



Hinckley & Bosworth  
Borough Council

*A Borough to be proud of*

## Community, Cultural and Tourism Facilities Review

January 2013



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## **Executive Summary**

The Community, Cultural and Tourism Facilities Review provides an up-to-date and relevant evidence base about the community, cultural and tourism provision within the urban and rural area of Hinckley & Bosworth.

**Chapter 1: Policy Context** provides the planning policy context for the designation of community, cultural and tourism facilities. It examines the relevant sections of the National Planning Policy Framework, The Core Strategy and the emerging Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD. In addition the review has regard to local strategies such as the Hinckley & Bosworth Community Plan, the Cultural Strategy, Cultural Facilities Audit and Rural Services Review.

**Chapter 2: What is a Community Facility?** examines what facility types should be included within the community facility designation and sets out the justification for these designations.

**Chapter 3: What is a Cultural and Tourism Facility?** examines what facility types should be included within the cultural and tourism facility designation and sets out the justification for these designations.

**Chapter 4: Community, Cultural and Tourism Facility Methodology** sets out the methodology for these designations, the determination of boundaries, identification of catchment areas, accessibility information and population information.

**Chapter 5: Consultation** identifies the response from Borough Councillors and Parish Councils on the call for sites consultation requesting potential community facilities between October 2011 and February 2012. It also identifies consultation with the Hinckley & Bosworth Tourism Partnership.

**Chapter 6: Results** provides a breakdown of the community facilities and cultural and tourism facilities identified through the review and orders them in-line with the settlement hierarchy set out in the Core Strategy.

**Chapter 7: Summary of Findings** summarises the community facility and cultural and tourism facility offering for each of the settlement hierarchies.

**Chapter 8: Concluding Points** reflects on the distribution of community, cultural and tourism facilities across the borough and identifies gaps in provision and accessibility.

**Chapter 9: Safeguarding Community, Cultural and Tourism Facilities** sets out how this review will inform the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD and Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP. In addition it presents potential policies to safeguard and guide development of community, cultural and tourism facilities in the borough.

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## **Chapter 1**

### **Introduction**

- 1.1 The Community, Cultural and Tourism Facilities Review provides the definition and identification of community and cultural and tourism facilities across the borough of Hinckley and Bosworth.
- 1.2 The review will provide an up-to-date and relevant evidence base to support the allocation of community facilities and cultural and tourism facilities for the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document and the Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan.
- 1.3 The review defines the facilities which constitute both a community facility and a cultural and tourism facility and identifies their location within the settlement and wider borough. It also notes the accessibility catchment for each community facility and public transportation options, providing an indication on settlement sustainability. A record is also made of events and activities held at the facilities to gauge the variety of provision for the facility and settlement.
- 1.4 Each identified facility is accompanied by a proforma, listing the facilities details, a map identifying its boundaries and a photograph providing a snap-shot in time. These proformas, photos and maps are available in appendices 6a-g. The findings and proformas have been divided in accordance with the settlement hierarchy identified in the Core Strategy (Dec 2009).
- 1.5 The review concludes with an examination of the current extant Local Plan policies (2001) and their proposed replacement with Development Management Policies in the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD.

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## Chapter 2

### Policy Context

#### 2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (27<sup>th</sup> March 2012)

2.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is the consolidation of Planning Policy Statements and guidance into one document. It sets out the Government's planning policies for England and sets out how they should be applied. The NPPF must be taken into account when preparing plans and is a material consideration in the determination of applications from the date of publication.

2.1.2 The NPPF establishes the purpose of planning is to help achieve sustainable development. It defines the three dimensions of sustainable development as economic, social and environmental which in turn gives rise to the need for planning to perform the following roles:

- **An economic role** - contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;
- **A social role** - supporting, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community's needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being;
- **An environmental role** - contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

2.1.3 The NPPF identifies that to achieve sustainable development these three gains should be sought jointly through the planning system.

2.1.4 The NPPF provides 12 core planning principles which should underpin both plan-making and decision taking. The four principles which directly relate to community, cultural and tourism facilities and which planning should have regard are indicated below;

- Planning should not simply be about scrutiny, but instead be a creative exercise in finding ways to enhance and improve the places in which people live their lives;

- Planning should take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities to meet local needs;
- Take account of the different roles and character of different areas, promoting the vitality of our main urban areas, protecting the green belts around them, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it;
- Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling, and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable.

2.1.5 The NPPF, in addition to the above overarching guidance, provides specific topic-based guidance for plan makers and decision takers. The guidance which relates to community, cultural and tourism facilities is provided in the proceeding paragraphs.

#### 2.1.6 **Paragraph 28- Supporting a prosperous rural economy**

To promote a strong rural economy, local plans should.....

*“Support sustainable rural tourism and leisure development that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors, and which respect the character of the countryside. This should include supporting the provision and expansion of tourist and visitor facilities in appropriate locations where identified needs are not met by existing facilities in rural service centres”*

*And*

*“Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.”*

#### 2.1.7 **Paragraph 69 - Promoting Healthy Communities**

This paragraph emphasises that the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. In addition it seeks that planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve places which promote:

*“Opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other.....”*

#### 2.1.8 **Paragraph 70- Promoting Healthy Communities**

To deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:

*“Plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments”;*

*And*

*“Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the communities ability to meet its day-to-day needs”;*

*And*

*“Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community”;*

*And*

*“Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services”.*

2.1.9 In addition to the above, the NPPF stipulates that local plans should indicate land use designations on a proposals map and local plans should be based upon adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence.

2.1.10 The purpose of this review is to ensure that the designations relating to community, cultural and tourism facilities are based on an up-to-date and relevant evidence base to inform the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document which forms part of the Local Plan (2006-2026).

## **2.2 The Hinckley & Bosworth Community Plan (April 2007- March 2012)**

2.2.1 The Hinckley & Bosworth Community Plan aims to improve the quality of life of communities within the Borough. The plan is based on evidence of the issues and concerns facing the community gathered through public consultation and research. The Community Plan is a compulsory document which sets out priorities for improvements over a five year period but within a context of a longer term vision of what the borough could be like in 2026.

2.2.2 One of these priorities includes “improving the provision and use of community and cultural facilities”. The priority states:

*“Through careful assessment of the facilities which already exist, including their accessibility, gaps in provision will be identified and*

*proposals developed to address them through the Local Development Framework, the Cultural Strategy and other means.”*

*“Existing and new schemes to support and encourage community and cultural activity will seek to ensure that the best possible use is made of all facilities and hence provide a secure future for them. New initiatives of this kind will particularly target those people with poor access at the moment.”*

2.2.3 This Community, Cultural and Tourism Facilities Review will provide the assessment of existing facilities and fulfil the requirement identified in the above priority which will in turn feed into the emerging Local Plan (2006- 2026).

## **2.3 Adopted Local Plan (Feb 2001)**

2.3.1 Policies within the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Adopted Local Plan (adopted 2001) were reviewed by the Government Office of East Midlands with a series of policies deleted with others saved until such time as they are replaced by other development plan documents.

2.3.2 Chapter 9- Community Facilities in the adopted Local Plan provides the current saved development control policies which relate to the community facility designations on the proposals map.

2.3.3 The community facilities designation includes the following uses but each type of facility has its own related policy within Chapter 9:

- Community Uses
- Educational sites
- Health care
- Cemeteries
- Arts and Cultural Facilities
- Residential care and nursing homes

2.3.4 The community facilities policies within Chapter 9 are saved policies with the exception of;

- Policy CF1- Community Uses
- Policy CF3- Health Care Provision

2.3.5 The Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD will, once adopted fully replace the above Local Plan policies. This review will in part support the newly created, replacement policies.

## **2.4 The Core Strategy (2009)**

2.4.1 The Core Strategy provides a distillation of the overall vision for the borough set out in the Community Plan, specifically relating to areas where planning can make a difference. The vision stipulates that in

2026 Hinckley & Bosworth will provide high quality services and facilities along with quality jobs to ensure new development needed to meet increased needs are true sustainable communities.

- 2.4.2 To ensure the vision is achieved the Core Strategy sets out 13 Spatial Objectives with those relating to community, cultural and tourism facilities included below:

***Spatial Objective 1: Strong and Diverse Economy***

*“To strengthen and diversify the economy by providing sufficient, sustainably located, good quality land and premises and other support programmes, including skills training, to encourage appropriate sectors with growth potential including high value manufacturing businesses, business services, tourism, rural diversification initiatives and the cultural and creative industries.”*

And

***Spatial Objective 3: Strong and Vibrant Rural Communities***

*“To ensure rural communities have access to a range of shops, education, community, leisure facilities and employment opportunities in the Key Rural Centres to support, enhance and improve the sustainability, vibrancy and vitality of our rural areas.”*

And

***Spatial Objective 7: Healthier Active Communities***

*“To develop healthier and stronger communities by improving access to, and the provision of, community, sports and cultural facilities, green infrastructure and walking and cycling routes integrated with local public transport”*

**2.4.3 The Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD**

- 2.4.4 The Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD is an emerging DPD, with preferred option consultation taking place in 2009, which identifies community facilities throughout the borough. These community facilities have been drawn from the proposals map of the adopted Local Plan however these allocations are not supported by an up-to-date evidence base as advocated by the NPPF.

- 2.4.5 To ensure the allocations within the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD are based on a robust evidence base the identified community facilities within the Site Allocations Document will be reviewed through this paper, in addition to the identification of

additional sites considered to fall within the definition of a community facility, as defined through this review.

2.4.6 The Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD does not currently include tourism or cultural facilities within the preferred options version. This review will seek to identify these facilities across the Borough to ensure these facilities are represented as a designation within this DPD. This will enable tourism and cultural facilities to be supported, enhanced and appropriately protected through development management policies.

## **2.5 Rural Services Review Survey (2007/8)**

2.5.1 This survey identifies a baseline of key services available in rural areas and compares changes in services that have taken place since the previous study. The survey is produced by the Rural Community Council for Leicestershire and Rutland.

2.5.2 This survey identifies a series of services in the rural area including;

- Retail
- Community
- Leisure
- Healthcare

2.5.3 The survey identifies a number of services within the community category and provides a justification to their importance. The community services include;

- Community Halls inc. Village halls, community centres and church rooms
- Communication inc. Notice boards and telephone boxes
- Internet Access
- Community Groups inc. neighbourhood watch, parish plan groups
- Places of worship
- Primary and secondary schools

2.5.4 Community Halls are considered vital to rural communities as they provide a hub of activities and enhance the opportunity for community spirit. It identifies key services can be provided from these type of facilities such as social gatherings, spaces for learning, networking and child care. The provision of these services within community halls etc. reduces the need for residents to travel, reduces the carbon footprint and reduces the threat of social exclusion for those who have no access to transport.

2.5.5 Places of Worship were identified because they have historically been considered the centre of a rural community. They provide opportunities for social events as well as for religious purposes.



2.5.6 This survey concentrates on rural service provision and as such tourism and cultural facilities are not addressed. This survey will however provide some baseline information for the Community, Cultural and Tourism Facilities Review in relation to community facilities in the borough.

## **2.6 Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Cultural Strategy 2012-2017)**

2.6.1 The Cultural Strategy outlines the borough council's vision for culture between 2012- 2017 and sets out a commitment to improve the services the council provides.

2.6.2 The vision statement is set out as:

*"We will strive to enrich the lives of residents and visitors to the borough by providing an excellent quality cultural offer that is effective and represents value for money. We will continually improve our services by engaging with the community and our partner organisations."*

2.6.3 A set of nine themes have been developed to underpin this strategy:

1. Increasing participation in the Arts
2. Supporting Children and Young People
3. Enhancing Economic Development
4. Showcasing Events
5. Reducing Health inequalities
6. Acknowledging our Heritage and Museums
7. Encouraging Play
8. Developing Sports Opportunities
9. Promoting Tourism

2.6.4 This Review is considered to specifically inform and support the following four themes within the Cultural Strategy:

- Promoting Tourism
- Acknowledging our Heritage and Museums
- Showcasing Events
- Increasing participation in the Arts

## **2.7 The Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council: Cultural Facilities Action Plan (2008 -2013)**

2.7.1 This Action Plan provides information on cultural facilities within the Borough and provides the implementation and action for cultural activities set out in the Cultural Strategy (2007-2012). The Action Plan enables the Council to identify both shortfalls and surpluses in provision levels.

2.7.2 The Action plan defines cultural facilities as;

*“Culture, sport and active leisure has both a material and value dimension and includes a wide range of activities, including arts, sports, museums, libraries and tourism. A cultural facility is one where any of the above facilities can be held on a ‘one-off’ or regular basis”*

2.7.3 Within this definition the plan includes the following facilities;

- Allotments and community gardens
- Burial Grounds
- Community Facilities- including village halls and community centres
- Libraries
- Museums
- Outdoor and indoor sport facilities
- Parks and Open spaces- including equipped play areas
- Tourism

2.7.4 This action plan will provide a starting point to this review, with facilities and definitions presented in the action plan discussed later on in the paper.

## **2.8 The Tourism Strategy (2012- 2017)**

2.8.1 The Tourism Strategy sets out a blueprint for growth within the tourism sector of the borough and establishes key themes which address the boroughs ambitions in a practical way.

2.8.2 The Tourism Strategy is currently in production at the time of writing this report and as such further detail can not be provided on this strategy. The Tourism Strategy will however reflect this Community, Cultural and Tourism Facility Review (2012).

## **2.9 Earl Shilton and Barwell Community Buildings Audit and Development Potential**

2.9.1 The Earl Shilton and Barwell Community Buildings Audit is a study examining the current status of community facilities in Barwell and Earl Shilton. It seeks to understand their potential for improvement or rationalisation and examines the state, nature, scale and usage of a broad range of facilities. This study concluded that there were a number of facilities capable of being developed, extended or otherwise improved to meet current projected needs of the community. This study was produced in collaboration with the Rural Community Council, Community Action: Hinckley & Bosworth, Greenborough, Earl Shilton Town Council and Barwell Parish Council.

2.9.2

Table 1 below highlights the facilities identified in the audit accompanied by a note on its compatibility with the methodology prescribed through this review.

Table 1

Settlement	Facility	Compatibility
<b>Barwell</b>	Avis/Vista Centre	Facility not open
	Barwell Outdoor Bowls Club	An open space, sports and recreational facility
	Barwell Cricket Club	
	Constitutional Club	Audit states facility not generally seen as a community facility
	Barwell Methodist Church	Included in the Review as identified in the potential study
	Barwell Scout Hut	Not identified in the methodology
<b>Earl Shilton</b>	Barwell Stealth Academy	A business use
	Earl Shilton Age UK Earl Shilton Methodist Church & Hall	Included in the Review as identified in the potential study
	Earl Shilton STUTE	
	Earl Shilton Parish Hall	Included in the review as Parish Halls are included within the methodology of the review
	Earl Shilton Stoneycroft Club	
	Earl Shilton Cricket Club	An open space, sports and recreational facility
	Earl Shilton Boxing Club	
	Earl Shilton Reform Church	Not included as a place of worship in the urban area
Earl Shilton Scout Hut	Not identified in the methodology	

2.9.3

Full details of the methodology used to identify community facilities for potential designation is available in Chapter 2.

2.9.4 The Earl Shilton and Barwell Community Buildings Development Potential Study is a supplement to the above audit which creates a short list of community facilities for development. Information is provided for those short-listed facilities through a micro-project plan, community engagement for each proposal and indicative costs for each development.

2.9.5 The short list of facilities included the following:

- Earl Shilton Methodist Church
- Age UK
- STUTE - Earl Shilton Social Institute
- Jubilee Centre
- Barwell Methodist Church
- George Ward Centre, Barwell.

2.9.6 The sites and information retrieved for the short listed sites will inform the selected sites for this review for Earl Shilton and Barwell.

## **Chapter 3**

### **What is a Community Facility?**

#### **3.1 A Community Facility Explained**

3.1.1 Community services and facilities provide essential support for the borough's residents and help to create viable, healthy and sustainable communities. The provision of such facilities can therefore have an impact on the quality of people's lives and can be important for the social and economic wellbeing of the borough as a whole.

3.1.2 The Hinckley and Bosworth: Cultural Facilities Action Plan (2008-2013) primarily focuses on cultural facilities however within this definition the action plan identifies community facilities as village halls and community centres.

3.1.3 The Rural Services Review Survey (2007/8) identifies the following uses within the community category:

- Community Halls including village halls, community centres and church rooms
- Places of worship
- Primary and secondary schools

3.1.4 The adopted Local Plan (2001) identifies the following use types within the Community Chapter:

- Community Uses;
- Educational Sites;
- Health Care;
- Cemeteries;
- Arts and Cultural Facilities;
- Residential care and nursing homes.

#### **3.2 Village, Parish & Community Halls**

3.2.1 Community Halls and Villages Halls are identified in the Local Plan (2001), Cultural Facilities Audit and the Rural Services Review Survey. The Rural Services Review Survey highlights the benefits of such community resources, as such these community and village halls are included within the Community Facility category. In addition Parish Halls are also considered to serve the same role and function as community and village halls and are also included within this category. This category excludes Parish Council Offices. In addition some church halls have been identified where they provide a specific community focus through the hosting of community activities and events which are open to the wider non-religiously affiliated community.

### **3.3 Educational Facilities**

3.3.1 The Borough Council recognises that educational facilities are an important resource with potential for wider use for community purposes. The use of educational buildings and land to provide arts, entertainment, childcare and other educational and sports activities to the wider public can benefit the community, make more efficient use of resources and help to strengthen links between educational establishments and the communities they serve. It is therefore considered appropriate to include educational establishments as community facilities.

3.3.2 Associated playing fields of educational establishments have been identified through the Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011) and as such are excluded from the community facility designation as they will already be protected through an open space policy.

3.3.3 Primary schools have fewer facilities than secondary schools for use by the community. They can however still be regarded as providing a focus for social interactions for a local community with the potential for school facilities to be utilised for community events. This is especially the case for rural villages which usually do not include a secondary school and have limited services.

3.3.4 Educational facilities have been identified as community facilities through the Rural Services Review Survey and in the Local Plan. This combined with their role as congregational spaces and community focal points justifies the inclusion of educational establishments in the community facility designation. These include;

- Primary Schools
- Secondary Schools
- Grammar Schools
- Fee Paying Schools
- Further education colleges

### **3.4 Open Space, Leisure and Recreational Facilities**

3.4.1 The Local Plan identifies cemeteries within the community chapter and the Cultural Facilities Action Plan identifies allotments, community gardens, outdoor and indoor sports facilities, parks and open spaces as cultural facilities.

3.4.2 Areas of open space and leisure facilities formed part of the assessment in the Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011). These facilities are an important leisure resource to the local community. However these facilities are identified and assessed as part of the above review and will be covered under an open space, sport and recreational facilities policy within the

Development Management Policies DPD. To avoid duplication of policy, sporting, leisure and open space facilities identified in the above study are not included within the definition of community facilities.

### **3.5 Healthcare Facilities**

3.5.1 Healthcare facilities help to ensure local residents can meet their day-to-day needs within the locality and reduce the need to travel. The retention of these premises and services is considered vital to ensuring and maintaining the sustainability of settlements. The designation of this type of facility will enable the Borough Council to guard against the loss of this type of valued facility in line with paragraph 70 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

3.5.2 Healthcare Facilities include the following;

- Health/Medical Centres/Doctors Surgeries
- Hospitals

### **3.6 Residential and Care Homes**

3.6.1 Residential and Care Homes are identified as rural services through the Rural Services Survey 2007/2008 but are not specifically categorised as a community facility. In addition the adopted Local Plan (2001), whilst providing a policy on these types of facilities, does not go as far as providing a community land-use designation.

3.6.2 In addition the task of identifying and assessing all residential and care homes, both private and public, in the borough is a difficult, lengthy and time resource hungry task which is considered disproportionate to the benefit of such a designation for this use type. It is for these stated reasons that residential and care homes are not included within the definition of community facilities for the purposes of this review or the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD.

### **3.7 Churches/Places of Worship**

3.7.1 Churches/places of worship have for many villages and for many years been considered as the centre of the rural community and have often provided opportunities for social events as well as for religious purposes. It is appreciated that these venues play an important role in community village life, especially in rural areas where community facility provision is more limited. Therefore all places of worship have been identified as community facilities within the rural area including key rural centres, rural villages and rural hamlets.

3.7.2 This approach enables such facilities to have an additional degree of protection through the community land use designation and accompanying policy which will seek to retain the facility for the use by the local community. It is considered this will ensure that in particular,

rural villages have a meeting place and contribute to the sustainability of rural settlements inline with the intentions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

3.7.3 Due to the wider diversity of community facility provision in the urban area and the higher sustainability of settlements in these areas it is considered providing these facilities with a community land-use designation would be a disproportionate and an unnecessary restriction.

### **3.8 Public Houses**

3.8.1 It is recognised that public houses can represent a focal point for communities and community activities, usually on an informal basis and especially where these are the only facilities for the community to meet and congregate. This recognition is however juxtaposed with the reality that 25 public houses are closing a week with an overall reduction of public houses from 60,800 in 2000 to 51,178 in 2010.<sup>1</sup>

3.8.2 Paragraph 28 of the National Planning Policy Framework clearly supports the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as public houses. This is accompanied by paragraph 70 of the NPPF which seeks that planning policies should guard against the unnecessary loss of such facilities; particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day to day needs.

3.8.3 Pub is The Hub: Evaluating the Impact of Initiatives (2011) provides information on the benefits to the retention and diversification of public houses in rural areas. The paper highlights schemes supported by the not for profit advisory group 'Pub is the Hub' which seeks to retain, support and enhance rural service provision. These schemes include public houses which have the added facilities of;

- Internet
- Café
- Community room
- Crèche
- Lunch Club
- Post Office
- School Meals Service
- Shop
- Youth Centre

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<sup>1</sup> British Beer and Pub Association



- 3.8.4 The paper highlights how communities have benefited from a pub in the hub scheme, benefits such as;
- Improved access to key services
  - Meeting more local people than would otherwise have been the case
  - Time saving
  - Greater sense of community
- 3.8.5 It is therefore recognised that public houses can provide a community focus as they stand or can diversify their function to include one of the above additional services. This diversification can provide significant benefits to rural communities with limited service provision. Therefore strategies should be explored before the disposal of public houses into other uses such as residential.
- 3.8.6 In recognition of the importance of a public house to a rural village and the potential threats posed to it through loss and redevelopment, public houses have been included within the community facility land use designation where they stand within the rural area (as defined by the Core Strategy). In particular Rural Hamlets and Villages are identified in the Core Strategy as having limited services with the presence of a public house considered desirable. It notes that these centres are less sustainable than Key Rural Centres and it is considered necessary to ensure existing services and community cohesion is maintained.
- 3.8.7 Due to the wider services and facilities available in the urban area and within Key Rural Centres public houses have not been identified as community facilities.

### **3.9 Libraries**

- 3.9.1 Libraries can be a great source of information for everyone and often provide access to IT services and internet connection for those who do not have access at home as well as providing the traditional books, recordings and DVDs. In addition these facilities often provide a place of community congregation through children's reading groups, adult learning, room hire and exhibition and display space. It is also considered that libraries provide opportunities for meeting between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with one another, inline with paragraph 69 of the National Planning Policy Framework. It is because of libraries range of service provision and their focus for community learning and the provision of meeting spaces that this service is included within the community designation.

### **3.10 Summary of Facilities Included**

3.10.1 In summary this review will identify all facilities which fall within the community facility categories identified below:

- Community, Village, Parish Halls, Church Halls (where applicable)
- Places of worship (in the rural area only)
- Educational Facilities (inc. ancillary areas but exc. Playing fields) which includes:
  - Primary Schools (including Infants & Juniors)
  - Secondary Schools (including High Schools & Sixth Forms)
  - Grammar Schools
  - Fee Paying Schools
  - Healthcare Facilities which includes;
    - Health/Medical Centres/Doctor Surgeries
    - Hospitals
  - Libraries
  - Public Houses (in the rural area only)

## **Chapter 4**

### **What is a Cultural and Tourism Facility?**

#### **4.1 A Cultural and Tourism Facility Explained**

4.1.1 Cultural facilities are often the focal point for communities to come together to enjoy new experiences and express diverse views in a safe environment. Cultural opportunities should be available to all parts of the community. As well as being valuable in themselves they can also offer ways to engage with people that other local services find hard to reach such as the young for whom culture is a natural part of life.

4.1.2 The Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council: Cultural Facilities Action Plan (2008-2013) and Cultural Strategy (2012-2017) identify arts and cultural facilities within the Borough. These documents provide a definition of cultural facilities which include the following facilities;

- Allotments and community gardens
- Burial Grounds
- Community Facilities- inc. village halls and community centres
- Libraries
- Museums
- Outdoor and indoor sport facilities
- Parks and Open spaces- inc. equipped play areas
- Tourism

4.1.3 The term cultural facility is considered a wider umbrella term which includes tourism facilities as indicated through the Cultural Facilities Strategy definition with the two terms used interchangeably.

4.1.4 Tourism is considered to provide jobs, be a catalyst for growth, diversify local economies, support communities and help maintain and improve national assets. The importance of tourism to the borough is enshrined through the Core Strategy which identifies strategic tourism areas, tourism support areas, recreational and tourism assets which are in turn supported by Policy 23: Tourism Development.

4.1.5 The Core Strategy references major visitor attractions as Recreational and Tourism Assets which include;

- Twycross Zoo
- Bosworth Battlefield
- Mallory Park

## **4.2 Visitor Attractions**

4.2.1 Major visitor attractions provide a focus for tourism provision in the borough, support local jobs, raise the profile of the borough, and increase economic activity, particularly within the borough's rural area. These facilities also provide educational services and often preserve and broaden understanding of the history and cultural past of local people. Therefore major visitor attractions and other important visitor attractions to the tourism provision of the area have been included within the definition of cultural and tourism facilities and will reflect and build upon those identified in the Core Strategy.

4.2.2 Where visitor attractions are identified as an area of open space within the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011) and this is the primary use for this area, then the open space designation takes precedence. However if a Visitor Centre or other related structure stands on such a site this facility will be designated a Cultural and Tourism Facility.

## **4.3 Holiday Accommodation**

4.3.1 Core Strategy Policy 23 also references encouraging bed and breakfast accommodation, holiday lodges and tenting fields in suitable locations. Whilst referenced, these facility types have not been identified on the strategic Core Strategy map. This review will maintain the approach of the Core Strategy and will not specifically allocate holiday accommodation but would still be considered under the provisions of Core Strategy Policy 23. This policy is considered to provide adequate support for these facility types without being unduly restrictive on operators and occupiers of such facilities, which may be the case through a land-use designation. As such holiday accommodation will not be included within this designation.

## **4.4 Strategic Hotels**

4.4.1 All hotels, guest houses and holiday accommodation are considered vital components to the cultural and tourism offer in the borough and in-turn support a wide range of other economic activities. However, identification of the full range of such facilities is impracticable, time-consuming and disproportionate, especially when such facilities are supported through Core Strategy Policy 23.

4.4.2 It is recognised however that there are large strategic hotels, defined as those with over 50 rooms, whose loss to other non-tourism uses would significantly reduce the hotel offering in the borough. A loss of such a site would be considered detrimental to the economic vitality of the borough.

4.4.3 As such hotels with 50 rooms or more are defined as Strategic Hotels and are included within the Cultural and Tourism Facility designation.

## **4.5 Museums & Theatres**

4.5.1 Museums are considered to contribute to the public's cultural experiences promote wider interest in local history and encourage community engagement in addition to adding to the cultural provision of the borough.

4.5.2 The Borough Council does not operate any museums or theatres however there are private and volunteer museums within the borough. These are considered important for the diversity of cultural provision and are included within the cultural and tourism designation.

4.5.3 The borough has one theatre which provides the focus for performance art, holding regular drama, opera, pantomime and musical performances. In addition the facility can provide experience of back stage work, management, production and direction, light and sound. The unique contribution the theatre brings to the population of the borough justifies its inclusion as a cultural and tourism facility.

4.5.4 Areas of open space and recreational facilities including allotments, community gardens, burial grounds, outdoor and indoor sport facilities already form part of the Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011). These facilities are identified and assessed as part of the above review and will be covered under an open space, sport and recreational facilities policy within the Development Management Policies DPD. To avoid duplication of policy, sporting, leisure and open space facilities identified in the above study are not included within the definition of cultural and tourism facilities.

4.5.5 Village halls, community centres and libraries are identified as important community facilities and will be designated under the community facility category. Therefore these facilities are not included within the definition of cultural and tourism facilities.

4.5.6 In summary, this review will identify all facilities which fall within the Cultural and Tourism facility categories identified below:

- Museums & Theatres
- Strategic Hotels
- Visitor Attractions, including:
  - Zoos
  - Historic attractions
  - Racing circuits
  - Boating areas
  - Visitor Centres

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## **Chapter 5**

### **Community, Cultural and Tourism Facility Methodology**

#### **5.1 Settlement Hierarchy**

5.1.1 Community, Cultural and Tourism Facilities have been identified and assessed through a desk-top review and site surveys.

5.1.2 Each settlement has been reviewed in relation to its Core Strategy classification under one of the following headings:

- The Urban Area
- Key Rural Settlements in the National Forest
- Key Rural Settlements relating to Leicester
- Key Rural Settlements Stand Alone
- Rural Villages
- Rural Hamlets

5.1.3 In addition very small settlements within the borough which are not classified in the Core Strategy have also been assessed to ensure the full breadth of available facilities is identified. These fall under the heading Rural Hamlets without a settlement boundary.

#### **5.2 Identification of Community Facilities**

5.2.1 This review has established that community facilities should fall within the following categories to be designated as such;

- A community, village or parish hall or church hall (where applicable)
- Places of Worship (in the rural area only)
- Public Houses (in the rural area only)
- Educational facilities including;
  - Primary Schools including Infants and Juniors
  - Lower and Upper Schools
  - Secondary Schools
  - Grammar Schools
  - Fee paying schools
  - Training facilities
  - Colleges
- Healthcare Facilities including;
  - Hospitals
  - Health/medical Centres/Doctors Surgeries
  - Libraries

5.2.2 These facilities have been drawn from the following;

- Borough Council strategies and plans
- Consultation responses from Borough and Parish Councillors
- The Local Plan (2001)
- Websites including:
  - Leicestershire County Council
  - Parish Councils
  - The Rural Communities website
- Local Land and Property Gazetteer

5.2.3 In addition to the above The Earl Shilton and Barwell Community Buildings Development Potential short list includes an Age Concern senior citizens centre, a social institute and two Methodist churches. These facility types do not conform to the methodology but the above study identifies them as particularly important community resources with potential for improvement. Due to this background evidence it is considered appropriate to include these facilities within the Review.

### **5.3 Identification of Tourism and Cultural Facilities**

5.3.1 This review has established that tourism and cultural facilities should fall within the following categories to be designated as such:

- Museums & Theatres
- Strategic Hotels
- Visitor Attractions, including:
  - Zoos
  - Historic attractions
  - Racing circuits
  - Boating areas
  - Visitor Centres

5.3.2 These facilities have been drawn from the following;

- Borough Council strategies and plans
- The Local Plan (2001)
- Websites including
  - Leicestershire County Council
  - Parish Councils
  - The Rural Communities website
- Local Land and Property Gazetteer

### **5.4 Determining Boundaries**

5.4.1 It is essential to ensure that community, tourism and cultural facilities are consistently and accurately reflected in terms of their boundaries and ancillary areas prior to their designation within the final version of the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD.



- 5.4.2 This review has undertaken the following to ensure identified facilities are accurately recorded;
- Examination of boundaries and built form as identified in the Local Plan (2001) and the Preferred Options Site Allocations DPD
  - Examination of aerial photography
  - Boundaries defined by the Local Land and Property Gazetteer
- 5.4.3 These reference points will be drawn upon to determine the most accurate and up-to-date boundary for community facilities which will in turn, wherever possible, be checked on-site.
- 5.4.4 To ensure consistency in the determination of boundaries and what is to be included within the facility designation the following will be adhered to:
- Playing fields have been excluded where they are identified as open space in the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011)
  - Ancillary areas such as car parks, outbuildings and playgrounds have been included.

## 5.5 Identifying Catchments

- 5.5.1 The Spatial Vision of the Core Strategy aims to ensure rural communities have access to a range of community facilities and seeks to enhance and improve the sustainability of the borough's rural areas. In addition the NPPF requires planning authorities to deliver sufficient community facilities to meet local needs, in addition to the overarching theme of sustainability.
- 5.5.2 In response, identified community facilities have been prescribed a catchment area depending on their classification. This aims to provide a light-touch assessment of the distribution and accessibility of community facilities and indicate any potential deficiencies.
- 5.5.3 Barton et Al (2003) *Shaping Neighbourhoods: A guide for health, sustainability and vitality* defines benchmarks in relation to walking distances as:
- Sites within 400 metres are within a 5 minute walking distance
  - Sites within 800 metres are within a 10 minute walking distance
  - Sites over 800 metres indicate the potential requirement for the private car or public transport.

- 5.5.4 This document also highlights that the average walking distance is 1km but identifies a reasonable accessible distance to health centres as within 1000 metres and a secondary school as within 1500 metres. These benchmarks have provided a basis for determining the catchment areas for the facility classification. Details on accessibility such as access to public transportation will also be considered when examining access to services and sustainability.
- 5.5.5 The prescribed catchment areas for the classifications identified above are as follows;
- 800 metres
- Community, Village, Parish Halls and church halls (where applicable)
  - Places of Worship
  - Public Houses
  - Primary Schools
  - Libraries
- 1000 metres
- Health/Medical Centres/Doctor Surgeries
- 1500 metres
- Secondary Schools
  - Grammar Schools
  - Fee Paying Schools
  - Hospitals
  - Training Facilities
  - Colleges
- 5.5.6 The catchment areas are illustrated on the individual settlement maps (appendix 6a-g) and the borough wide map (appendix 7). These have been drawn as a radius from the approximate centre of the facility.
- 5.5.7 Catchment areas have not been identified for cultural and tourism facilities because they are considered to pull visitors from areas further afield than the borough. Therefore a catchment area could not reasonably be established which reflects sustainable walking and or accessible distances.
- 5.5.8 Catchment areas illustrated in this review are not reflective of healthcare or school catchment areas prescribed by local health or education authorities or individual schools. They are instead a guide to the accessibility of local community facilities, illustrating where there maybe a shortfall of facilities and provide a basic understanding of the potential sustainability of each settlement in the borough, and the borough as a whole.

## **5.6 Accessibility**

- 5.6.1 The accessibility of identified facilities has been drawn upon to provide an additional indicator of sustainability and to identify if the facility is accessible to all members of the community.
- 5.6.2 Three accessibility indicators have been identified through the desktop review and site visits:
- Available bus services
  - Provision of disabled accesses
  - Parking provision
- 5.6.3 Information on bus services has been drawn from the Leicestershire County Council website- [http://www.leics.gov.uk/transport\\_downloads](http://www.leics.gov.uk/transport_downloads). Bus routes which serve a rural settlement have been identified for each facility as these routes are within a short walking distance of most properties within the settlements and from the identified facility. In the urban area the closest bus routes to the facility have been identified as serving the facility.
- 5.6.4 The desktop review and site visits identified whether the facility has disabled access.
- 5.6.5 Site surveys examined parking provision for each facility with clarification provided through the desktop reviews and aerial photography where applicable. Parking provision which delineates specific parking spaces has been identified as marked spaces on the proformas. These spaces have been counted on site where possible but are still considered approximate due to a potential margin of human error.

## **5.7 Population**

- 5.7.1 Population figures presented in this report are derived from Leicestershire Small Population and Household Estimates 2001-2004. This was published in October 2006 and produced by the Research & Information Team at Leicestershire County Council.
- 5.7.2 The figures are presented by parish for the rural area and by Lower Super Output area for the urban area.
- 5.7.3 The presented population figures are based upon the 2001 census data which has then formed the basis for the 2004 estimates. It is appreciated that these figures are 11 years out of date however the 2011 census population results have not been released for parishes or super lower output areas at the time of writing this report.

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## Chapter 6

### Consultation

#### **6.1 The Consultation Process**

6.1.1 The Borough Council conducted a Call for Sites consultation for the submission of community facility suggestions across the Borough between October 2011 and December 2011. This was later extended until February 2012.

6.1.2 A consultation letter and proforma was sent to all Borough Councillors and Parish Councils. A copy of this letter can be found in appendix 1. This consultation generated responses from eleven parishes with a total of 38 facilities put forward as potential community designations. A summary of these responses can be found in appendix 3.

6.1.3 Table 2 below breaks down the suggested facilities into the facility type.

<b>Facility type</b>	<b>Number suggested</b>
Community, Village or Parish Halls	9
Places of worship	11
Primary or Secondary Schools	3
Areas of open space & sporting and recreational facilities	11
Retirement homes	4

6.1.4 These consultation results will feed into this review. Areas of open space and sporting and recreational facilities will not be included as community facilities as these are already identified through the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011) and duplication is considered neither necessary nor appropriate.

6.1.5 In addition suggested places of worship in the urban area and retirement homes have not been included within this assessment as they do not conform to the methodology established through this review.

6.1.6 Additional information received from the Cultural Services Team at the borough council identified an additional community facility in Hinckley. The Hinckley Wharf, off Wharf Yard, adjacent to Coventry Road is a body of water upon which community water based activities are held. Hinckley Sea Cadets utilises this facility for related activities. Information received from the Cultural Services Team highlights that the site is soon to be placed within a collection of community trustees. The Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011) does not identify this site and does not assign it an open space typology. Therefore it is considered appropriate to designate this site

as a community facility with the widest catchment of 1500 metres due to its unique service provision in the town.

6.1.7 Informal consultation has also been undertaken with the Hinckley & Bosworth Tourism Partnership to ensure consistency between the facilities promoted by this organisation and those presented through this review. Discussions with the Tourism Partnership resulted in additional detail on identified facilities and the inclusion of strategic hotels as cultural and tourism facilities.

6.1.8 This report has been to the following borough council meetings for endorsement and review:

- Corporate Operations Board on 29 October 2012
- Cross Party Liaison Group on 14 December 2012
- Executive Briefing on 29 November 2012
- Executive on 9 January 2013

## **Chapter 7**

### **Results**

#### **7.1 Urban Area**

7.1.1 The urban area is defined by the adopted Core Strategy as the following settlements;

- Hinckley
- Burbage
- Barwell
- Earl Shilton

7.1.2 These settlements are considered to have the greatest number, variety and access to services and facilities and public transport which makes these settlements the most sustainable in the Borough.

#### **7.2 Hinckley**

7.2.1 Hinckley is the largest settlement in the borough with a population estimate of 38,620 people within 16,216 households. The number and variety of identified community facilities reflects this larger population. Hinckley is also the most sustainable settlement in the borough with a train station and a number of bus routes to destinations such as Coventry, Nuneaton, Leicester and villages throughout the borough.

7.2.3 Table 3 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Hinckley.

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Library	1
Community Centres	6
Hospital	2
Secondary School	3
Health/Medical Centres	6
Church Centres	4
Primary Schools	5
Infant/Junior Schools	1/1
Lower/Upper Schools	1/1
Colleges	2
Training Facilities	1
Special Education Schools	2

7.2.4 Full details of all identified facilities in Hinckley are available in appendix 6a.

7.2.5 In addition to those listed above, a daycentre and specialised youth club were identified. The daycentre provides a range of activities using the centres facilities and is open to those with physical or learning disabilities under the age of 65 years. The Green Towers Hinckley Club for Young People has also been identified as a community facility because it provides a broad range of activities for youngsters. The facility was acknowledged in the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011) but was not formally identified as an open space typology because the facility was not built when this study's site visits were undertaken. It is therefore considered appropriate to ensure this facility is safeguarded from development through a community facility policy in the Development Management Policies.

7.2.6 Hinckley also has four church centres which double as community hubs providing a range of activities which are non-religiously affiliated such as Slimming World, Weight Watchers, scouts and mums and tots groups. Most of which also provide room hire for general community congregation. The Hope Community Church Centre has the largest range of activities for the community at ten recorded activities at this venue.

7.2.7 Hinckley has two dedicated college facilities which include the recent establishment of a new training facility, namely The Midlands Studio College on London Road. John Cleveland College provides sixth form education in addition to its secondary provision. In addition Hinckley benefits from the lower and upper schools of Dorothy Goodman, which provides specialised education for those with learning difficulties.

Hinckley also benefits from two hospitals and a concentration of health centres and pharmacies around Hill Street and Mount Road. Hinckley does not benefit from an accident and emergency department at either hospital.

## **7.2.8 Catchment Areas**

7.2.8.1 The majority of residents in Hinckley are within walking distance of a congregational community facility and a school providing primary education. The exception to this is properties on the north eastern tip, east of Ashby Road and the south western tip, around the Waterside Estate.

## **7.2.9 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.2.9.1 Hinckley has five identified cultural and tourism facilities;

- Hinckley & District Museum
- Concordia Theatre
- The Atkins Building
- Trinity Marina
- The Premier Inn



7.2.9.2 These facilities provide for a range of interests from arts and performance through art exhibitions in The Atkins Buildings and drama groups at Concordia Theatre. In addition Hinckley & District Museum provides a source of local history for a different type of tourism activity. Trinity Marina provides a mooring station for boats and ancillary services including boat hire providing a focus for this type of leisure activity in the south of the borough. Hinckley has one strategic hotel within its boundaries which provides affordable accommodation for visitors. In addition it stands adjacent the Ashby Canal and Hinckley Marina and is considered to add to and support this tourism resource.

### 7.3 Burbage

7.3.1 Burbage is the second largest settlement in the borough with a population of 14,650 people within 6,302 households. Burbage stands to the south of Hinckley within a reasonable distance from Hinckley Train Station. Burbage is also serviced by a number of bus routes to Hinckley, Leicester, Market Harborough, Lutterworth and villages in-between.

7.3.2 Table 4 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Burbage

Facility Type	Number
Library	1
Community Centres	3
High School	1
Health/Medical Centres	2
Primary Schools	1
Infant/Junior Schools	1/1
Church Centres	4

7.3.3 Burbage has three dedicated community centres with Millennium Hall providing the widest range of activities for the community amounting to a total of 15 activities. These include yoga, playgroup, line dancing and fitness and diet classes.

7.3.4 Burbage has three schools which serve children of primary education age (4/5-10/11 years) and a high school which serves children between the ages 11-14 years. Therefore Burbage does not currently provide an educational establishment for children's education at GCSE and A Level.

7.3.5 Full details of all identified facilities in Burbage are available in appendix 6a.

### **7.3.6 Catchment Areas**

- 7.3.6.1 All residents of Burbage stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility, although residents to the west of Rugby Road do not stand within the catchment of a community centre and Sketchley Hill Primary School provides these residents with a congregational community facility.
- 7.3.6.2 The southern portion of the settlement stands within walking distance of schools providing primary education however there seems to be a deficiency in primary school provision, in relation to accessibility, to the north of the settlement. No primary school catchment in Burbage spans further north than Holt Road and Foresters Road and no catchment in Hinckley spans south past Brookside Road. The catchments of Westfield Junior and Infant Schools in Hinckley encompass the site currently being developed at Sketchley, and are likely to serve the residents of that development.
- 7.3.6.3 The catchment of Hastings High School covers the majority of residential properties in the settlement with the exception of those properties to the west of Rugby Road. It must be noted that this educational facility does not provide for the full secondary school age range but the Midland Studio College in Hinckley does partly plug this gap with its catchment including properties to the north of Burbage.
- 7.3.6.4 The majority of Burbage residents stand within walking distance of a medical facility with the exception of properties on the south western tip, approximately south of Newstead Avenue. Residents to the north of Burbage are within walking distance of both The Burbage Surgery and Station View Health Centre in Hinckley and in some cases Hinckley Health Centre as well.
- 7.3.6.5 It should be noted that there are a cluster of community facilities situated around the central core of the old village of Burbage which includes the library.

### **7.3.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

- 7.3.7.1 Burbage has two cultural and tourism facilities;
- Sketchley Grange Hotel and Spa
  - Hinckley Island Hotel
- 7.3.7.2 Both of the cultural and tourism facilities identified in Burbage stand on the settlement's peripheries, close to the main transport corridors of the A5 and M69, making them easily accessible by car.
- 7.3.7.3 Both Sketchley Grange Hotel and Spa and Hinckley Island Hotel provide two restaurants, conference suites, Christmas events and provide general entertainment.

## 7.4 Barwell

- 7.4.1 Barwell is a conjoined settlement with Earl Shilton and stands to the north east of Hinckley. Barwell is a village with a population estimate of 8,760 people within 3,636 households. Barwell is served by at least two bus routes providing destinations to Leicester, Hinckley, Nuneaton, Earl Shilton and Coventry at regular intervals.
- 7.4.2 A Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) is currently being planned for Barwell under planning application reference 12/00295/OUT. This SUE will provide an additional 2500 homes, a local centre, open space and sports provision along with community facilities. The SUE is anticipated to be fully built out by 2026 however subsequent Community, Cultural and Tourism Facility Reviews will review community facility provision throughout this construction phase.
- 7.4.3 Table 5 provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Barwell but full details are available in appendix 6a.

Facility Type	Number
Library	1
Community Centres/Village Hall	4
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	1
Infant/Junior Schools	1/1
Church Centres	2

- 7.4.4 Full details of all identified facilities in Barwell are available in appendix 6a.
- 7.4.5 Barwell is serviced by three community centres and one village hall which provide a range of activities including dog training, gardening club and slimmer's club in addition to room hire. The George Ward Centre has a dual function of both a community centre and a library and is a reasonably recent addition to the community provision for the residents of Barwell. The George Ward Centre also has a café, ample parking and room hire.
- 7.4.6 Barwell has three schools which serve children of primary education age (4/5-10/11 years) but has no education provision for children beyond primary education.

## **7.4.7 Catchment Areas**

7.4.7.1 All residents of Barwell are within walking distance of a congregational community facility such as one of the community centres or village hall. The majority of Barwell residents are also within walking distance of a school providing primary education. Barwell Newlands Primary School stands to the north east of the settlement and as such its catchment also covers a portion of Earl Shilton.

7.4.7.2 The majority of Barwell residents stand within the catchment of Barwell Medical Centre with the exception of the northern tip of the settlement encompassing properties around Elwell Avenue, Bardon Road and Bradgate Road. These properties also fall outside the catchment for Heath Lane Medical Centre in Earl Shilton. It must also be noted that residents of Barwell all fall within the catchment of Sunnyside Hospital in Hinckley.

7.4.7.3 No secondary school stands within Barwell however the majority of residents fall within the catchment of William Bradford College and Heathfield High School in Earl Shilton. The exception is properties on the south western tip of the settlement which includes properties around St Mary's Avenue, Waterfall Way and Mill Street.

## **7.4.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.4.8.1 Barwell has no identified cultural and tourism facilities.

## **7.5 Earl Shilton**

7.5.1 Earl Shilton is a conjoined settlement with Barwell and stands to the north east of Hinckley and east of Barwell. Earl Shilton is a town with a population estimate of 9,250 within 3,857 households. Earl Shilton is served by at least two bus routes providing destinations to Leicester, Hinckley, Nuneaton, Barwell and Coventry at regular intervals.

7.5.2 A Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) is currently being planned for Earl Shilton but an application has not yet been submitted. This SUE will provide an additional 1600 homes, a local centre, open space and sports provision along with community facilities. The SUE is anticipated to be fully built out by 2026 however subsequent Community, Cultural and Tourism Facility Reviews will review community facility provision throughout this construction phase.

7.5.3 Table 6 provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Earl Shilton;

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Library	1
Community Centres/Village Hall	2
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	3
Secondary School	2
Church Centres	1
Parish Hall	1

7.5.4 Full details of all identified facilities in Earl Shilton are available in appendix 6a.

7.5.5 In addition to those listed above the Earl Shilton Social Institute has been identified. Whilst this facility does not fit neatly in with other identified facilities it is considered to provide wider community benefits. The Social Institute provides meetings rooms, exercise classes, tae kwon do and a toddler group. Due to this range of services the facility has been included.

7.5.6 Earl Shilton has three primary schools and two secondary schools. However one of the secondary schools is a high school and therefore provides education for children between the ages of 11-14 years. William Bradford Community College plugs this gap through the provision of education at GCSE and A Levels.

7.5.7 Earl Shilton Community House has been particularly identified as providing a wide variety of activities with a total of 17 services/activities including alcohol support, a credit union, pregnancy testing and condom distribution, radio and nursery group.

## **7.5.8 Catchment Areas**

7.5.8.1 All residents of Earl Shilton are within walking distance of a primary school with properties on the south western corner of the settlement standing within the catchment of Barwell Newlands Primary School. The majority of residents stand within the catchment of a secondary school with the exception of properties on the north eastern corner of the settlement including properties around Church Street, Mill Lane and Alexander Avenue. This area of Earl Shilton also stands outside the catchment of the medical centre however the majority of residents are within a reasonable walking distance of the Heath Lane Medical Centre.

7.5.8.2 It is noted that there is a cluster of facilities focused at the centre of Earl Shilton around the junction between Station Road, Wood Street and The Hollow.

## **7.5.9 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.5.9.1 Earl Shilton has no identified cultural and tourism facilities.

## **7.6 Key Rural Centres Relating to Leicester**

7.6.1 The Key Rural Centres relating to Leicester are defined by the adopted Core Strategy as the following settlements:

- Desford
- Groby
- Ratby
- Markfield

7.6.2 Key Rural Centres relating to Leicester are settlements located on the edge of the Leicester Principal Urban Area. The Core Strategy stipulates the focus for these settlements is maintaining existing services and improving linkages between these villages and Leicester. The proximity of these settlements to Leicester increases their general levels of sustainability.

## **7.7 Desford**

7.7.1 Desford is a village situated to the west of Leicester and toward the north eastern section of the borough. Desford has a regular 30 minute bus service on route 153 serving Leicester, Braunstone, Market Bosworth and other rural villages.

7.7.2 Desford stands in the Parish of Desford with a population estimate of 3,900 and 1,557 households.

7.7.3 Table 7 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Desford

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Library	1
Community Centres/Village Hall	1
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	1
Secondary School	1
Church Centres	1
Places of Worship	1

7.7.4 Full details of all identified facilities in Desford are available in appendix 6b.

7.7.5 Desford has one primary school and one secondary school. The secondary school provides education for ages 14-18 years, as such Desford has a gap in provision for the educational needs of children between the ages of 11-14.

7.7.6 Desford village hall provides the widest variety of activities whilst Desford library provides a particularly wide range of activities. Desford village hall has nine identified activities including bingo, youth club, arts and crafts fair and polling station. Desford library provides a range of facilities, primarily relating to information provision. These facilities include exhibition space, study space, access to courses and classes, reference books and tourist information.

### **7.7.7 Catchment Areas**

7.7.7.1 All residents of Desford are within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the future residents of the approved residential application on Hunts Lane under reference 11/00029/OUT.

7.7.7.2 In addition the catchments for the Bosworth Community College and the medical centre cover all properties within the settlement.

### **7.7.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.7.8.1 Desford has one identified cultural and tourism facility which is Tropical Bird Land which includes a bird aviary, tea room and ice cream parlour.

## **7.8 Groby**

7.8.1 Groby is a Key Rural Centre situated to the west of Leicester and toward to the north eastern section of the borough. Groby has a regular bus service on routes 26, 27, 28, 29, 29a serving Leicester, Groby and Ratby in addition to Bagworth, Thornton and Markfield.

7.8.2 Groby stands within Groby Parish with a population estimate of 7,330 and 2,957 households.

7.8.3 Table 8 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Groby.

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Library	1
Community Centres/Village Hall	2
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	3
Secondary School	2
Places of Worship	1

7.8.4 Full details of all identified facilities in Groby are available in appendix 6b.

7.8.5 Groby has three primary schools and two secondary schools. One of these secondary schools is Brookvale High School serving pupils between the ages of 11-14 and the other is Groby Community Language College serving pupils between the ages of 14-19 covering GCSE's and A Levels. These two secondary schools stand in close proximity to one another and work closely with each other. Therefore Groby provides educational provision for the full age range in the village.

7.8.6 Groby Village Hall offers the widest variety of activities and facilities in the village with a total of 24 activities and two halls and two meeting rooms with the addition of a tea and coffee bar. Activities include the Women's Institute, play group, keep fit classes, Weight Watchers and after school club.

### **7.8.7 Catchment Areas**

7.8.7.1 Nearly all residents of Groby are within walking distance of congregational community facilities and within the 1000 metre catchment for healthcare. The exception relates to properties to the furthest eastern extent of the settlement around the junction of the A50 and A46.

7.8.7.2 The two secondary schools cover the entire secondary school age range and the catchment for these facilities spans across the majority of Groby, again with the exception of the eastern most limit. In addition the catchment also covers the majority of Ratby with the exception of properties on Park Road and the bottom of Taverner Drive.

### **7.8.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.8.8.1 Groby has no identified cultural and tourism facilities.



## **7.9 Ratby**

7.9.1 Ratby is a Key Rural Centre situated to the west of Leicester and toward to the north eastern section of the borough, in close proximity to Groby. Ratby has a regular bus service on routes 26, 27, serving Leicester, Groby and Ratby.

7.9.2 Ratby stands within the parish of Ratby with a population estimate of 4,030 people within 1,693 households.

7.9.3 Table 9 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Ratby

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Library	1
Community Centres/Village Hall	1
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	1
Church Centre	1
Places of Worship	3

7.9.4 Full details of all identified facilities in Ratby are available in appendix 6b.

7.9.5 Ratby has one primary school and no secondary school however youngsters of secondary age within the village are within close proximity of Groby's High School and College.

7.9.6 Ratby Church Rooms provide the greatest number of community facilities in the village with a total of ten activities including beavers and scouts, slimming world, coffee mornings and a youth group. Ratby Village Hall and Old Peoples Welfare Hall provides some educational based activities including craft and art classes, further education and computer courses.

### **7.9.7 Catchment Areas**

7.9.7.1 All residents of Ratby reside within walking distance of congregational community facilities. The majority of residents of the village stand within the catchment of a healthcare facility with the exception of properties on the north western limit including The Poplars, Bevington Close, Ash Close and Charnwood.

7.9.7.2 The catchment of the two secondary schools in Groby covers the majority of properties in Ratby with the exception of properties on Park Road and the bottom of Taverner Drive.

## **7.9.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.9.8.1 Ratby has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.10 Markfield**

7.10.1 Markfield is a Key Rural Centre situated to the north west of Leicester and at the north of the borough. Markfield has a regular bus service on route 29, serving Leicester, Groby Coalville and County Hall. This route also has an hourly Sunday service until late evening.

7.10.2 Markfield stands within the Parish of Markfield with a population estimate of 4,400 people within 1,947 households.

7.10.3 Table 10 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Markfield

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Library	1
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	1
Secondary School	1
Places of Worship	3

7.10.4 Full details of all identified facilities in Markfield are available in appendix 6b.

7.10.5 Markfield has one primary school and one secondary school. The secondary school provides education for pupils between the ages of 10-14 years. Therefore Markfield does not provide the full range of educational needs for its younger resident population as it does not provide for the education of pupils between 14-18 years.

7.10.6 In addition to the above, Markfield Conference Centre has also been included as a community facility as it is considered to fall within the educational typology. This facility provides a focus for Islamic learning in addition to providing wider conference facilities.

7.10.6 Markfield's community facilities do not demonstrate a wide range of community activities as demonstrated in other nearby settlements.

7.10.7 Markfield Community Sports Centre has not been identified as a community facility within this review as it has already been identified for a open space land-use designation through the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011).

## **7.10.8 Catchment Areas**

- 7.10.8.1 The majority of Markfield residents stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility with the exception of properties on the eastern most limit of the settlement. These properties include those on Jacqueline Road and Charnwood Drive. However all residents of Markfield fall within the catchment of the healthcare facility.
- 7.10.8.2 In addition the small settlement Billa Bara to the North West of Markfield has one congregational community facility.
- 7.10.8.3 South Charnwood High School is Markfield's closest secondary school however its 1500 metre catchment only encompasses the southern periphery of the settlement. This combined with the school's rural, isolated location results in the facility not being as accessible as other similar facilities in the borough.
- 7.10.8.4 Markfield also has the additional facility of the Markfield Conference Centre which encompasses the majority of the settlement and is in reasonable close proximity to the M1.

## **7.10.9 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

- 7.10.9.1 Markfield has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.11 Key Rural Centres within the National Forest**

- 7.11.1 The Key Rural Centres within the National Forest are defined by the adopted Core Strategy as the following settlements;

- Bagworth
- Thornton

- 7.11.2 Key Rural Centres within the National Forest are former mining settlements within the National Forest. The Core Strategy stipulates the focus for these settlements is the provision of local services including primary care provision which will serve their populations and those of the surrounding rural hamlets.

## **7.12 Bagworth**

- 7.12.1 Bagworth is a Key Rural Centre situated to the north west of Leicester and to the north of the borough. Bagworth has an hourly bus service on route 26, serving Leicester, Groby, Ratby and Thornton. This route doesn't have a Sunday service.

- 7.12.2 Bagworth stands in the Parish of Bagworth which has a population estimate of 2,230 with a total of 903 households.

7.12.3 Bagworth only has two identified community facilities which are the Bagworth Community Centre and Sure Start Centre and Cross Hills Baptist Church. The community centre provides space for the Parish Council offices and also provides room hire. The facility hosts Zumba classes, play group and exercise classes for the over 50's. The Baptist church stands some distance from the central core of Bagworth.

7.12.4 Whilst places of worship are included within the definition of community facilities for Key Rural Centres, Bagworth's Holy Rood Church has not been included. This is due to considerations of the demolition and replacement of the 1960's built church with a memorial garden. It is therefore considered that a restrictive designation could be a hindrance to any potential redevelopment of the site.

7.12.5 Full details of all identified facilities in Bagworth are available in appendix 6c.

### **7.12.6 Catchment Areas**

7.12.6.1 Bagworth falls outside the catchment of a primary school, secondary school, a public house and healthcare facilities.

7.12.6.2 Bagworth has a community centre and a place of worship which stands on the periphery of the village on Thornton Lane. The residents to the north of the village fall outside the catchment for these facilities and are not covered by the catchment of any community facilities.

### **7.12.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.12.7.1 Bagworth has no identified Cultural or Tourism Facilities.

## **7.13 Thornton**

7.13.1 Thornton is a Key Rural Centre situated to the north west of Leicester and to the north of the borough and in close proximity to Bagworth. Thornton has an hourly bus service on route 26, serving Leicester, Groby, Ratby and Thornton. This route doesn't have a Sunday service.

7.13.2 Thornton stands in the Parish of Bagworth which has a population estimate of 2,230 with a total of 903 households.

7.13.3 Thornton has three identified community facilities which are:

- Thornton Community Centre; and
- Thornton Primary School
- St Peter's Church

7.13.4 Thornton Community Centre provides the focus for community activity in the village with a range of activities including a youth club, polling station, brownies and kick boxing. The facility has 120 capacity main hall and 80 capacity secondary hall, a stage and kitchen. In addition the facility has room hire and a premise license.

7.13.5 Full details of all identified facilities in Thornton are available in appendix 6c.

### **7.13.6 Catchment Areas**

7.13.6.1 All of the residents of Thornton stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility which includes the church, primary school and community centre.

7.13.6.2 Thornton does not fall within the catchment of a healthcare facility or secondary school.

### **7.13.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.13.7.1 Thornton Reservoir has a small visitor centre on its banks. It is recognised that Thornton Reservoir provides a recreational resource which attracts significant numbers of visitors. However the reservoir itself is a natural and semi natural open space as defined by the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Study (July 2011) and will be designated as such and protected with an open space policy. Therefore only the built facility which is the visitor centre will be designated a Cultural and Tourism Facility.

## **7.14 Key Rural Centres Stand Alone**

7.14.1 The Key Rural Centres Stand Alone are defined by the adopted Core Strategy as the following settlements;

- Barlestone
- Market Bosworth
- Newbold Verdon
- Stoke Golding

7.14.2 Key Rural Centres Stand Alone is those settlements which stand outside of the National Forest and away from the edge of Leicester. The Core Strategy defines the focus for these settlements as improving existing tourism attractions to encourage more weekend visits and consolidating and improving existing services within the villages and maintaining the strong sense of individual settlement identity.

## **7.15 Barlestone**

7.15.1 Barlestone is a Key Rural Centre situated to the central north of the borough. Barlestone has an hourly bus service on route 153, serving

Market Bosworth, Desford, Leicester Forest East, Braunstone and Leicester. This route doesn't have a Sunday service. In addition route 159 serves the village on an hourly basis providing travel to Hinckley, Market Bosworth and Coalville.

7.15.2 Barlestone stands in the Parish of Barlestone which has a population estimate of 2,460 with a total of 987 households.

7.15.3 Table 11 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Barlestone

Facility Type	Number
Community Centres/Village Hall	3
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	1
Places of Worship	3

7.15.4 Barlestone provides primary education only through Barlestone Church of England Primary School. The primary school serves as the community focus for the village as it also includes Barlestone Community Centre. The community centre hosts a range of activities including play group, parish council meetings, judo, rainbows and brownies and mother and baby clinic. In addition the facility has two meeting rooms for hire and main hall with a capacity of 160.

7.15.5 The village provides doctors facilities however this facility closes at the weekends and on Friday afternoons.

7.15.6 Barlestone has three places of worship, all of different denominations which include the recently established Elohim Church.

7.15.7 Full details of all identified facilities in Barlestone are available in appendix 6d.

**7.15.8 Catchments**

7.15.8.1 Barlestone is well served by community facilities with the facility catchments illustrating that all residents with the exception of a small number on Newbold Road are within walking distance of congregational community facilities and healthcare.

7.15.8.2 Barlestone does not stand within the catchment of a secondary school which means secondary education therefore must be accessed via the car or public transport.

**7.15.9 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.15.9.1 Barlestone has no identified Cultural or Tourism Facilities.

## **7.16 Market Bosworth**

7.16.1 Market Bosworth is a historic market town situated centrally within the borough. Market Bosworth is the largest settlement outside the Urban Area. Bus route 159 serves Market Bosworth on an hourly basis providing travel to Hinckley, Coalville and rural settlements in between. In addition route 153 provides between a 30 min and hourly service to Leicester, Desford, Newbold Verdon and Barlestone. There is also an additional service to Hugglescote via Nailstone.

7.16.2 Market Bosworth stands in the parish of Market Bosworth with a population estimate of 1,880 people within 820 households.

7.16.3 Table 12 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Market Bosworth.

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Library	1
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	1
Secondary School	2
Places of Worship	3
Community Centre/Village Hall	1

7.16.4 Market Bosworth has one primary school and two secondary schools. These secondary schools comprise of Market Bosworth High which provides education to pupils between the ages of 11-14 years and The Dixie Grammar School which provides education to pupils between the ages of 10-18 years. The Dixie Grammar School is a selective independent school. Whilst the grammar school is independent it still provides facilities for community use such as room hire.

7.16.5 The Market Bosworth Parish Hall serves as the towns community focus with a series of activities including aerobics, judo, brownies, the Women's Institute and play group. This facility has a meeting hall, stage, kitchen and toilet facilities and room hire.

7.16.6 Full details of all identified facilities in Market Bosworth are available in appendix 6d.

## **7.16.7 Catchment Areas**

7.16.7.1 Market Bosworth is well served by community facilities with all residents within walking distance of a community facility providing congregational space. St Peter's Primary School is the only primary school in the settlement and this stands within walking distance of residents in the west. Residents on the east of the settlement around

Cedar Drive, Chestnut Close, Sycamore Way and The Park stand just outside this 800 metre catchment.

7.16.7.2 Residents on the Pipistrelle Estate and residents who will occupy the recently approved Sedgemere Development will stand just outside the 1000 metre catchment for healthcare facilities. The catchment for the Grammar School and High School covers the entire settlement.

## **7.16.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.16.8.1 Market Bosworth has the following three cultural and tourism facilities;

- The Forge
- Market Bosworth Water Trust
- Bosworth Hall Hotel

7.16.8.2 The Forge is a small museum of old working tools with working forge demonstrations and local history. This facility is usually only open during special events. Market Bosworth Water Trust provides a boating lake, café and bar, 12 hole golf course, adventure playground, boat hire and corporate events. Bosworth Hall Hotel provides a fine dining restaurant, cocktail bar and indoor swimming pool.

7.16.8.3 In addition the recently approved application for 57 dwellings on the site known as Sedgemere under reference 12/00597/FUL includes the conversion of an existing engine shed to a visitor centre. This visitor centre stands in close proximity to the Battlefield Railway Line and the centre will reinforce the tourism provision of the area. This facility can not be identified as a cultural and tourism facility through this review because the development has not been constructed at the time of writing this report.

7.16.8.4 The Battlefield Railway Line runs along the western edge of the settlement which is regarded as a cultural and tourism facility however Market Bosworth does not currently have an active passenger/leisure railway station to board the steam trains utilising this leisure line.

## **7.17 Newbold Verdon**

7.17.1 Newbold Verdon is a Key Rural Centre situated centrally within the borough to the east of the A447. Bus Route 159 serves Newbold Verdon on an hourly basis providing travel to Hinckley, Coalville, Market Bosworth and rural settlements in-between. In addition route 153 provides between a 30 min and hourly service to Leicester, Desford, Market Bosworth and Barlestone. Newbold Verdon has no Sunday bus service.

7.17.2 Newbold Verdon stands in the Parish of Newbold Verdon with a population estimate of 3,180 people within 1,292 households.



7.17.3 Table 13 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Newbold Verdon

Facility Type	Number
Library	1
Church Centre	1
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	1
Places of Worship	3
Community Centre/Village Hall	1

7.17.4 Newbold Verdon has one primary school and no secondary education, requiring resident children to travel outside of the village for secondary education. The primary school also serves as the village's community centre.

7.17.5 Newbold Verdon's community activities are spread across the facilities including the library, community centre, St James Church Hall and The Methodist Church however no activities were identified for the Baptist Church. Together these facilities provide a range of activities including fitness classes, play group, dog training, Rainbows/Guides and The Women's Institute.

7.17.6 Full details of all identified facilities in Newbold Verdon are available in appendix 6d.

### 7.17.7 Catchments

7.17.7.1 All residents of Newbold Verdon are within walking distance of congregational community facilities including the approved Dragon Lane development under reference 11/00489/FUL. The exception is a handful of properties on the edge of the ribbon development spanning along Desford Road to the east.

7.17.7.2 The majority of residents are within the catchment of healthcare facilities with the exception of the handful of properties on the eastern periphery of the village of Desford Road and around the southern limit of Arnolds Crescent.

### 7.17.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities

7.17.8.1 Newbold Verdon has no identified Cultural or Tourism Facilities.

## 7.18 Stoke Golding

7.18.1 Stoke Golding is Key Rural Centre which stands in close proximity to Hinckley. Stoke Golding's proximity to the urban area provides the potential for residents to utilise the services of the urban settlements.

Stoke Golding has one hourly bus service under route 86 which travels to Nuneaton, Stoke Golding and Hinckley. Stoke Golding has no Sunday service.

7.18.2 Stoke Golding stands within the parish of Stoke Golding with a population estimate of 1,700 people within 698 households.

7.18.3 Table 14 below provides a summary of the community facilities identified in Stoke Golding:

Facility Type	Number
Health/Medical Centres	1
Primary Schools	1
Places of Worship	3
Community Centre/Village Hall	2
Secondary School	1

7.18.4 Stoke Golding has one primary school and one secondary school which serves pupils between the ages of 11-14. Therefore Stoke Golding does not provide the educational needs for the full age range of its younger residents requiring travel after the age of 14.

7.18.5 Stoke Golding Village Hall is the community focus for the village with activities including dance class, parish council meetings, youth club, play group and scout group. In addition this facility provides room hire and has a stage and kitchen.

7.18.6 Full details of all identified facilities in Stoke Golding are available in appendix 6d.

**7.18.7 Catchments Areas**

7.18.7.1 All residents of Stoke Golding are within walking distance of congregational community facilities including the approved residential development on the old St Martins Convent site. In addition nearly all residents are within the catchment of healthcare facilities and the secondary school with the exception of properties to the west of the Ashby Canal.

**7.18.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.18.8.1 Stoke Golding has one identified cultural and tourism facility. This is the Ashby Canal Centre also known as Willow Park Marina. The area provides a marina, moorings, a workshop, chandlery and painting tent. The centre stands on the Ashby Canal.

## **7.19 Rural Villages**

7.19.1 The Rural Villages are defined by the adopted Core Strategy as the following settlements;

- Congerstone
- Higham on the Hill
- Stanton under Bardon
- Sheepy Magna
- Nailstone
- Twycross
- Witherley

7.19.2 Rural villages are villages with more limited services than Key Rural Centres. The Core Strategy identifies that a primary school, community and/or leisure facilities and bus services are essential to these settlements. It also notes that a public house is desirable but not essential.

7.19.3 The Core Strategy identifies that these settlements will be the focus of limited development to ensure existing services are supported, which is considered necessary to ensure community cohesion is maintained.

7.19.3 Due to the limited service provision within these settlements both public houses and places of worship have been identified as community facilities.

## **7.20 Congerstone**

7.20.1 Congerstone is a rural village situated centrally within the borough. Congerstone is served by route 7 which provides a 2 hourly bus service to Nuneaton and Ashby-de-la-Zouch and rural settlements in between. There is no evening or Sunday service to Congerstone.

7.20.2 Congerstone stands within the Parish of Shackerstone with a population estimate of 820 people within 327 households.

7.20.3 Congerstone has four identified community facilities:

- Congerstone Primary School
- The Horse & Jockey Public House, and
- St Mary the Virgin Church
- Congerstone Village Hall

7.20.4 Congerstone is not particularly well served by community activities with only Playmates identified at the primary school and Tiddles Dance & Drama at the village hall. The school, public house and village hall provide a congregational space for villagers but there is potential for the diversification of these facilities along with the church to provide a

broader range of community based activities to increase the sustainability of Congerstone.

7.20.5 Full details of all identified facilities in Congerstone are available in appendix 6e.

#### **7.20.6 Catchment Areas**

7.20.6.1 All of the residents of Congerstone stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility with the school standing to the north, public house to the south and the church located centrally.

7.20.6.2 In addition the adjacent hamlet of Bilstone also stands within walking distance of the facilities in Congerstone.

#### **7.20.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.20.7.1 Congerstone has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

#### **7.21 Higham on the Hill**

7.21.1 Higham on the Hill is a rural village situated towards the western limit of the borough close to the A5 and approximately 3 miles north west of Hinckley. Higham on the Hill is served by bus route 86 which provides an hourly service to Hinckley, Stoke Golding and Nuneaton. This service does not operate on Sundays or in the evenings.

7.21.2 Higham on the Hill stands within the parish of Higham on the Hill with a population estimate of 860 people within 306 households.

7.21.3 Higham on the Hill has five identified community facilities:

- Higham on the Hill Primary School;
- Oddfellows Arms Public House;
- Higham on the Hill Methodist Church;
- St Peters Church, and
- The Fox Inn.

7.21.4 Higham on the Hill Primary School doubles up as a community centre and this combined with its central location within the village provides Higham's community focus. This facility provides a youth club, a place for parish council meetings and parents and tots groups. In addition room hire is provided.

7.21.5 The settlement has two places of worship with the Methodist church providing a lace and craft group. The settlement also has two relatively large public houses.

7.21.6 Full details of all identified facilities in Higham on the Hill are available in appendix 6e.

## **7.21.7 Catchment Areas**

7.21.7.1 All of the residents of Higham on the Hill are within walking distance of congregation community facilities including a primary school. The catchments for nearby healthcare facilities and secondary schools do not cover Higham on the Hill. These facilities must be accessed via the car or public transport.

## **7.21.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.21.7.1 Higham on the Hill has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.22 Stanton under Bardon**

7.22.1 Stanton under Bardon is a rural village situated in the north east of the borough in close proximity to Markfield. This settlement is approximately 3 miles from Leicester City Centre. Stanton under Bardon is served by route 120 which provides a two hourly service to Leicester, Newton Linford, Markfield and Coalville.

7.22.2 Stanton under Bardon stands within the parish of Stanton under Bardon with a population estimate of 630 people within 268 households.

7.22.3 Stanton under Bardon has five identified community facilities:

- Stanton under Bardon Village Hall;
- Stanton under Bardon Community Primary School;
- Old Thatched Inn Public House;
- The Christian Fellowship Hall, and
- St Mary & All Saints Church.

7.22.4 Stanton under Bardon Village Hall doubles as a community centre and youth club and as such serves as the village's community focus. This facility provides activities which include community I.T, playgroup, parish council meetings and an OAP welcome club. The facility also provides room hire, toilets and kitchen. This settlement has only one public house.

7.22.5 A new community centre has recently been approved for Stanton under Bardon under reference 11/00988/OUT. This facility can not however be identified as a community facility through this review because the development has not been constructed at the time of writing this report. This development will be monitored through subsequent reviews.

7.22.6 Full details of all identified facilities in Stanton under Bardon are available in appendix 6e.

## **7.22.7 Catchment Areas**

- 7.22.7.1 All residents of Stanton under Bardon stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the primary school. The settlement doesn't stand within the catchment of any healthcare facilities therefore a car or public transport is required to access these facilities.
- 7.22.7.2 South Charnwood High School catchment covers the majority of residents of Stanton under Bardon with the exception of properties on the northern tip of the settlement.

## **7.22.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

- 7.22.8.1 Stanton under Bardon has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.23 Sheepy Magna**

- 7.23.1 Sheepy Magna is a rural village situated to the west of the borough in close proximity to the rural hamlet of Sheepy Parva. Sheepy is served by route 7 which provides a 2 hourly bus service to Nuneaton and Ashby-de-la-Zouch and rural settlements in between. There is no evening or Sunday service to Sheepy Magna.

- 7.23.2 Sheepy Magna stands within the parish of Sheepy with a population estimate of 1,200 people and 476 households.

- 7.23.3 Sheepy Magna has four identified community facilities:

- The Black Horse Public House
- Sheepy Magna Memorial Hall
- All Saints Church
- Sheepy Magna Church of England Primary School

- 7.23.4 Sheepy Memorial Hall provides a wide range of activities providing the community focus for the village. Activities at Sheepy Memorial Hall include local history exhibitions, parish council meetings, yoga, dog training and blood donation clinic. In addition the facility provides room hire and has performing rights. Very little information could be obtained from the other identified facilities.

## **7.23.5 Catchment Areas**

- 7.23.5.1 All residents of Sheepy Magna and Sheepy Parva stand within walking distance of congregational community facilities including the primary school. Sheepy Memorial Hall provides the widest range of activities to the community but the catchment for this facility does not encompass Sheepy Parva.

7.23.5.2 Neither of these settlements stands within the catchment of healthcare facilities or a secondary school. Therefore a car or public transport is required to access these facilities.

### **7.23.6 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.23.6.1 Sheepy Magna has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

### **7.24 Nailstone**

7.24.1 Nailstone is a former coal mining settlement situated to the central north of the borough, standing in close proximity to the Key Rural Centre of Barlestone. Bus route 159 serves Nailstone on an hourly basis providing travel to Hinckley, Coalville, Market Bosworth and rural settlements in-between. In addition route 153 provides between a 30 min to an hourly service to Leicester, Desford, Market Bosworth and Barlestone. Nailstone has no Sunday bus service.

7.24.2 Nailstone stands in the parish of Nailstone with a population estimate of 530 people within 210 households.

7.24.3 Nailstone has four identified community facilities:

- Dove Bank Primary School;
- The Nut and Squirrel Public House;
- The Bulls Head Public House, and
- All Saints Church.

7.24.4 Nailstone has no dedicated community facility whose sole purpose is to fulfil the community needs of local residents. In addition site visits and the desktop review have not identified a variety of community activities other than the quiz night at the Nut and Squirrel Public House.

7.24.5 Full details of all identified facilities in Nailstone are available in appendix 6e.

### **7.24.6 Catchment Areas**

7.24.6.1 All residents of Nailstone stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the primary school.

7.24.6.2 The settlement is not covered under the catchments for any healthcare facilities or secondary schools. These facilities must be accessed via the car or public transport.

### **7.24.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.24.7.1 Nailstone has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.25 Twycross**

7.25.1 Twycross is a rural village situated to the north west of the borough with the A444 passing through its centre with Congerstone standing in close proximity. Twycross is serviced by bus route 7 which provides a 2 hourly bus service to Nuneaton and Ashby-de-la-Zouch and rural settlements in between. There is no evening or Sunday service to Twycross.

7.25.2 Twycross stands within the parish of Twycross with a population estimate of 790 people within 317 households.

7.25.3 Twycross has four identified community facilities:

- Twycross Village Hall
- The Curzon Arms Public House
- Twycross House School
- St James Church

7.25.4 Twycross Village Hall provides the widest range of activities serving as the community focus for the village. The Village Hall includes parish council meetings, bingo, Women's Institute, Terrier Club and Karate. The Curzon Arms provides more entertainment based facilities with a pool room and live music.

7.25.5 Twycross also has the independent fee-paying school Twycross House School which serves pupils from the ages of 8-18 years. There is a term based cost and entry is selective. Therefore this facility is not considered to provide education for the wider community but there is potential for the facilities and premises to be utilised.

7.25.6 Full details of all identified facilities in Twycross are available in appendix 6e.

### **7.25.7 Catchment Areas**

7.25.7.1 All residents of Twycross stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility however a non-fee-paying primary school does not serve the village and travel by car or public transport is required.

7.25.7.2 The village is served by a fee-paying secondary school which covers the entire settlement in addition to Little Twycross. However access to state secondary education must be accessed via the car or public transport.



## **7.25.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.25.8.1 Twycross has no identified cultural or tourism facilities but it does stand in close proximity to Twycross Zoo, whose address is in Norton Juxta Twycross.

## **7.26 Witherley**

7.26.1 Witherley is a rural village on the western periphery of the borough standing in close proximity to Atherstone which stands outside the borough and Fenny Drayton and stands adjacent to the A5.

7.26.2 Witherley is serviced by bus route 7 which provides a 2 hourly bus service to Nuneaton and Ashby-de-la-Zouch and rural settlements in between. There is no evening or Sunday service to Witherley.

7.26.3 Witherley stands within the parish of Witherley with a population estimate of 1,440 people within 606 households.

7.26.4 Witherley has five identified community facilities:

- Witherley Church of England Primary School
- Witherley Parish Rooms
- St Peter's Church
- The Blue Lion Public House, and
- The Bull Inn

7.26.5 Community activities are generally provided utilising a mixture of the identified community facilities. The church holds bazaars, coffee mornings and concerts whereas the parish rooms provides a venue for parish council meetings, yoga, art class, Zumba and general room hire. The public houses also provide accommodation, food and recycling banks.

7.26.6 Full details of all identified facilities in Witherley are available in appendix 6e.

## **7.26.7 Catchment Areas**

7.26.7.1 All residents stand within the catchment of a congregational community facility including the primary school.

7.26.7.2 A secondary school does not stand within the village however the village would fall within the catchment of the nearby Queen Elizabeth School & Sports College in the adjacent settlement of Atherstone. In addition healthcare facilities are available in Atherstone but these are unlikely to fall within the walking catchment for residents of Witherley.

## **7.26.8 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.26.8.1 Witherley has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.27 Rural Hamlets**

7.27.1 The Rural Hamlets are defined by the adopted Core Strategy as the following settlements:

- Barton in the Beans
- Botcheston
- Bradgate Hill
- Cadeby
- Carlton
- Dadlington
- Fenny Drayton
- Kirkby Mallory
- Norton Juxta Twycross
- Orton on the Hill
- Peckleton
- Ratcliffe Culey
- Shackerstone
- Sibson
- Stapleton
- Sutton Cheney

7.27.2 Rural Hamlets have limited if any services and generally rely on Key Rural Centres and surrounding urban areas for schooling, employment and the provision of goods and services. It is due to these limited services that the Core Strategy restricts their growth to infill housing and conversion of agricultural buildings to employment.

## **7.28 Barton in the Beans**

7.28.1 Barton in the Beans is a rural hamlet situated to the central north of the borough within the Shackerstone Parish. The nearest Key Rural Centres to Barton in the Beans are Barlestone and Market Bosworth. The closest bus service to the settlement is in Congerstone and Carlton.

7.28.2 Barton in the Beans stands within Shackerstone Parish with a population estimate of 820 people within 327 households.

7.28.3 This settlement has one identified community facility which is Barton in the Beans Baptist Chapel. The level of community activities provided in the chapel are limited but the facility does enable community congregation.

7.28.4 Full details of the identified facility in Barton in the Beans is available in appendix 6f.

## **7.28.5 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.28.5.1 The Baptist Chapel also doubles up as the Samuel Deacon Museum which opens on special event days such as Heritage open days. The facility has been designated as a community facility rather than a cultural and tourism facility as the chapel appears to be the predominate use.

## **7.28.6 Catchment Areas**

7.28.6.1 All residents stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility but healthcare and educational facilities do not cover the hamlet. Access to these services would involve the use of a car or public transport.

## **7.29 Botcheston**

7.29.1 Botcheston is a rural hamlet toward the north eastern periphery of the borough. The nearest Key Rural Centre to Botcheston is Desford. This settlement is served by an hourly bus service, serving Leicester, Groby, Ratby and Coalville, with no Sunday or evening service.

7.29.2 Botcheston stands within the parish of Desford with a population estimate of 3,900 people within 1,557 households.

7.29.3 Botcheston has two identified community facilities:

- Botcheston Village Hall, and
- The Greyhound Inn

7.29.4 The village hall is the community focus for the settlement with a range of activities such as keep fit classes, film nights, painting group, bonfire display and a village BBQ.

7.29.5 Full details of the identified facilities in Botcheston are available in appendix 6f.

## **7.29.6 Catchment Areas**

7.29.6.1 All residents of Botcheston stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility with the catchment of the village covering some properties in the village of Newtown Unthank.

7.29.6.2 The catchments of secondary or primary educational facilities and healthcare facilities do cover the village however these stand in reasonable proximity in the adjacent settlement of Desford.

## **7.29.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.29.7.1 Botcheston has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.30 Cadeby**

7.30.1 Cadeby is a rural hamlet situated centrally within the borough on the A447. Market Bosworth is the nearest Key Rural Centre to Cadeby. Cadeby benefits from a bus service every 30 minutes, serving Hinckley, Market Bosworth and Coalville.

7.30.2 Cadeby stands within Cadeby Parish which has a population estimate of 170 with 72 households.

7.30.3 Cadeby has one identified community facility which is its parish church, All Saints Church. Limited activities were identified for this facility but it does provide the hamlet with a congregational space.

7.30.4 Full details of the identified facility in Cadeby are available in appendix 6f.

### **7.30.5 Catchment Areas**

7.30.5.1 The church provides the only congregational community facility in the village and the facility stands within walking distance of all residents of Cadeby.

### **7.30.6 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.30.6.1 Cadeby has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.31 Carlton**

7.31.1 Carlton is a rural hamlet also situated centrally within the borough, north of Market Bosworth. Market Bosworth is Carlton's nearest Key Rural Centre. Carlton benefits from an hourly bus service, serving Leicester, Desford, Barlestone and Market Bosworth but there is no Sunday service.

7.31.2 Carlton stands in the Parish of Carlton which has a population estimate of 290 with 112 households.

7.31.3 Carlton has two identified community facilities:

- St Andrews Church of England Parish Church, and
- The Gate Hangs Well Public House.

7.31.4 Very few activities have been identified for these facilities, other than that live music is played at the public house. These spaces do however provide the community a focus for activity.

7.31.5 Full details of the identified facilities in Carlton are available in appendix 6f.

### **7.31.6 Catchment Areas**

7.31.6.1 All residents of Carlton stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility with the public house standing to the east and the church situated roughly centrally.

7.31.6.2 The village stands outside the catchments for healthcare and educational facilities however these are provided a short distance in the adjacent settlement of Market Bosworth.

### **7.31.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.31.7.1 Carlton has no cultural or tourism facilities but does stand within proximity to The Forge and the Market Bosworth Water Trust in the adjacent settlement of Market Bosworth.

### **7.32 Dadlington**

7.32.1 Dadlington is a rural hamlet situated in the south west of the borough, just north of Stoke Golding within the parish of Sutton Cheney. Stoke Golding is Dadlington's nearest Key Rural Centre. Dadlington benefits from an hourly bus service, serving Hinckley, Stoke Golding and Nuneaton.

7.32.2 Dadlington stands within the parish of Sutton Cheney with a population estimate of 540 people within 211 households.

7.32.3 Dadlington has three identified community facilities:

- Dadlington Village Hall
- The Dog and Hedgehog Public House
- St James Parish Church

7.32.4 The village hall is the community focus for the hamlet with a number of activities including parish council meetings, keep fit and art classes.

7.32.5 Full details of the identified facilities in Dadlington are available in appendix 6f.

### **7.32.6 Catchment Areas**

7.32.6.1 All residents of Dadlington stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility. The catchments for these facilities also encompass properties on the north eastern corner of Stoke Golding.

7.32.6.2 The nearest primary school to the settlement lies in Stoke Golding however the catchment only covers properties on the southern tip of Hinckley Road.

7.32.6.3 The southern section of Dadlington lies within the catchment of the healthcare facility in Stoke Golding whereas the northern section stands just outside.

7.32.6.4 Whilst the primary school and healthcare facilities do not fully cover Dadlington these are still considered to be within a reasonable walking distance.

7.32.6.5 The catchment of the secondary school in Stoke Golding covers the entire settlement of Dadlington however the school only serves pupils between the ages of 11-14. Therefore children above this age require transport by car or public transport to access educational services beyond the age of 14 years.

### **7.32.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.32.7.1 Dadlington has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

## **7.33 Fenny Drayton**

7.33.1 Fenny Drayton is a rural hamlet on the western most periphery of the borough adjacent to the A5. Fenny Drayton stands approximately 2.6 miles from the urban area of Atherstone which stands outside of the borough. Fenny Drayton benefits from a two hourly bus service, serving Ashby de la Zouch, Atherstone and Nuneaton, but this does not operate on Sundays.

7.33.2 Fenny Drayton stands within the parish of Witherley with a population estimate of 1,440 people within 606 households.

7.33.3 Fenny Drayton has one identified community facility which is St Michaels & All Angels Church of England Parish Church. This facility provides Zumba, community coffee mornings and an annual flower festival.

7.33.4 Full details on the identified facility in Fenny Drayton are available in appendix 6f.

### **7.33.5 Catchment Areas**

7.33.5.1 The church in Fenny Drayton provides access to a congregational community facility for all residents as the catchment covers the entire settlement.

7.33.5.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport.

### **7.33.6 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.33.6.1 Fenny Drayton has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

### **7.34 Kirkby Mallory**

7.34.1 Kirkby Mallory is situated approximately 2.6 miles north west of Earl Shilton which serves as the hamlet's nearest urban area for services and facilities. Kirkby Mallory stands within the parish of Peckleton. This hamlet does not benefit from a bus service, the nearest service is located in Stapleton.

7.34.2 Kirkby Mallory stands within the parish of Peckleton with a population estimate of 1,070 people within 426 households.

7.34.3 Kirkby Mallory has two identified community facilities:

- Kirkby Mallory Village Hall, and
- All Saints Church

7.34.4 Few community activities were identified for these facilities other than boys and girls brigade and pre-school nursery in the village hall.

7.34.5 Full details of the identified facilities in Kirkby Mallory are available in appendix 6f.

### **7.34.6 Catchment Areas**

7.34.6.1 All residents of Kirkby Mallory stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the village hall.

7.34.6.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest of these facilities is located in the nearby settlement of Earl Shilton.

### **7.34.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.34.7.1 Kirkby Mallory has one identified cultural and tourism facility which is Mallory Park Racing Circuit which provides a range of motorsport based activities and events throughout the year.

### **7.35 Norton Juxta Twycross**

7.35.1 Norton Juxta Twycross is a rural hamlet to the north west of the borough, approximately 2.1 miles north of Twycross and approximately 5.4 miles south of the urban area of Measham. This hamlet benefits from a two hourly bus service, serving Ashby de la Zouch, Atherstone and Nuneaton, but has no Sunday service.

7.35.2 Norton Juxta Twycross stands within the parish of Twycross with a population estimate of 790 people within 317 households.

- 7.35.2 Norton Juxta Twycross has two identified community facilities:
- Norton Juxta Twycross Village Hall, and
  - The Holy Trinity Church
- 7.35.3 The village hall provides the community focus for the hamlet and provides a range of activities including keep fit, gaming night, parish council meetings, stage productions and also provides room hire facilities.
- 7.35.4 Full details of the identified facilities in Norton Juxta Twycross are available in appendix 6f.
- 7.35.5 Catchment Areas**
- 7.35.5.1 All residents of Norton Juxta Twycross are within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the village hall. The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or any healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest concentration of these facilities is located in the nearby settlement of Measham.
- 7.35.6 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**
- 7.35.6.1 Norton Juxta Twycross also has one identified cultural and tourism facility which is Twycross Zoo. The Zoo has an international reputation and is stacked with facilities such as a souvenir shop, café, picnic areas, art gallery and conference facilities in addition to its thousands of varied animals to visit.
- 7.36 Orton on the Hill**
- 7.36.1 Orton on the Hill is a rural hamlet toward the north western corner of the borough, situated 3.4 miles from Polesworth which stands outside the borough. This hamlet does not benefit from a bus service; the nearest service is located in Twycross approximately 2.2 miles away.
- 7.36.2 Orton on the Hill stands within the parish of Twycross with a population estimate of 790 people within 317 households.
- 7.36.3 Orton on the Hill has two identified community facilities:
- The Unicorn Inn
  - St Edith's Church
- 7.36.4 Very little information on available activities has been retrieved for the identified community facilities other than the public house holds quiz nights. Whilst few activities are held at these facilities there is potential for diversification to provide additional services to the local community.



### **7.36.5 Catchment Areas**

7.36.5.1 All residents of Orton on the Hill stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the village hall.

7.36.5.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest concentration of these facilities is located in the nearby settlement of Polesworth.

### **7.36.6 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.36.6.1 Orton on the Hill has no identified cultural and tourism.

### **7.37 Peckleton**

7.37.1 Peckleton is a rural hamlet standing approximately 3.6 miles north of Earl Shilton. Peckleton has no bus service with the nearest services in Earl Shilton and Stapleton.

7.37.2 Peckleton stands within the parish of Peckleton with a population estimate of 1,070 people within 426 households.

7.37.3 Peckleton has two identified community facilities:

- Peckleton Village Hall
- St Mary Magdalene Church

7.37.4 Peckleton Village Hall is the community focus for the village with a variety of activities including Sewing Club, Kids Club, Italian Classes and Whist Drives.

7.37.5 Full details of the identified facilities in Peckleton are available in appendix 6f.

### **7.37.6 Catchment Areas**

7.37.6.1 All residents of Peckleton stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the village hall.

7.37.6.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest concentration of these facilities is located in the nearby settlement of Desford.

### **7.37.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.37.7.1 Peckleton has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

### **7.38 Ratcliffe Culey**

7.38.1 Ratcliffe Culey is a rural hamlet on the western most periphery of the settlement within the parish of Witherley. Atherstone is the hamlets closest significant settlement. The hamlet benefits from a two hourly bus service, serving Ashby de la Zouch, Atherstone and Nuneaton.

7.38.2 Ratcliffe Culey stands within the parish of Witherley with a population estimate of 1,440 people within 606 households.

7.38.3 Ratcliffe Culey has two identified community facilities:

- The Gate Inn
- All Saints Church

7.38.4 Very little information on available activities has been retrieved for the identified community facilities other than the coffee mornings at All Saints Church. Whilst few activities are held at these facilities there is potential for diversification to provide additional services to the local community.

7.38.5 Full details of the identified facilities in Ratcliffe Culey are available in appendix 6f.

### **7.38.6 Catchment Areas**

7.38.6.1 All residents of Ratcliffe Culey stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility however the public house and church are not considered dedicated congregational community facilities.

7.38.6.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest concentration of these facilities is located in the nearby settlement of Atherstone.

### **7.38.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.38.8 Ratcliffe Culey has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

### **7.39 Shackerstone**

7.39.1 Shackerstone is a rural hamlet situated in the central north of the borough in close proximity to Congerstone. Shackerstone has no bus service; the nearest bus service to the hamlet is in Congerstone, approximately 1.2 miles away.

7.39.2 Shackerstone stands within the parish of Shackerstone with a population estimate of 820 people within 327 households.

7.39.3 Shackerstone has three identified community facilities:

- Shackerstone Village Hall
- The Rising Sun Public House
- St Peter's Church

7.39.4 These facilities provide a limited amount of activities with the main focus provided in the village hall. The village hall hosts mother and toddler groups, parish council meetings, slimmer's club and relaxation classes.

7.39.5 Full details of the identified facilities in Shackerstone are available in appendix 6f.

### **7.39.6 Catchment Areas**

7.39.6.1 All residents of Shackerstone stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the village hall.

7.39.6.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest concentration of these facilities is located in the nearby settlement of Market Bosworth.

### **7.39.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.39.7.1 Shackerstone has one identified cultural and tourism facility which is the Battlefield Line Steam Railway at Shackerstone Station. This is a passenger station for the steam railway which runs between Shenton and Shackerstone. The facility provides a number of railway related activities including a steam gala weekend, train hire, model weekend, cab and coach rides and a rails and ales festival. The station also has a Victorian tea rooms, shop and museum.

## **7.40 Sibson**

7.40.1 Sibson is a rural hamlet situated on the A444 south of Twycross and within the parish of Sheepy. Sibson benefits from a two hourly bus service, serving Ashby de la Zouch, Atherstone and Nuneaton.

7.40.2 Sibson stands in the parish of Sheepy with a population estimate of 1,200 people within 476 households.

7.40.3 Sibson has three identified community facilities:

- The Cock Inn Public House
- Sibson Village Hall
- The Millers Bar and Hotel

7.40.4 Sibson Village Hall provides the community focus for the hamlet with a number of activities including play group, Zumba, scouts and ladies

group. Both bars also provide an informal place of congregation for the community. The Millers also provides overnight accommodation and 50 seat room hire.

#### **7.40.5 Catchment areas**

7.40.5.1 All residents of Sibson stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the village hall.

7.40.5.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest concentration of these facilities is located in the nearby settlement of Atherstone which stands outside of the borough.

#### **7.40.6 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.40.6.1 Sibson has no identified cultural or tourism facilities

#### **7.41 Stapleton**

7.41.1 Stapleton is a rural hamlet situated on the A447, north of Barwell. This hamlet benefits from a 30 minute bus service, serving Hinckley, Market Bosworth and Coalville.

7.41.2 Stapleton stands within the parish of Peckleton with a population estimate of 1,070 people within 426 households.

7.41.3 Stapleton has three identified community facilities:

- Stapleton Village Hall
- The Nags Head Public House
- St Martins Church

7.41.4 Stapleton Village Hall is the community focus for the hamlet with a number of activities hosted such as retired persons club, Tai Chi, keep fit and aerobics and upholstery class.

7.41.5 Full details of the identified facilities in Stapleton are available in appendix 6f.

#### **7.41.6 Catchment Areas**

7.41.6.1 All residents of Stapleton stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the village hall.

7.41.6.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest concentration of these facilities is located in the nearby settlements of Barwell, Earl Shilton and Hinckley.

### **7.41.7 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.41.7.1 Stapleton has no identified cultural or tourism facilities.

### **7.42 Sutton Cheney**

7.42.1 Sutton Cheney is a rural hamlet situated to the central south of the borough approximately equidistant of Dadlington and Cadeby. Sutton Cheney does not have a bus service with the nearest bus service running from Cadeby.

7.42.2 Sutton Cheney stands within the parish of Sutton Cheney with a population estimate of 540 people within 211 households.

7.42.3 Sutton Cheney has four identified community facilities:

- Sutton Cheney Village Hall
- The Royal Arms
- St John the Evangelist
- St James Church

7.42.4 Whilst four facilities have been identified, very few activities are available for the local community. However the public houses and village hall has room hire and provides a congregational space for the community.

### **7.42.5 Catchment Areas**

7.42.5.1 All residents of Sutton Cheney stand within walking distance of a congregational community facility including the village hall.

7.42.5.2 The settlement does not have a primary or secondary school or healthcare facilities and these must be accessed via the car or public transport. The nearest concentration of these facilities is located in the nearby settlement of Market Bosworth.

### **7.42.6 Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

7.42.6.1 Sutton Cheney has one identified cultural and tourism facilities:

- Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre and Country Park

7.42.6.2 The Bosworth Battlefield Centre and Country Park is a significant visitor attraction in the borough which is dedicated to the Battle of Bosworth or War of the Roses. This attraction provides a heritage trail, a heritage centre, gift shop, restaurant, battle re-enactments, guided walks and birds of prey exhibits.

## **7.43 Rural Hamlets without a settlement boundary**

7.43.1 In addition to rural hamlets identified through the Core Strategy, additional settlements have been examined which are considered rural hamlets but do not have a settlement boundary. These settlements are:

- Pinwall
- Sheepy Parva
- Wellsborough
- Shenton
- Little Orton
- Odstone
- Copt Oak
- Brascote
- Bilstone
- Osbaston

7.43.2 The settlements of Brascote, Copt Oak, Pinwall, Shenton, Wellsborough and Osbaston have identified community facilities.

7.43.3 Shenton is the only one of these settlements to have cultural and tourism facilities with the Battlefield Line Steam Railway Station which forms part of the Battlefield Railway Line and Whitemoors Antique Centre and Tea Rooms. The station itself also houses a tea rooms and glass blowing which adds to the tourism provision of the area.

7.43.4 Whitemoors Antiques and Crafts Centre Country Tea Rooms and Gardens is a rural attraction which provides visitors the opportunity to view and buy contemporary crafts, antiques, curios and fine art. In addition it provides visitors with landscaped gardens, a licensed tea rooms and valuation days.

7.43.5 Pinwall, Brascote, Copt Oak and Osbaston all have public houses however Copt Oak also has the advantage of a church and village hall, providing a number of congregational community facilities for such a small settlement.

7.43.6 It must be noted that the Gate Public House has been categorised as within Osbaston however the pub stands on the northern most limit of the parish and separated by some distance from the settlement of Osbaston.

7.43.7 Wellsborough is home to the Dixie Grammar Junior School.

7.43.7 Sheepy Parva, Odstone, Little Orton and Bilstone have no identified community or cultural and tourism facilities. As such these settlements do not appear in the appendix.

## **Chapter 8**

### **Summary of Findings**

#### **8.1 The Urban Area**

- 8.1.1 Hinckley has the widest range of community facilities and the greatest variety of activities of all the settlements in the borough. These include specialised youth club facilities, specialised day centres and a further education college which are not present anywhere else in the borough. Hinckley is also the most accessible settlement with a number of bus routes to surrounding villages, towns and cities in addition to a train station. Hinckley is therefore considered the most sustainable location for new development in the borough and the settlement with the greatest volume and range of community facilities.
- 8.1.2 Hinckley also has the greatest concentration of cultural and tourism facilities in the borough which include a museum, theatre, a strategic hotel and the multi-functional Atkins Building.
- 8.1.3 Burbage Millennium Hall provides a particularly wide range of activities for the local community with a total of 15 identified activities at this venue. Burbage has a lack of educational facilities for children aged over 14 years old and residents above this age must travel to the adjacent settlement of Hinckley for the nearest facility. However Burbage has good bus links to Hinckley and is potentially accessible via foot or bicycle which increases the sustainability of the settlement.
- 8.1.4 Barwell has three community centres and one village hall which is felt represent a good level of provision for a settlement of this size. Therefore the residents of Barwell are well serviced by congregational community facilities. Barwell has no secondary education provision and children between the ages of 11-14 and 14-18 must travel to the conjoined settlement of Earl Shilton. Links between these two settlements are considered good.
- 8.1.5 William Bradford College in Earl Shilton is one of only two secondary schools in the urban area providing education up to the ages of 18 years. Therefore Earl Shilton provides for the full educational needs of its younger residents. The Earl Shilton Community House provides a different variety of services than most community facilities in the urban area. Services include a credit union, pregnancy testing and a radio group with a total of 17 activities in total.
- 8.1.6 All four of the urban area settlements have healthcare facilities and their own libraries which can provide a range of services including internet access. Hinckley is the only settlement in borough with a hospital but there are no accident and emergency facilities in the borough. Both Hinckley and Burbage have cultural and tourism facilities but these are primarily focused within Hinckley.

## **8.2 Key Rural Centres Relating to Leicester**

- 8.2.1 Desford has a good spread of community facilities with one of each facility type including a library however the secondary school doesn't serve children between the ages of 11-14. These younger residents are required to travel further afield via the car or public transport. Desford is reasonably well connected in relation to bus services with services approximately every 30 minutes.
- 8.2.2 Desford is the only settlement which has a cultural or tourism facility out of the Key Rural Centres relating to Leicester, namely Tropical Bird Land.
- 8.2.3 Groby Village Hall provides the greatest level of activities for a single venue in the borough with a total of 24 activities identified.
- 8.2.4 The settlements of Groby and Ratby stand in close proximity to one another and both are fully served by healthcare facilities and all residents live within these catchments. The two secondary schools in Groby provide facilities for the full secondary age range with a catchment which encompasses the majority of residents in both Groby and Ratby.
- 8.2.5 These settlements, particularly Markfield, Groby and Ratby are well connected via transport networks and public transport to Leicester, increasing their sustainability and access to a wider range of services in this urban centre.
- 8.2.6 Markfield is considered to provide the least variety of community facilities and activities out of these settlement types. Whilst Markfield residents have access to a secondary school, this stands apart from the settlement and the catchment doesn't cover all residents. In addition the school only serves pupils up to the age of 14 years creating a requirement for pupils over this age to travel.
- 8.2.7 Markfield has the added provision of Markfield Conference Centre.

## **8.3 Key Rural Centres within the National Forest**

- 8.3.1 Bagworth is considered one of the least sustainable settlements in the borough under the Key Rural Centres classification with only two identified community facilities with one of these detached from the settlement core. In addition the settlement stands outside the catchment of all other community facilities including education and healthcare.
- 8.3.2 These results support the spatial strategy for Bagworth established in the Core Strategy in which housing allocations have been assigned to encourage additional service provision. In addition the Core Strategy seeks the provision of additional service provision through Policy 10.



8.3.3 Thornton residents all stand within walking distance of a community facility including the primary school however the settlement stands outside the catchment of all other community facilities including secondary education and healthcare.

8.3.4 The accessibility and sustainability of these two settlements is additionally strained by the hourly bus service which fails to provide a Sunday service.

#### **8.4 Key Rural Centres Stand Alone**

8.4.1 Barlestone has three places of worship, focused within the village centre which is one of the highest concentrations in the borough. These facilities combined with the primary school and village hall result in a significant number of congregational community facilities for the residents of Barlestone, all of which are within accessible walking distances.

8.4.2 All of the stand alone Key Rural Centres have healthcare facilities providing additional sustainability to these settlements, although some hours are restricted over the weekend, particularly in Barlestone. Improvements to GP facilities in these settlements are identified in Core Strategy Policy 11.

8.4.3 All of these settlements are served by at least an hourly bus service with connections to adjacent urban and rural areas. Market Bosworth in particular appears to form a bus interchange; this is probably due to its relative central geographical position within the borough.

8.4.4 Market Bosworth is considered the most sustainable and self-sustaining stand alone Key Rural Centre, in that most resident's day-to-day needs are fulfilled and it is well connected to the rest of the borough via public transport. The settlement has congregational community facilities, healthcare, educational facilities and a library; most within reasonable walking distance of residents.

8.4.5 Barlestone and Stoke Golding have no library but both are considered a short, but not necessarily walk-able distance from other service centres i.e. Market Bosworth and Hinckley.

8.4.6 Market Bosworth and Stoke Golding both have cultural and tourism facilities which add to the mix and provision for borough residents. Core Strategy Policy 23 seeks to support visitor attractions. The Forge in particular presents the opportunity for extended opening hours. In addition the potential permanent re-opening of the Market Bosworth Steam Railway Station for leisure passengers on the Battlefield Railway Line would significantly add to the visitor provision in both the settlement and the borough. This would also be complemented by the proposed visitor centre on the Sedgemere site.

## 8.5 Rural Villages

- 8.5.1 There are no identified cultural or tourist facilities in the rural villages.
- 8.5.2 The rural villages have more limited service provision than key rural centres with no rural village providing healthcare facilities or non-fee paying secondary education. All the rural villages with the exception of Twycross provide primary non-fee paying education for their residents. However Twycross is the home of Twycross House School which does provide fee-paying educational facilities for ages 8 to 18 years. This school is considered to draw pupils from further afield than the village and with only a two hourly bus service, the need to travel via private transport is considered to be increased, reducing the sustainability of the settlement.
- 8.5.3 Nailstone is the only rural village in the borough which lacks a dedicated community facility whose sole purpose is to undertake community activities and events. This is reflected in the low number of activities identified in the village. There are opportunities to further develop such services and facilities in the future with opportunities to diversify the community offering at village churches and public houses, perhaps in line with the examples presented in the 'Pub is the Hub' scheme.
- 8.5.4 Nailstone is however considered to be relatively well connected to other service centres such as Leicester with a 30 minute bus service provided between Nailstone and Leicester, although there is no Sunday service.
- 8.5.5 All residents of the rural villages reside within walking distance of a congregational community facility, providing the opportunity for community gatherings and events. Some villages such as Sheepy Magna, Congerstone and Twycross also provide facilities within walking distance of adjacent hamlets.
- 8.5.6 Witherley has the additional advantage of standing in close proximity and within a reasonable walking distance of the town of Atherstone which has a considerably larger array of facilities and services.

## 8.6 Rural Hamlets

- 8.6.1 The Core Strategy identifies that these settlement types have limited if any service provision. This is largely evidenced through the review findings with no rural hamlet providing healthcare facilities, primary or secondary education or a library.

- 8.6.2 The majority of the rural hamlets provide both a public house and a church with 9 out of the 16 rural hamlets providing a dedicated congregational community facility in the form of a village or community hall. The majority of settlements with a village/community hall demonstrate a wider range of activities for the local community.
- 8.6.3 This provides an indication that whilst diversification of the services that public houses and churches provide can improve community engagement, access to services and sustainability of the settlement, the village/community hall should be considered the foundation stone for local community congregation.
- 8.6.4 Eight of the sixteen identified cultural and tourism facilities stand within or adjacent to rural hamlets including all the major facilities identified in Core Strategy Policy 23. The rural location of these hamlets provides the required space for the land hungry nature of these facilities such as Twycross Zoo and Mallory Park.
- 8.6.5 The majority of the rural hamlets have a bus service ranging from 30 minutes to every two hours with only six having no bus service at all. Those hamlets with no public transport are considered particularly unsustainable and the development and/or retention of services are considered important for the community to meet its needs. This resonates with Core Strategy Policy 13 supporting initiatives to establish local stores and facilities and resisting the loss of local shops and facilities.
- 8.7 Rural Hamlets without a settlement boundary**
- 8.7.1 These settlements are not identified in the Core Strategy however they do provide community and cultural and tourism facilities for the local community and wider borough residents.
- 8.7.2 Copt Oak has three identified congregational community facilities which are considered a large number for such a small hamlet and one without a settlement boundary.
- 8.7.3 In general, settlements of these types most commonly have a public house with a church being the second most likely facility.
- 8.7.4 Out of the ten identified Rural Hamlets without a settlement boundary five have no identified community facilities or cultural and tourism facilities.
- 8.7.5 Only one of these settlements (Shenton) has a cultural and tourism facility.

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## **Chapter 9**

### **Concluding Points**

- 9.1 The Borough wide catchment map (appendix 7) illustrates the distribution of community facilities in the borough. The map highlights the concentration of community facilities in the southern tip of the borough, concentrated around the urban area. There is also a concentration on the north eastern side of the borough around Groby, Ratby and Markfield.
- 9.2 The majority of urban areas fall within the catchments of congregational community facilities however there are exceptions. The more modern and recently constructed residential estates, usually on the edge of settlements often fall outside the catchments of community facilities. The Waterside and Barwell Lane Estates in Hinckley are examples. This could note a need for new residential developments to have regard to the accessibility to community facilities and the provision of such facilities within the developments to serve the congregation and community needs of its intended residents.
- 9.3 The rest of the borough is predominantly rural and the rural area is characterised by dispersed facilities serving the community in rural villages. The pattern generally notes that the larger the settlement the greater number of facilities are located in that area and the greater variety of activities available to local residents. However the rural area notes a lack of medical facilities, particularly to the west of Market Bosworth. This highlights, combined with limited public transportation provision in the rural area, an increased dependency on the private car and limited sustainability of these rural western villages.
- 9.4 The review notes the location of cultural and tourism facilities with strategic hotels concentrated around the urban areas of Burbage and Hinckley. The rural area however provides the location for the majority of cultural and tourism facilities, with most falling within the tourism area defined by the Strategic GI Plan in the Core Strategy. The location and distribution of these facilities in the rural area of the borough where access via public transport is limited highlights the dependence of these facilities, some of which enjoy high levels of visitor numbers, on the private car.
- 9.5 Overall the review identifies that the rural area is generally well provided for in relation to congregational community spaces, however the variety of activities per rural hamlet and village is relatively low. Therefore the loss of such facilities should be avoided to maintain community cohesion and avoid eroding the community's ability to meet its day to day needs.

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## **Chapter 10**

### **Safeguarding Community, Cultural and Tourism Facilities**

- 10.1 This review is designed as an evidence base for the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) and the Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan.
- 10.2 The review has established a methodology for the determination of what facilities constitute community, cultural and tourism facilities and provides some basic information on these facilities including the determination of boundaries.
- 10.3 These boundaries will inform both of the above documents and be represented on the proposal map and settlement maps. These boundaries on the relevant maps illustrate the facilities to which a development management policy would apply.
- 10.4 A Development Management Policy provides the framework or requirements upon which a decision on a planning application will be determined. Currently, for community facilities this function is provided through Local Plan Policies:
- CF2A: Development on Allocated Educational Sites, and
  - CF2B: Alternative Uses of Existing Educational and Community Sites
  - Cultural and Tourism Facilities are provided for through Core Strategy Policy 23: Tourism Development.
- 10.5 Once the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD is formally adopted the above Local Plan policies will be replaced by the relevant policies in the new document. Core Strategy Policy 23 focuses on new tourism facility provision and as such this review and any new cultural and tourism policy will complement the provisions in Core Strategy Policy 23.
- 10.6 The emerging Safeguarding Community Facilities policy is the Development Management policy proposed to replace Local Plan policies CF2A and CF2B. It primarily seeks to safeguard those community facilities identified through this review and applied as community designations to the proposals map of the Site Allocations and Development Management policies DPD. A copy of this policy can be found in appendix 4.

- 10.7 Preserving the Borough's Cultural and Tourism Facilities is the Development Management policy proposed to complement Core Strategy Policy 23 in addition to safeguarding these facilities from change of use or redevelopment. This policy would be applied to those sites identified through this review and applied to the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD. A copy of this policy can be found in appendix 5.
- 10.8 **It must be noted that the attached policies have not gone through formal consultation and are subject to amendment through public consultation and consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees.**