

Micheldever Parish Village Design Statement 2019

1 What is a Village Design Statement?

Village Design Statements (VDS) provide guidance for development and changes to buildings in a village and, in association with the parish council and district council, to influence the way the planning system works locally. They provide a means of ensuring that any new developments are designed and located in a way that reflects both the local characteristics and the qualities that local residents value in their village and its surroundings. Currently, residents and the parish council may only hear about proposals for development when the design is finished. This means that they often do not have the opportunity to offer any positive input on planning applications, particularly on the design details, or "how it will look". A VDS helps to overcome this problem and will ensure that future development is compatible with local historical and architectural features.

The villages as they are today are described in the VDS and the architectural or landscape qualities most valued by residents are highlighted. The text and photographs seek to identify the character of the buildings, the open areas and the landscape settings. Residents, property owners, builders, architects, planners, and others involved in the inevitable and necessary process of change should find this helpful when formulating building designs that will ensure the retention of a distinctive local architectural character. It is acknowledged that residents are merely the current stewards of Micheldever Parishes wonderful architectural heritage and that they have a responsibility, collectively and individually, to conserve, protect and develop appropriately.

If the detailed Guidance Notes that accompany the text are incorporated into design proposals they should assist applicants to obtain planning permission, both for new housing and for alterations and improvements to existing houses. The VDS is also intended to encompass building and landscape issues that might otherwise fall outside the criteria for residents to seek formal planning permission. In these cases, property owners are asked to ensure the special character of the village in which the house is located is given due recognition by following the relevant Guidance Notes in any subsequent building or landscape work.

Whenever owners alter, improve or develop properties it is important that the characteristics, which have helped to create the architecture of the parish, are retained. The VDS seeks to encourage design that will reflect the best of the building traditions, form, proportions, materials and details, which are present in the villages.

The long-term aim of the VDS is for it to become a practical tool, capable of influencing decisions affecting future building design and development in all the villages and hamlets. It will assist Micheldever Parish Council and Winchester City Council when they are considering planning applications. Following its adoption as Supplementary Planning Guidance, Winchester City Council will know what is acceptable to the local community, both in architectural and landscape terms.

On 17th April 2002 Winchester City Council confirmed its adoption of the previous Village Design Statement as Supplementary Planning Guidance under the Winchester District Local Plan. This document updates and replaces the current VDS in light of any changes that have occurred since its adoption in 2002.

Micheldever is situated in an entirely rural location that has been in continuous occupation as agricultural settlements since pre-historic times. Farms, forests and woodland continue to dominate the landscape, and account for more than 90% of the parish territory. There are the remains of a Roman villa in Micheldever Woods and of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Weston Farm, Weston Colley. Micheldever was a personal land holding of King Alfred the Great in 899. It is thought that William the Conqueror accepted the surrender of the city of Winchester while encamped at Micheldever in 1066, and the parish was subsequently recorded in the Domesday Book. It is stated in the "History of Micheldever" (by Rev. A B Milner, 1924) that the parish has the honour of having been the home of two Lord Chancellors of England - Hamulton, Chancellor to Edward I in 1285 and Wriothesley, Chancellor to Henry VIII in 1540.

Since medieval times the agricultural estates have had many owners. The Victoria County History of Hampshire records that Alfred the Great held Micheldever and granted it to the monks of Hyde Abbey on his death in 899. It subsequently passed through the hands of various influential families until Lord Northbrook sold most of the estate in the 1920's. At present the land is under the stewardship of four principal landowners. One owns the farmland to the south-west; another owns the farmland to the east. Forest Enterprise owns and manages most of the forest and woodland in the south, east and north; and the Sutton Scotney Estate, owned by the Magnier family, manages the farmland lying in the western and north-western segment around Micheldever, Micheldever Station, Weston Colley and West Stratton.

Micheldever village has an impressive architectural heritage. It contains houses built in every century from the fifteenth to the twenty first. The older dwellings are mainly clustered within the Conservation Area at the core of the village around Church Street and Duke Street, and this area has a wealth of Grade II Listed buildings as well as many other buildings of great visual merit. St Mary's church was rebuilt during the reign of Henry VIII in about 1532, but with 13th century elements, and on the site of an earlier Saxon church. Further major structural changes were made to the chancel in 1880 (by Coulsen) and to the nave in 1908 (by Dance). The original two medieval hall houses at The Crease date from the 15th century - tree ring dating carried out in 1988 by Nottingham University indicated that Shillingbury Cottage dates to the latter part of the 15th century, between 1463 and 1496. The construction of the railway line and its embankment, in the middle of the 19th century, physically separated Weston Colley from Micheldever and removed what must have been a wonderful view from Micheldever down the Dever valley to Stoke Charity and Hunton. Arable farmland surrounds the village.

Micheldever Station did not exist as a settlement until the railway station was built in the 1840's. Before 1840 the only dwellings in the locality were at Warren Farm. Warren Farm House underwent major structural changes in 1775 with a new front

elevation, but the farmhouse and two cottages are believed to date from the 17th century or earlier. The architecture of the housing at Micheldever Station is varied. The most notable buildings are the railway station and the original Western Road Hotel, now known as The Dove Inn. Sir William Tite designed the station building, and it is described in "Southern Main Line - Woking to Southampton" by Vic Mitchell and Keith Smith as "unquestionably the most appealing architecture on the London-Southampton route". The yellow brick quoins are important architectural features, as is its all-round veranda. The Old Post House is also indicative of the Victorian origins of this hamlet and the sorting room is integral to the building. Terraces of 8 red brick cottages were constructed by the railway company for their staff. 'The Old Stores' and 1 & 2 Victoria Cottages were designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in 1896 for Lord Northbrook. Arable farmland and woodland surround the village.

East Stratton is the finest example of a rural "estate" village in Hampshire. Its unique state of preservation is due to the village being in the ownership of just three eminent families in the last 400 years. These three families, Writhorsley, Russell and Baring built low density housing for their estate workers during 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. At the northern end of the village thatched cottages dating from the 17th and 18th centuries border Old School Lane that leads to the entrance to Stratton Park. Stratton Park itself is an important country estate and deer park, first established by the Writhorsley family in the 17th century and has been in the ownership of the Baring family for the last two centuries. Clustered around Church Bank Corner are more 17th and 18th thatched cottages, the War Memorial and 19th century agricultural buildings now converted into dwellings. West along Church Bank Road lies the 19th century Church of All Saints and the Village Hall rebuilt in 2009. South along Stratton Lane, are East Stratton Farm House, and yet more 17th and 18th thatched cottages. Further south is the Baring families "new model village" consisting of five pairs of estate cottages, the Northbrook Arms public house, former bakery and shop, all of which were built in the early 19th century. In the middle of the 20th century the Rural District Council built 6 houses to meet the need for post war housing and the Forestry Commission built 7 houses for forestry workers. The whole village is surrounded by parkland, pasture, arable farmland and woodland some of which extends into the heart of village enhancing the rural setting of the village. In 1986 Winchester City Council considered East Stratton to be of special architectural and historic interest and designated the whole village a Conservation Area.

Weston Colley, West Stratton and Woodmancott are three smaller settlements containing no more than a couple of dozen dwellings in each. Each hamlet grew around the farm with which it is associated, presumably with the original housing being erected for the farming families and their workers. Virtually all the homes are now privately owned although the farms continue as working agricultural units. The Domesday Survey indicates there has been a mill on the site of Old Mill Cottage, in Weston Colley, since the 11th century. The existing building may be the oldest dwelling in the parish, dating from the 15th century or earlier. At West Stratton most housing is clustered in West Stratton Lane, but Park Hill Farm has now been developed and forms part of the settlement. In Woodmancott, which incorporates the small settlements at Bradley Farm and Innersdown, St James' church is at its heart,

providing a focus for fundraising and community events. Arable farmland surrounds all three settlements, with woodland on the western and southern borders of Woodmancott. 'Carousel Park', a site which gained planning permission on the understanding that it would be used solely for occupation by 'travelling show people' is situated within the locality.

All settlements nestle in undulating Hampshire downland and throughout the locality there are outstanding long views incorporating mature trees, open ditches, banks and hedgerows, and extensive areas of woodland.

Most of the settlements in Micheldever parish grew in their diverse ways to suit the needs of the agricultural population of times past, but Micheldever Station only came into existence to serve the railway station following its construction in 1840. The countryside in which the villages sit, together with the narrow meandering hedge-lined lanes connecting the settlements, are possibly the only common feature. All the settlements lie in their own shallow valleys or between ridgelines, and are visually hidden from each other, and from passing traffic.

Micheldever village, including Northbrook, is constructed in a winding linear format. Four short culs-de-sac have been built off Church Street, Duke Street and Winchester Road. The core of the village is a Conservation Area. There are few paved footways. Most plot sizes are generous, and properties are usually bordered with hedges or rustic fencing. There are five entrance roads to the village, with four of these being narrow and hedge-lined. The fifth enters through an area of common land that is an impressive avenue with wide grass verges. Footpaths and bridleways circle the village. The Lord Rank playing field is a large open spaces for sporting activities. Villagers enjoy the benefits of a church, primary school, village hall and public house.

Micheldever Station is also established around two principal roads (Andover Road and Overton Road). Within the settlement Mill Place, Brunel Close & Ellis Drive form three discrete areas of residential development. Other housing generally lies on one side only of the principal roads from one of which, Overton Road, there are particularly impressive views to the ancient woodland of Black Wood. There is a main-line (London to Portsmouth Harbour/Southampton) railway station with a disused marshalling yard and fuel depot facility, a public house, a sports ground and a recently redeveloped community centre. A substantial proportion of the commercial activity of the parish is undertaken at Micheldever Station.

East Stratton's settlement pattern is a north/south linear format with houses either side of a wide village road. At the south end of the village are a close of 6 houses and cul-de-sac of 7 houses both leading off the main village road. What sets East Stratton apart from similar settlements is that the settlement pattern has evolved in 3 phases, spanning 400 years, as the settlement progressed steadily south. Each phase of development, 17th and 18th century, 19th century and finally 20th century have not impinged on the previous phase and are therefore clearly defined. The majority of housing is low density former estate worker cottages, with generous plots which have not been subjected to infill, and most properties have views over adjoining countryside. There are few paved footways, and properties are usually bordered with hedges or rustic fencing. Hedges and trees line the three roads into the village with footpaths and

bridleways radiating out. To the south lies Micheldever Forest and to the north is Stratton Park. East Stratton has a church, a public house with green open space opposite, and a village hall with an adjacent green open space, all supported by the local community. The entire village is designated a Conservation Area.

West Stratton is an agricultural hamlet of about twenty houses grouped in West Stratton Lane and around Park Hill Farm, which is separated from East Stratton by the A33 and the M3. It is about one mile north-east of Micheldever on the northern bank of the River Dever, and is surrounded by arable farmland and pasture.

Weston Colley is another hamlet of about twenty houses, located to the west of Micheldever and separated from it by the railway embankment. The hamlet runs east/west along the northern bank of the River Dever in a linear format. From the settlement there are fine open views across rolling arable countryside to the north and south, and also to the west, along the Dever Valley.

Woodmancott village centre has only fifteen houses, a church and a small commercial/industrial complex, plus a farm grain store and weighbridge. A further fifteen houses border the A33 at Innersdown and Bradley Farm, separated from the village by the M3 and A33. The village is within a mixed arable farming landscape.

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

SP1 the linear format of the villages and existing village boundaries should be maintained

SP2 the gaps between settlements should be maintained

SP3 the lanes connecting settlements should be conserved with their existing rural character and should not be provided with inappropriate urban-style kerbing and street lighting

SP4 the relative proportions of buildings and green space within the villages should be maintained

SP5 walls, hedges, woodlands and mature trees, should be conserved (if lost naturally or by development of adjoining land they should be replaced)

SP6 existing verges, bridleways and footpaths should be retained in any new development

SP7 paved footways, if installed, should be edged with "countryside" kerbing

SP8 street furniture, fingerpost direction signs and road/lane hard landscaping should be consistent throughout the villages and be designed for their rural context, not standardised solutions used in urban areas

SP9 new development should not result in roads being widened or straightened

SP10 commercial or light industrial development should take account of the character of the residential community within which it will be set

Within this VDS "open spaces" are sporting and recreational areas, while "open areas" are defined as the large tracts of forest and farmland with associated hedgerows and tree lines. Both are important because they provide memorable views as well as a sense of peace and tranquility. Micheldever is richly endowed with such landscape features, both within the villages and hamlets and between settlements. They are a vital feature of the rural environment that serves to create this special identity.

o) In Micheldever the open space includes an impressive approach to the village along Cowdown with its wide grass verges and avenue of beech trees. The allotments and the former cricket field are an important part of the open space pattern and the Lord Rank playing field in Duke Street is an important and very well used open space which has been protected for future generations through a Deed of Dedication with Fields in Trust. The play area was refurbished in 2008.

(o) At Micheldever Station the Warren Playing Field, which has also been protected through a Fields in Trust dedication, provides about a hectare of recreational open space, and there is a recreational grassed area in the centre of the Brunel Close development. A new Warren Field children's play area and adult fitness equipment was built by the Parish Council in 2019. Well-used allotments back onto the row of houses in New Road and serve as open space for those residents and a safe play area for the children.

(o) In East Stratton recreational open space is limited. The "green" opposite the pub, is a valued area of community space and is used for the village fete. The small grass area behind the village hall is also important for community use.

Open areas. The farmland and woodland surrounding Micheldever is rich in flora and fauna. Most of the area is chalk downland supporting a vast array of wild flowers with their attendant insects, butterflies and birds. The uncultivated borders of tracks are particularly noteworthy for their cowslips, primrose, scabious, knapweed, agrimony, lady's bedstraw, campion, marjoram, and many other wild flowers and herbs. During the past 25 years local farmers have undertaken small-scale planting of deciduous trees, some of which, in the winter, provide berries for wildlife. In spring many woodlands sport an extensive carpet of bluebells, following the glorious display of snowdrops and cowslips that are a feature of the three local churchyards and many roadside verges. Farm hedges, consisting mainly of hawthorn, field maple, blackthorn, spindle and hazel, are generally well maintained. Bird life includes lapwing, red-legged partridge, pheasant, yellowhammer, red kites, sparrow hawk, buzzard and skylark. It is thought that some of these may be diminishing in numbers, possibly due to more intensive farming practices. Every encouragement should be given to encourage the rare stone curlew, which used to breed in selected areas of the parish until recently, to return to its previous nesting grounds. Small mammals are also widespread, with foxes, badgers and deer present in different locations throughout the parish.

The extensive open farmland and natural woodland that is evident throughout the parish contains numerous bridleways and footpaths, some of which follow ancient drove roads, linking and surrounding the villages. Some paths are long and straight, such as Coffin Walk linking East Stratton to Micheldever, and these give a tunnelling effect when bounded by hedges or woods. The Rights of Way Volunteers cherish and maintain these tranquil off-road paths. Many paths traverse down land and give stunning unobstructed views to the distant horizons. From the higher ground around Micheldever Station, for example, Cheesefoot Head and the hilly ridge to the south of Winchester can be seen, while from Weston Clump on the northern boundary of the parish the downs on the Isle of Wight can be seen on a clear day. Looking north from Micheldever, Coxford Down forms the horizon three miles away, and from rising ground above Northbrook there is an outstanding view north-east to Black Wood and

east towards the Strattons. The view to the west from Borough Arch, along the Dever Valley to Stoke Charity and Hunton is also worthy of mention.

The River Dever, with its natural wildlife ponds, runs from West Stratton through Micheldever and Weston Colley to join the River Test at Wherwell. It supports a variety of water fowl and other birds, including swan, geese, kingfisher and heron, all of which are seen in places along the river from West Stratton to Weston Colley. Trout, sometimes 10" or more in length, are also commonly seen.

The Stratton Woodlands comprise extensive tracts of forest. Micheldever Forest (359 hectares) and Black Wood (276 hectares) are ancient semi-natural woodlands (ASNWs) that have been in existence since before 1600. Embley Wood (30 hectares) and Rownest Wood (23 hectares) are also part of the Woodlands that are owned and managed by Forest Enterprise, who recognise the social and environmental issues associated with their management. A large part of this area, particularly within Micheldever Forest is of considerable archaeological interest and has been designated a Scheduled Monument. Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council, working in partnership with Forest Enterprise, have created an archaeological trail (that contains the site of a Roman settlement) in Micheldever Forest. Over a period of time the restoration of the woodlands as ancient semi-natural woodlands and PAWS (plantation on an ancient woodland site) is part of the management strategy. Black Wood, which is also now the site for a Forest Holidays development, consists of mixed deciduous and coniferous trees providing ample tracks and rides for recreation. It is flanked on the west by an old drover's track providing a fascinating walk with woodland on one side and wide-open areas on the other, with long views northwards and westwards. The creation of an additional footpath from Micheldever Station to Black Wood would also be of significant benefit. In addition to the forestry plantations, many copses and trees are dotted around the landscape, while the well-wooded railway embankment is an impressive sight at various points on its route through the parish.

Character studies for the Dever River Valley and the Stratton Woodlands, which give greater detail about these important landscape feature can be found in the Winchester District Landscape Character Assessment. This was adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance and published in March 2004. It is available on the Winchester City Council website on www.winchester.gov.uk/planning/landscape---countryside/landscape-character-assessment/

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

OA1 footpaths and bridleways should be kept open to the public and maintained in good repair

OA2 proposals to provide additional footpaths and bridleways should be encouraged

OA3 planting of native tree species should be undertaken to create windbreaks and wildlife habitats

OA4 conservation strips around the perimeter of fields and open spaces should be created and maintained

OA5 the open areas that exist within, and surround, the settlements should be maintained for the enjoyment of future generations

OA6 the River Dever valley should be conserved as a wetland habitat and maintained as part of the strolling route around the villages

OA7 the recreational open spaces that exist are invaluable to the settlements and should be maintained and enhanced to provide additional sporting and recreational activities

OA8 the conservation of the open landscape character to the west of the ancient drover's track, that borders the edge of Black Wood is important. Large areas of tree planting or the placing of buildings or structures in this open land should be avoided

The villages and hamlets that comprise Micheldever parish have evolved as diverse agricultural communities over many centuries, and consequently a great variety of buildings, building materials and architectural details are present in the housing stock.

Micheldever. There are many thatched properties, some dating from the 15th and 16th centuries. Virtually all are "individual" in design. Thatched dwellings are usually timber framed and in-filled with brick or flint. Often the exterior walls are painted white, but there are examples of other light pastel colours being used. Some weatherboarding, usually painted black, has been used in buildings dating from the 16th century onwards. Other properties, some large and impressive, date from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Many have been extended, to meet the demands of their owners, using 20th century materials to incorporate increased accommodation or additional modern facilities.

A little more than half the village houses were built in the 20th century, often replacing more ancient dwellings that were not considered worthy of renovating and improving. While individual in style, many modern properties contain features compatible with the older housing stock. They tend to be set back from the road, usually screened by walls or hedges. Plot sizes are generous. Most buildings are single or double storied, with very few of three stories.

There are no large modern estates. Local authority housing, constructed in stages at Southbrook Cottages, some built of brick and others of timber, was designed to integrate well with other village homes. Hawthorn Close is a small development of ten modern "executive" homes tucked away off Winchester Road. A development of about 20 low-cost affordable houses, built in 1990/1 at Dever Close, is recognised as a good example of how to integrate affordable housing into a rural setting. The Parish Council has promoted the development of additional much needed affordable housing, most recently with the first phase of Barron Close which, it is hoped, will be further developed shortly.

Micheldever Station has a variety of housing styles and materials. Buildings of interest include the railway station, the inn, and the Old Post House. The 'Old Stores' and adjoining cottages built in 1896 and designed by Edwin Lutyens for Lord Northbrook and 17th century Warren Farm House, the latter lying within and retaining its traditional farmyard atmosphere with walled garden, stables, barn (now converted) smithy, and farm labourers' cottages. In addition, The Tower House, Northbrook Farm House and Bridge Cottages are noteworthy. They were constructed in Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee year in 1897 and were entered in a National Farm Building

Competition in that year. A significant modern housing scheme occurred in 1990/1991 at Brunel Close consisting of about 40 houses. The style of these modern houses, set into a discrete cul-de-sac, is in keeping with the rest of the parish architecture and residents believe this is also a sympathetic and well-integrated development. New mixed housing developments have been built at Mill Place, Beech End and most recently at Ellis Drive, providing quality housing and incorporating some affordable properties.

East Stratton housing consists mainly of vernacular former estate workers cottages, most of which were built in the 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. The roofing material is predominately thatch, which is typically either Hampshire long-straw or combed wheat-straw, and some properties have roofs of clay tile or slate. Elevations are in brick, sourced from the estate's own brickworks, with some timber framing. Vernacular brick and flint panel construction can be seen in boundary walls and the elevations of former farm buildings. Windows and doors are mainly of vernacular wood construction with some cottages retaining their original wrought iron casement windows and leaded lights. In the middle of the 20th century the Rural District Council and the Forestry Commission erected a dozen well-constructed semidetached houses, with brick elevations and tiled roofs. Most of the older buildings in East Stratton are considered to be of special architectural or historic interest, the majority of them with a Grade II listing. The village is an important Conservation Area, and an architectural gem, to be zealously guarded and conserved.

Conversion of agricultural and other structures into private residences.

In recent years some redundant farm buildings have been converted into residences. The conversion of the redundant barns at Manor Farm, Micheldever into three large private homes in 1992, is a fine example of the way that such work should be undertaken. As impressive is the conversion of the redundant barns and farm buildings at Church Barns, East Stratton into half a dozen dwellings, completed in 1999/2000. Two barns have been converted into cottages in West Stratton. The former school at Micheldever Station, and the Forge at The Crease, Micheldever, have also been converted to private residences.

Commercial and light industrial buildings.

Commercial and light industrial buildings are generally nondescript with little architectural merit. Exceptions are the conversion into offices of a single-storey redundant farm building at Cowdown Farm, Micheldever; a conversion of farm buildings at Burcot Farm, East Stratton; and the construction of light industrial units at the Calvert Centre, Woodmancott, on the site of a former piggery. Also of note is The Barn, Warren Lane, Micheldever Station which was moved in the 1980s, timber by timber, from Borough Farm, Micheldever, was reconstructed and incorporated into offices. These four different design approaches to the conversion or re-use of redundant agricultural buildings are excellent models for future conversion proposals.

In the following pages attention is drawn to specific features of the vernacular architecture of the parish, with Guidance Notes that suggest how new buildings or developments might be designed to incorporate these.

Roofs. There are many properties with thatched roofs in Micheldever. Other roofs generally use natural slate, small hand-made clay tiles or other forms of plain or interlocking tiles. The use of solar panels should be introduced to the existing street scene with sensitivity. There is a variety of gables, half gables, hips and half-hips, the pitches varying with the materials used. Many eaves are open with exposed rafter ends, while others are enclosed with soffits and fascias. There are few examples of decorative bargeboards, but where these appear they create a distinctive feature, such as at Old School House, East Stratton, and at Bridge Cottage, Micheldever Station.

Walls. The walls of timber-framed houses usually comprise infill elevations of flint, facing brick or painted brickwork, and some are rendered and painted. Walls of many other houses are also rendered and painted, usually white. A small amount of weatherboarding, frequently painted black, can be found on 16th century through to 20th century dwellings. Facing bricks are generally multi-coloured red/brown. Tile-hanging to the upper storey is featured on some dwellings, employing both rectangular and decoratively shaped plain tiles.

Windows. "Georgian" casement, usually painted white, is the predominant window type. Some properties retain leaded lights featuring either small rectangular or diamond panes. There are some flat dormer windows but gabled dormers are more common and are considered more suitable. Only a small number of properties feature sash windows.

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Roofs

SB1 thatching should, wherever possible, be undertaken in the Hampshire tradition, preferably using long straw. Combed wheat reed is an acceptable alternative

SB2 thatched ridges are not traditional, but are now commonplace, feature on many properties and are acceptable

SB3 clay tiles or natural slate should be utilised, if thatch is not appropriate

SB4 concrete tiles should be avoided

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Walls

SB5 red/brown bricks with traditional flint elevations should be utilised whenever possible

SB6 associated tile-hanging to the elevations of a building should be compatible in style, size and colour

SB7 in some locations timber weatherboarding may be used to clad walls, garages and outbuildings as an alternative to the materials mentioned above, where this is characteristic of the locality

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Windows

SB8 should match the existing type on the same or neighbouring buildings

SB9 if dormer windows are included in a design they should be sympathetic to the style of the existing property and avoid overlooking neighbours, in which case a 'velux' type window may be considered more appropriate.

Doors. There are many different door types throughout the parish reflecting the changing construction techniques over the centuries, with a particularly wide variety on modern houses. Those built during the latter half of the 20th century have doors ranging from fully glazed to solid flush, with many designs imitating to a greater or lesser extent the traditional forms. Earlier properties usually feature planked, braced and battened doors.

Porches & Conservatories. Porches on older buildings vary in character both in materials and formality, reflecting the design of the buildings they serve. Thatched, tiled and slated porches exist, usually with a pitch that compliments the roof pitch. Flat roofed porches are uncommon, unless they are leaded. Conservatories tend to be modern, and the use of UPVC is almost universal.

Chimneys. All the older properties and many of the 20th century houses have chimneys with pots in a wide variety of styles. There is no traditional "Micheldever" chimney pot. The resulting diversity of styles and sizes adds to the village scene, and the retention of chimneys and their pots is to be encouraged. The absence of a mains gas supply means that many householders continue to use wood and coal to heat their homes, so that chimneys are an essential architectural feature.

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Doors

SB10 planked, braced and battened doors should be used in new and renovated buildings

SB11 the inclusion of small glazed panels within the door, at head height, is suitable for existing housing stock and new buildings and should be included if possible

SB12 fanlights, if used, should be above the door head, not integral in the door

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Porches and Conservatories

SB13 porches should be constructed to give the appearance of being part of the original structure

SB14 conservatories should be visually unobtrusive, built behind the building line

SB15 glazing should complement the building's glazing pattern

SB16 should have a similar roof pitch falling in the same direction as the building's roof

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Chimneys

SB17 whenever possible new dwellings should include chimney stacks and pots

SB18 whenever possible the removal of existing chimney stacks and pots should be avoided

Domestic garages. Garages are, of course, a modern feature and a wide variety of types ranging from timber to concrete to brick exist in the villages. Most have been built on or behind the building line of the property to which they belong, and this is to

be encouraged. Those that have been built in front of the building line tend to be more intrusive on the street scene. Some have been built with storage rooms or small "home offices" in the roof space. Generally these have been sympathetically designed. Recently a number of garages have been built that are similar in structure to farm buildings or small barns, and these make a pleasing addition to the street scene in the villages.

Driveways. These vary in construction from flint to shingle, from tarmac to block paving. Materials are generally appropriate to the local scene and to the building that the driveway serves. Many are now adopting the use of permeable hard-standing which greatly enhances the drainage opportunities and is strongly encouraged.

Plot Boundaries. Low boundary walls in brick and flint (or plain brick) often with pointed or "half round" capping, are common within the parish. Short traditional picket fences front many properties. Hedges are frequently used to mark plot boundaries, and when kept short they enhance the rural nature of our settlements. These varied plot boundary treatments contribute significantly to the local character. While high hedges do front some properties, they can cause great sight-line difficulties and arouse fears of traffic accident for pedestrians, children and horse riders.

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Domestic garages

SB19 garages should usually be sited on or behind the building line

SB20 materials used should harmonise with and reflect the style of the property served

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Driveways

SB21 should be constructed to prevent the materials used from migrating on to the public highway

SB22 should be constructed from permeable materials to encourage drainage and reduce local flood risk

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Plot boundaries

SB23 low boundaries of natural features (brick, flint, picket fences, hedging) should relate to the boundary materials of neighbouring plots

SB24 walls, hedges and picket fences are preferred to close-boarded timber fencing in defining boundaries that are visible from highways and footpaths

SB25 hedging should be planted using indigenous plants, with the hedges set back from the road to give adequate sight-lines for vehicles exiting from properties, and for pedestrians in the road

Alterations to existing properties - general comments. When designing alterations to existing houses, the owners, designers and developers need to be sensitive to the existing local environment. They should ensure proposals are in harmony with the local context, protect local character, and visually improve areas where local character might have previously been eroded. Innovation is generally welcomed, particularly when it acts to reflect the building traditions of Micheldever and can be recognised as relevant

to the locality. Each proposal to alter or improve a property should be considered on its merits. It is important that good quality materials are used and measures to reduce energy use are encouraged. Sufficient details should be included in the design to ensure, while maintaining individuality and style, that any alteration results in the dwelling integrating well with the original structure and its surroundings.

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Proposals to alter, extend, convert or subdivide existing properties should:

SB26 use materials and components that match or enhance the existing building

SB27 aim to conform with existing proportions of window to wall, and the design of the roof, especially where they impact on the existing "street-scene"

SB28 reflect the character of adjacent frontages, where properties form part of a group

SB29 ensure existing walls, boundary hedges and trees are retained where possible, or replaced

SB30 conserve the existing open areas and views from the property to be altered

SB31 not increase on-street parking requirements

SB32 ensure that large dwellings, even when converted, retain the existing curtilages

SB33 where appropriate, increase energy efficiency of dwellings and reduce their carbon footprint

New housing. In submitting proposals for new houses or a new development, architects and designers should take account of the scale and characteristics of adjoining buildings and those in the vicinity. The "palette" of materials, colours and components, such as doors and windows, should be used sparingly while reflecting existing styles. Sites should be laid out to permit a reasonable level of tree and shrub planting. The meandering linear form of the villages should be retained. In-filling should be sympathetic to existing buildings and the surrounding areas. New housing should be built to the highest environmental standards.

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES New housing proposals should:

FD1 be small in scale and proportionate to the size of the village

FD2 sit well within the recognised policy boundaries, or development frontages

FD3 be designed to be compatible with the characteristics of adjoining buildings

FD4 incorporate architectural features that reflect existing styles

FD5 recognise and make provision for the absence within the parish of utility services such as mains gas, mains drainage and surface water drainage and ensure there is sufficient sewerage provision.

FD6 incorporate tree and shrub planting proposals as appropriate and ensure the retention of those that exist where they make an important contribution to the environment

FD7 avoid disturbing or obscuring landscape views that have existed for generations

FD8 be designed to ensure safe pedestrian and vehicular access

FD9 ensure that roads do not need to be widened or straightened

FD10 be built to the highest environmental standards

Low cost affordable housing. The Micheldever Parish Appraisal 2000 Report revealed an urgent need for more low-cost affordable housing. A number of small developments, most notably at Barron Close in Micheldever have since been developed. Together with mixed housing sites in Mill Place, Beech End and Ellis Drive all at Micheldever Station. If sites can be found for low cost housing they should be on small plots in closely related units, with a design and layout sympathetic to its immediate surroundings. The objective should be to ensure the development will be readily assimilated into its village or hamlet.

Commercial premises. It is anticipated that any proposals to develop business premises will be small-scale. The re-use of redundant agricultural buildings for light industrial use (such as those at Park Hill Farm, West Stratton) is an option in a rural parish and it is anticipated this will be the only form of commercial development that will be undertaken in the foreseeable future. The conversion or re-use of such buildings should be in a manner reflecting the rural characteristics of their surroundings. Wherever possible, any new proposals should encourage rural employment opportunities. Neither residential nor commercial properties should contribute to light pollution within the parish.

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Low cost affordable housing proposals should:

FD11 ensure properties are designed to prevent extension at a later date on a scale that could result in the loss of the original purpose

FD12 be located on small plots in closely related units

FD13 be designed in a style that is sympathetic to its immediate surroundings

DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Commercial premises proposals should:

FD14 conform with the character of existing buildings and the local environment

FD15 ensure the siting of power, telephone and similar services is underground

FD16 ensure light, air and noise pollution is minimised

OTHER DESIGN GUIDANCE NOTES

Traffic signs and road nameplates should:

FD17 be used sparingly to prevent visual clutter, particularly in the conservation areas

FD18 be supplied in a "traditional" rural style, particularly in the conservation areas

Overhead power and telephone lines should:

FD19 whenever possible be sited (or re-sited) underground, particularly within the conservation areas of Micheldever and East Stratton and in areas with outstanding landscape views

FD20 electricity and telephone companies should be encouraged to share their poles

FD21 visually intrusive gantries on the railway line and railway embankment should be avoided or sympathetically sited within the tree lines

New mobile phone masts, where possible, should:

FD22 be shared between phone providers
FD23 be made unobtrusive by siting within tree lines

Light pollution

FD24 external lighting of properties should be limited to the minimum required for security and working purposes. Lighting should not cause additional light pollution, particularly given the rural nature of the parish.

Noise pollution should:

FD25 be an important consideration, including when the surfacing/re-surfacing of major roads is planned close to the villages, and a noise inhibiting material should be used

This Village Design Statement has set out the landscape characteristics of the area. It also confirms that any large-scale development on the agricultural land surrounding the villages would impact adversely on the character of the parish and its natural landscape. The residents of Micheldever Parish remain strongly opposed to any large-scale development at Micheldever Station.

The conservation of the character of Micheldever parish is best achieved by the retention of the existing landscape and open areas and by the use of traditional materials in its buildings, such as brick and flint, with roofs of thatch, slate or clay tiles. Local architectural features and details should be incorporated where possible to enhance the design of new buildings. In this way the villages will retain their individual character and it will ensure that existing local building design and landscape traditions will be continued into the future.

The VDS is a guide to assist all current and future residents, the Parish Council, Winchester City Council, planners, property owners, designers, architects and developers to understand what is so special about the local natural and "built" environments of the parish.

It is hoped that this Micheldever Village Design Statement, first written in 2002 and updated in [2020], will play a significant part in helping to retain the special and unique character of Micheldever Parish.

APPENDIX A

SCHEDULED MONUMENTS (SMs) AND OTHER SITES OR BUILDINGS OF HISTORIC INTEREST

All six villages and hamlets forming the parish of Micheldever have impressive historical associations. Communities of Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval people have settled in the Micheldever area over successive centuries, each leaving their distinctive marks on the landscape.

There are four ancient sites of national importance in the parish that are scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979. These SMs are included on Historic England's National Heritage List for England (their List Entry Numbers are provided, below).

Micheldever Wood (1021320) is scheduled almost in its entirety as a multi-period site, with evidence of human activity from the Mesolithic onwards. Bronze Age earthworks and burial mounds, and Iron Age banjo enclosures, provide rich evidence for prehistoric farming, settlement and burial practices. A major Roman building complex was located here, connected to the Roman road (now the A33) linking Winchester with Silchester. From the medieval period onwards there is evidence of woodland management, including preserved wood bank boundary systems and ancient coppices.

The other three SMs reinforce the importance of the archaeological evidence for the Iron Age within Micheldever parish. Just west of Micheldever Wood is an Iron Age settlement site (1001815), and Norsebury Ring (1020317) is a univallate Iron Age hillfort. To the west of Bazeley Copse (1001823) excavation revealed Iron Age ditches underlying a small Romano-British building. Wider field systems and another banjo enclosure are also located here. Banjo enclosures are classed by Historic England as Heritage Assets, which are defined as having national importance (whether or not they are scheduled), and they are particularly prevalent in Micheldever parish. There is a further Iron Age enclosure site on Weston Down which may have been of this type (its entrance is obscured by hedgerows); this is a potential candidate for future scheduling.

The Winchester Historic Environment Record (HER) holds details of nearly 500 items of interest within Micheldever parish (Hampshire County Council also maintain a separate HER). HERs comprise find spots, archaeological sites, and historical buildings. Records of particular interest include:

- Reference to a Royal Palace in Micheldever in the 9th and 10th century - did Alfred the Great, who held Micheldever during his reign, live in this palace?
- West Stratton contains the site of a shrunken medieval village
- East Stratton contains the site of a fully deserted medieval village
- There is a Saxon cemetery at Weston Colley, where a Saxon brooch, ring, bead, sword, spear, knife, shield and tweezers were found during excavation

- At Micheldever Station there are several Bronze Age round barrows, the Weston Down Iron Age enclosure, and field systems
- There is evidence of Iron Age settlements at Woodmancott
- There have been Iron Age and Roman finds at Stratton Park and East Stratton
- Near Northbrook House, Micheldever, a dig revealed Saxon and Roman finds

A survey of 1730 (held by the County Record Office) indicates that remnants of the medieval system of common fields survived at that time. The boundaries of these common fields are still reflected in the existing hedgerows in parts of the parish. Stratton Park - an early C19 park and pleasure ground laid out by Sir Francis Baring - is also listed (1000867), under the Register of Parks and Gardens. In addition to these ancient finds and sites, there are well over a hundred individual buildings of historical interest. These are recorded in Appendix B.

Further information may be sought from the Hampshire County Archaeologist. Archaeological collections and museum services are managed by Hampshire Cultural Trust. Winchester County Council maintains the Winchester HER, and enquiries should be directed to the Historic Environment Officer (Archaeology) at Winchester City Council, City Offices, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LJ.

APPENDIX B

THE LISTED BUILDINGS OF MICHELDEVER PARISH

The parish of Micheldever contains a wealth of buildings of special architectural or historic interest, represented by 88 listed building records (some encompass more than one structure). The earliest is St Mary's Church, which dates from the 13th century, and it is also the most important - being listed Grade II*. The remainder are Grade II listed. Over 110 homes and more than twenty other structures in the parish are listed; these are summarised below to draw the attention of residents to the historical heritage in which they live.

Micheldever

Church Street

Riverside Cottage, C18
53-58 Waterloo Cottages, C19
Westbrook Cottage, C19
Barn, attached to Field Barn, C17
Barn Cottage, C16
60 Church Street, C17
Gardeners Cottage, C17
Corner Thatch, C17
The Old Post Office, C16
The Limes, C16
The Old Bakehouse, C16

Winchester Road

Griffin Cottage, C17
Norsebury Cottage, C17
98-103 Winchester Road, C19

London Road (A33)

Newdown Farm House, C18

Rook Lane

The Cottage, C16
Southbrook Farm House, C16
Micheldever Cottage, C16
Bryony Cottage, C18

The Crease

Heather Cottage, C16
86 The Crease, C16

Lilliput Cottage, C16
Shillingbury Cottage, C15
Corner Cottage, C15
Forge Cottage, C17
The Smithy, C18
Perry's Acre, C15

Northbrook

Jasmine Cottage, C16
Northbrook House, C18
39-41 Church Street, C17

Sloe Lane

Borough Farm House, C18
The Barley House, C18
Manor Barn, C18
Manor Farm House, C18

Duke Street

Micheldever House, C19
Farthings, C17
Fardells, C17
Bluebell Cottage, C17
Old Cottage, C17
St Cross Cottage, C16
Marigold Cottage, C17
Primrose Cottage, C17
Pedlars Cottage, C17
Bramley Cottage, C17
115 Duke Street, C17
116 Duke Street, C17
Reapers, C17

Bilberry Lane

1-4 Waterside Cottages, C17

Micheldever Station

The Old Store, C19
1 Victoria Cottages, C19
2 Victoria Cottages, C19
Warren Farm House, C17
1 Old Cottages, C17
2 Old Cottages, C17

Weston Colley

1-2 Thatched Cottages, C16
Old Mill Cottage, C16
Old Mill House, C18

Stoke Charity

Norsebury House, C20

West Stratton

West Stratton Manor, C19
The Mount, C19
West Stratton House, C18
Stratton End, C17
1-3 Shepherds Close, C17

East Stratton**Stratton Park**

London Lodge, C19
Middle Lodge, C19
Winchester Lodge, C19
The Bothy, C19
Old School House, C19

Stratton Lane

22-31 Stratton Lane, C19
Yew Tree Cottage, C17
Cold Harbour Cottage, C17
Sweet Briar Cottage, C16
Orchard Cottage, C18
Home Cottage, C17
Bramble Cottage, C17
42-43 Stratton Lane, C19
The Cottage, C17
44 Stratton Lane, C17
45 Stratton Lane, C18
46 Stratton Lane, C17
47 Stratton Lane, C17
48 Stratton Lane, C18

London Road (A33)

133-134 London Road, C18
Highway Cottage, C19

Other Buildings and Monuments

St Mary's Church, Micheldever, C13

All Saints Church, East Stratton, C19

St James' Church, Woodmancott, C19

6 tomb chests, St Mary's Church, 1795-1838

Cross, East Stratton, 1890

Micheldever School, C19

Stratton House portico, C19

Micheldever Railway Station, C19

The Dove Inn, Micheldever Station, C19

Garden wall, Manor Farm House, C18

Granary/barns/stables, Borough Farm, C17-19

Warren Farm Barns, C18

Stable/garden wall, Warren Farm, C19

4 milestones, A33, C19

3 telephone kiosks, type K6, C20

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