

# Neighbourhood Plan update

2026 - 2031

## Neighbourhood Plan Review 2026

1<sup>st</sup> Plan was 'made' in May 2021. Plans have a lifetime of 5 years, after which they must be updated.

An updated Neighbourhood Plan ensures local planning policies remain legally relevant, captures updated community needs and environmental standards. It:

- strengthens local influence over development including a design code for new dwellings,
- protects local green spaces, and
- guarantees a higher share of infrastructure funding (CIL).

## Neighbourhood Plan Review 2026

### Key Achievements of an Updated Plan:

- **Relevance & Compliance:** Aligns with new national policies and the Local Planning Authority's updated Local Plan, ensuring it carries maximum weight in planning decisions.
- **Reflected Community Needs:** Addresses demographic shifts, changed infrastructure requirements, and modern design standards.
- **Enhanced Influence:** Provides a more robust, legally defensible framework for determining planning applications, protecting against unsuitable development.

Updates are crucial because old plans may not align with updated strategic policies, weakening their influence.

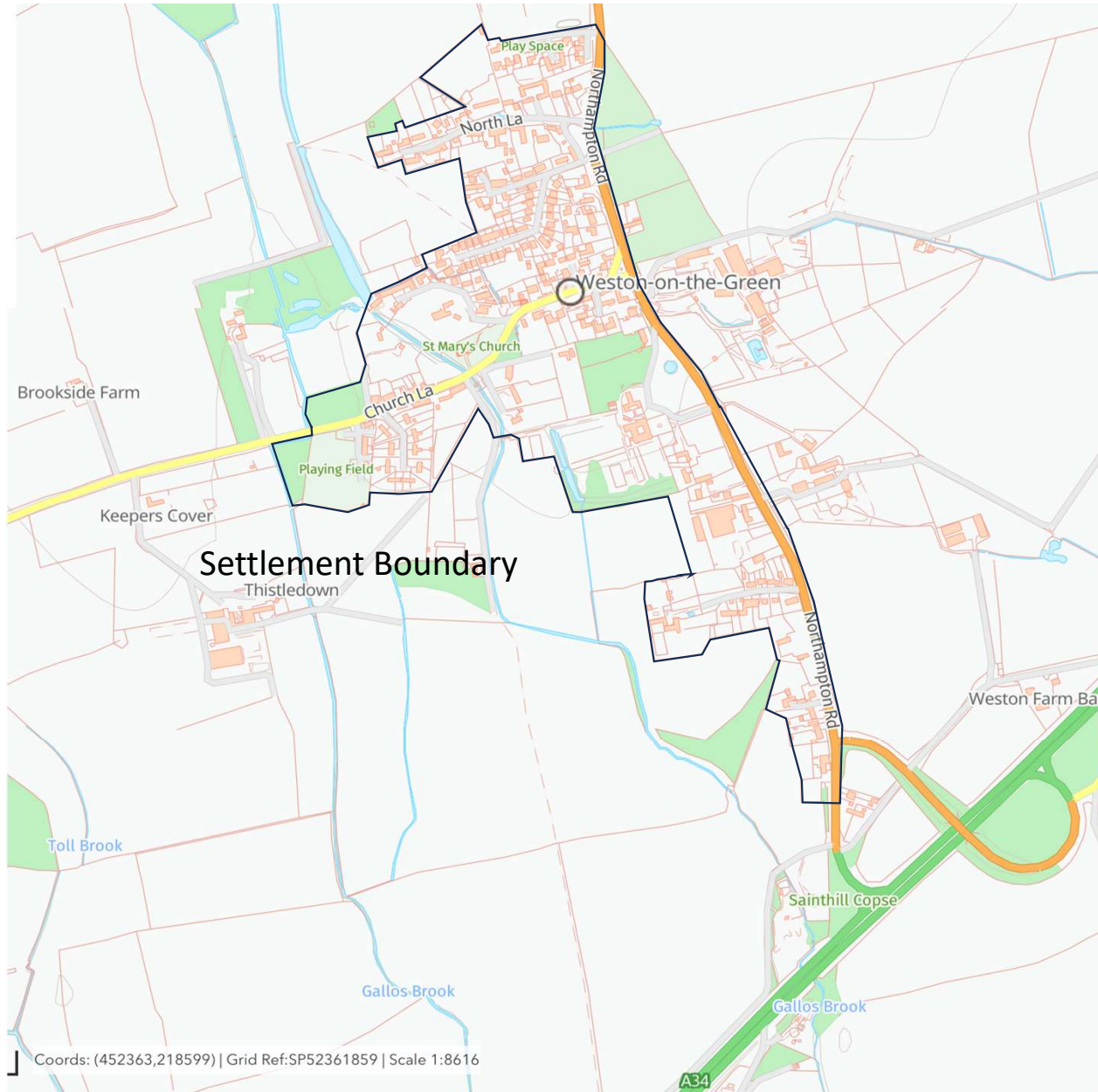
## Key considerations for the NP review:

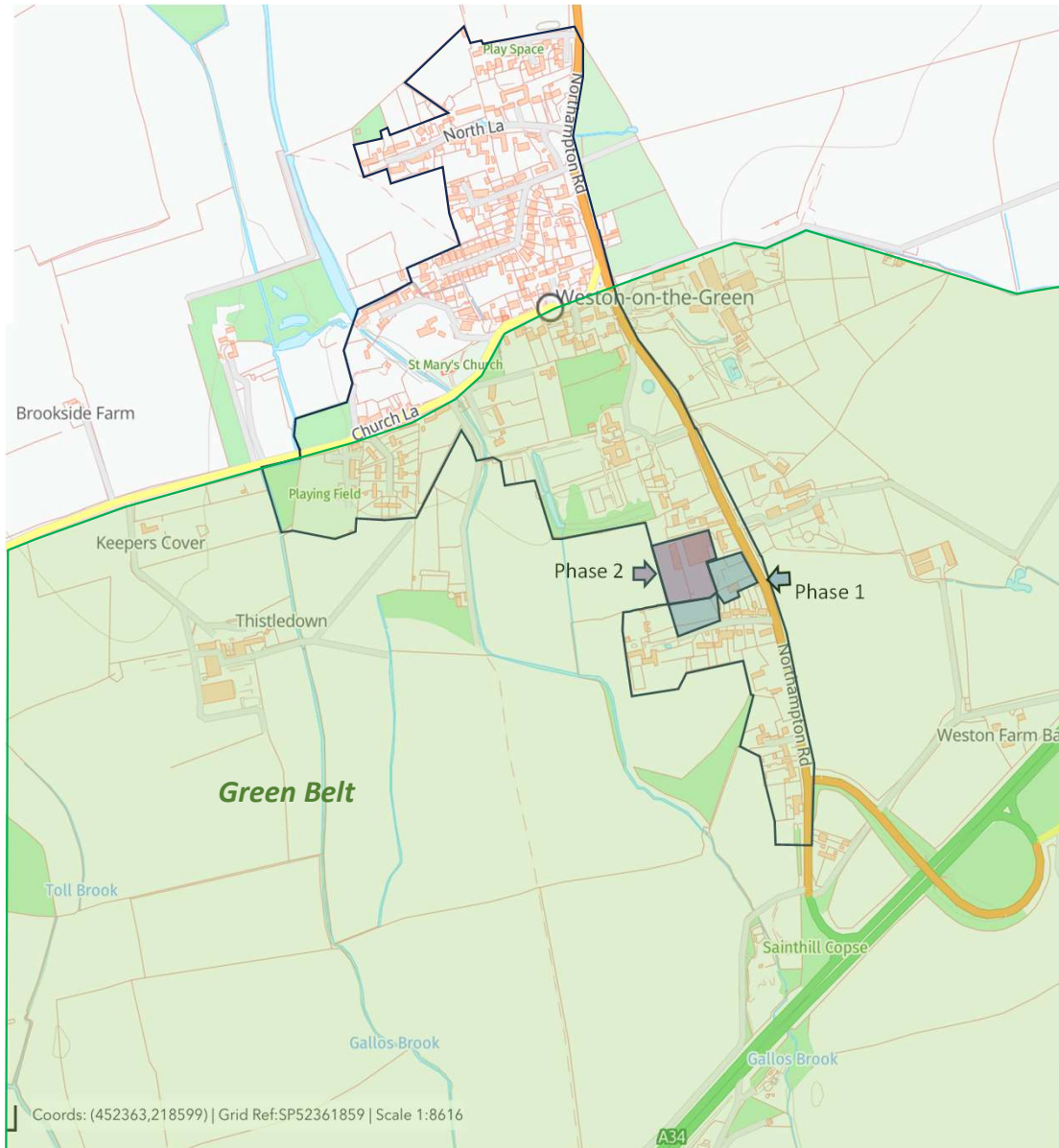
In a ONPA survey:

- only 50% of people surveyed thought NPs were effective
- Inconsistencies in the LPA taking note of NP policies
- Highest rated policies were healthy living places; green spaces; design guides
- Lowest rated – climate change policies

Technical considerations for our NP review:

1. The Cherwell Local Plan 2042 has not yet been adopted – public hearings led by government inspectors (can be accessed online) will be the final step before the adoption decision by the examiners.
2. Oxfordshire local authorities are planning a new structure, where previous District Councils will merge with others to create larger authorities. The new structure has not yet been decided, but Planning processes and Local Plan policies will be affected. NP policies may need to be changed to reflect this.
- 3. For the above reasons, we aim to avoid a NP referendum at this time.**





Proposed housing on Phase 1 sites:

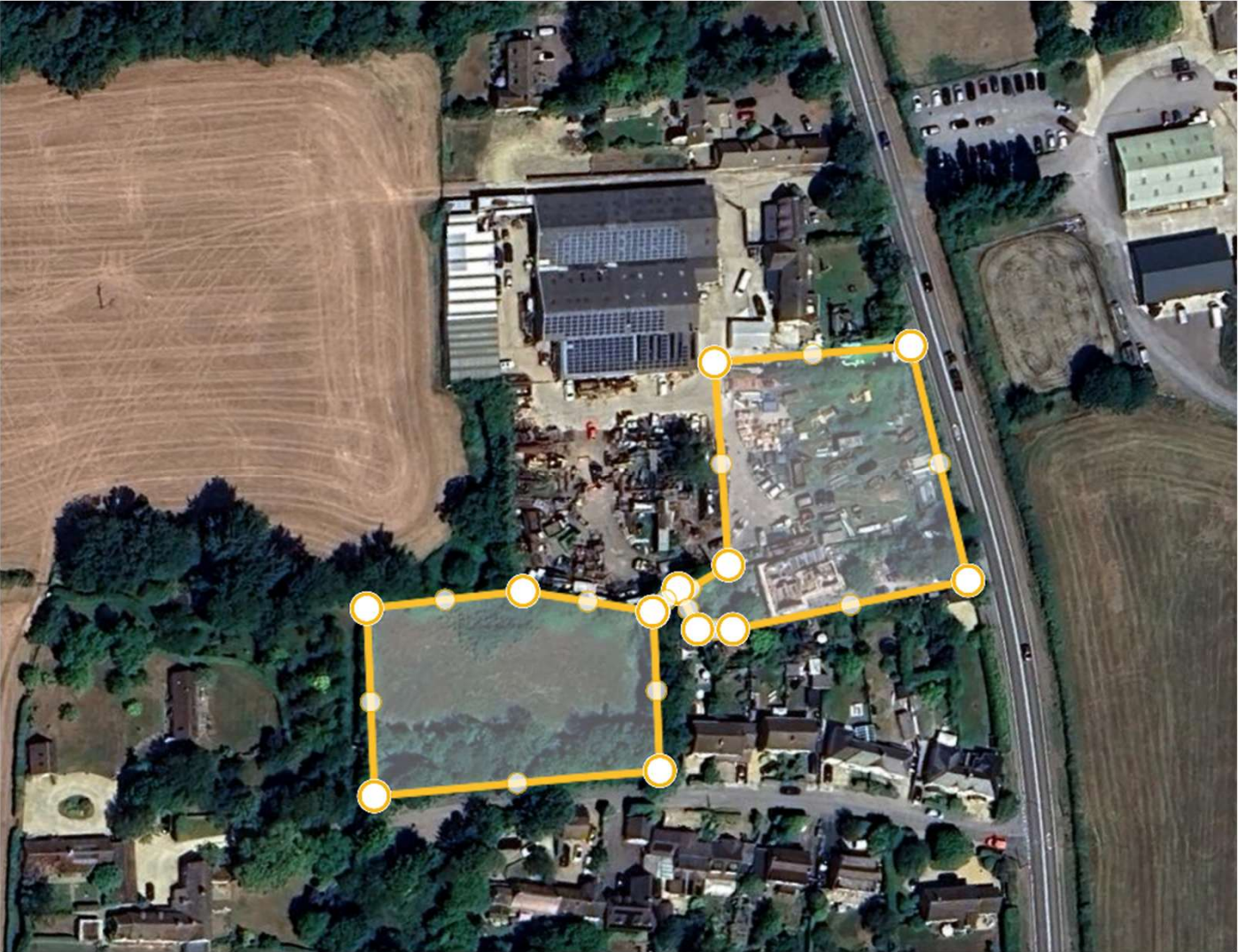
12 dwellings, 4 affordable houses

New entrance from B430. These sites will classify either as 'grey belt land' or a 'rural exception' site

Phase 1 will aim for completion in the next NP period 2026-2031

Phase 2 will come in the next period 2031-2036.

Site proposed for development: Fir Tree Farm + Newby Cottage + Knowle Lane



Potential site proposed for development: opposite North Lane + Milestone Lane.



## Revised NP policies

**E1 Preserving distinctive character**

**E2 Preserving and enhancing green infrastructure** (replaces former E2 and E3)

**E3 Specific development impacts** (replaces former E4 and E5)

**E4 Local Green Spaces** (replaces former E6 and E7)

**H1 Sites for housing development** (replaces former H1 and H2 together)

**H2 Housing mix** (replaces former H3 and H4)

**H3 Design quality** (replaces former H5)

**H4 Design to meet village needs** (replaces former H6, H7)

**C1 Community facilities** (replaces former C2)

**C2 Community educational facilities** (replaces former C3)

**C3 Broadband and Mobile Communications** (replaces former C4)

**C4 Protecting the rural character of the parish** (replaces former C5)

**T1 Parking areas and access routes** (replaces former T1 and T3)

**T2 Carbon reduction policy** (slightly amended T2)

Questions?