGE COTTAGE

List Entry Number: 1082913

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: FORGE COTTAGE, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

THE HOLLIES

List Entry Number: 1082914

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: THE HOLLIES, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

FOUNTAIN IN GARDENS AT PARKFIELD

List Entry Number: 1082915

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: FOUNTAIN IN GARDENS AT PARKFIELD, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

SUMMER HOUSE IN GARDENS AT PARKFIELD

List Entry Number: 1082916

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: SUMMER HOUSE IN GARDENS AT PARKFIELD, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

WINDSOR COTTAGE

List Entry Number: 1082917

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: WINDSOR COTTAGE, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

PARK FARM COTTAGES

List Entry Number: 1082918

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: PARK FARM COTTAGES, 1-4, CHURCH LANE, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

TUDOR COTTAGE

List Entry Number: 1082919

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: TUDOR COTTAGE, CHURCH LANE, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

BEECHMOUNT HOUSE

List Entry Number: 1082920

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: BEECHMOUNT HOUSE, SHOULTON, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

THE CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE AND ATTACHED OUTBUILDING

List Entry Number: 1082956

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: THE CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE AND ATTACHED OUTBUILDING, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

Headways Farmhouse

List Entry Number: 1262229

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: Headways Farmhouse, Shoulton, Hallow, Worcester, WR2 6PX, SHOULTON, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

Old Dovecote

List Entry Number: 1262235

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: Old Dovecote, Shoulton, Hallow, Worcester, WR2 6PX, SHOULTON, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

LEA COTTAGES

List Entry Number: 1301964

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: LEA COTTAGES, 1, 2 AND 3, THE GREEN, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

SHOULTON COTTAGE

List Entry Number: 1301968

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: SHOULTON COTTAGE, SHOULTON, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

CAREY VILLA

List Entry Number: 1302012

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: CAREY VILLA, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

CHURCH OF ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES

List Entry Number: 1349353

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II*

Location: CHURCH OF ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

HALLOW SCHOOL

List Entry Number: 1349372

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: HALLOW SCHOOL, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

GAMES PAVILION IN GARDENS AT PARKFIELD

List Entry Number: 1349373

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: GAMES PAVILION IN GARDENS AT PARKFIELD, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

PARKFIELD NURSERIES

List Entry Number: 1349374

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: PARKFIELD NURSERIES, A443, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

PARK FARMHOUSE

List Entry Number: 1349375

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

Location: PARK FARMHOUSE, CHURCH LANE, Hallow, Malvern Hills, Worcestershire

GREENSTREET FARMHOUSE

List Entry Number: 1349376

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

**Location: GREENSTREET FARMHOUSE, GREEN STREET, Hallow, Malvern Hills,
Worcestershire**

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Hallow Scouts.

Hallow Tennis Club.

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