

# Kidlington Framework Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document Part 2: Kidlington Today – Baseline Information Cherwell District Council December 2016





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Aerial photo of Kidlington



# Preface

This Appendix sets out the evidence base and background information which has informed preparation of the Kidlington Framework Masterplan under the following topic headings:

- Location and Context
- Village Character
- Green Infrastructure
- Community Facilities and Village Centre
- Movement and Connectivity
- Socio-economic Context
- Economy and Employment
- Housing
- Planning Context

## Acronyms

The following acronyms and abbreviations are used throughout this document:

KPC: Kidlington Parish Council

CDC: Cherwell District Council

# 1.0 Location and context

## 1.1 Location

Kidlington is located on the A4260 between the A44 and A34 around 5 miles north of Oxford, 4 miles south east of Woodstock and Blenheim Palace and 8 miles west of Bicester. It falls within Cherwell District close to its administrative boundaries with Oxford City Council and the three other Oxfordshire Districts. The proximity to the boundary with Oxford is of particular importance, given that Oxford's Green Belt encircles the village.

With a population of around 15,000 within the built-up area, Kidlington is the smallest of the three urban areas within Cherwell behind the towns of Bicester and Banbury. Most of the village falls within the Parish of Kidlington, with the exception of the south eastern neighbourhoods which fall within Gosford and Water Eaton Parish.



Figure 1.1 District Councils within Oxfordshire (www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)



Figure 1.2 Cherwell District map (www.cherwell.gov.uk)

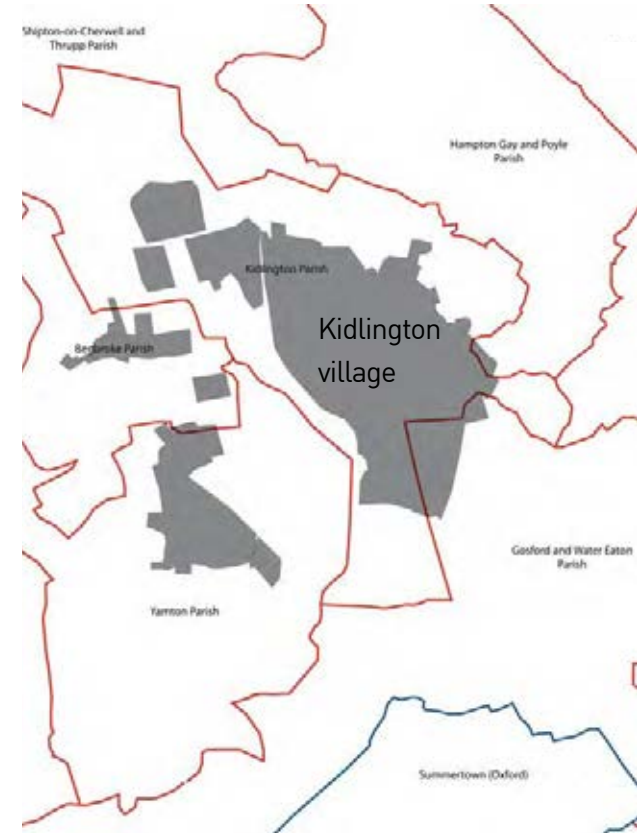


Figure 1.3 Parish Council and District ward boundaries

## 1.2 Context

### 1.2.1 Global relationships

- **International tourism:** Kidlington is located close to the international tourism destinations of Blenheim Palace, Oxford and Bicester Shopping Village which has an increasing number of international visitors.
- **Airport:** Kidlington is the location of London Oxford Airport which sits at the heart of the UK's motorsport industry and is used by F1 teams due to its close proximity to Silverstone. The airport provides business aviation with training facilities, private hire to global locations and has in the past offered commercial flights to Edinburgh, Belfast, Dublin, Jersey and Guernsey.
- **Oxford University and Science Park:** Kidlington is the location of Oxford University's Begbroke Science Park, an internationally important centre for education, research and innovation.

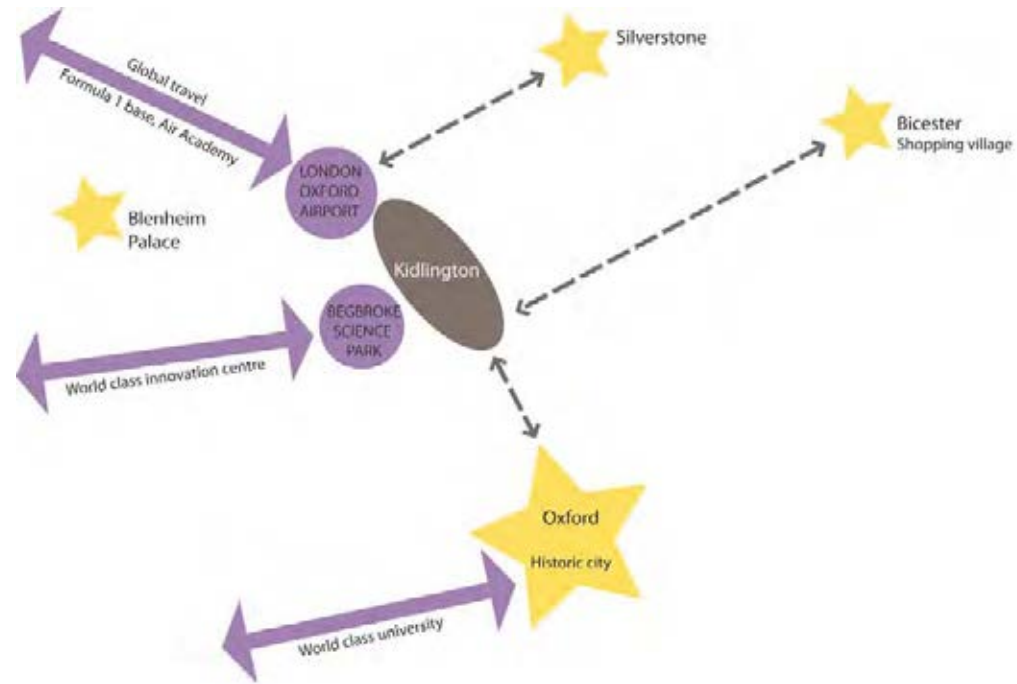


Figure 1.4 Global links and attractions in the Kidlington area

### 1.2.2 Regional relationships

- Kidlington sits within an arc of thriving settlements from Cambridge to Reading which have generally witnessed continued economic growth and investment. The arc ranks high for income levels, employment opportunities and close links to Oxford and Cambridge Universities.
- Kidlington is situated within two LEPs (Local Enterprise Partnerships), the Southeast Midlands LEP and Oxfordshire LEP which both play a key role in determining local economic priorities to provide a catalyst for economic growth and the creation of local jobs.
- Kidlington has good strategic road connections - links into the motorway network connect the village into the wider city network of Birmingham, Reading and London.
- Oxford Parkway station, part of the proposed east-west rail link, provides direct rail connections from Kidlington to Bicester, Oxford (from December 2016) and London Marylebone.

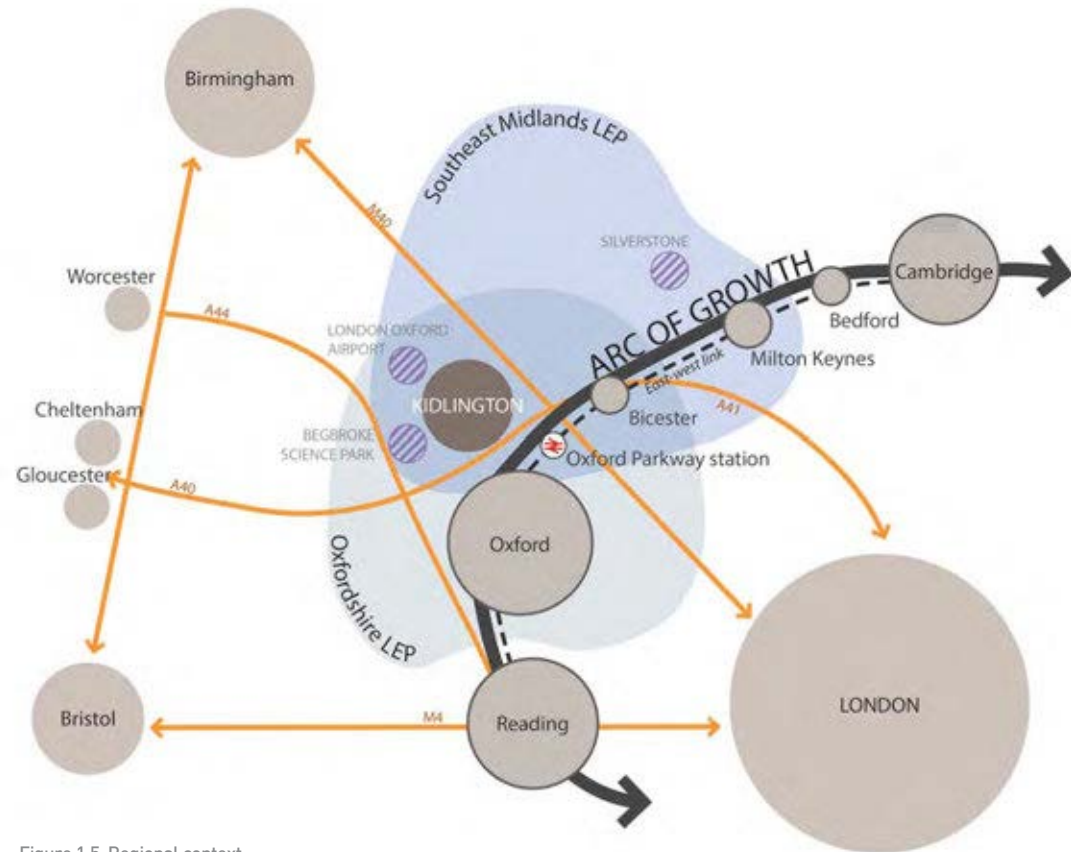


Figure 1.5 Regional context



### 1.2.3 Local relationships

- Kidlington is closely linked with the city of Oxford and its wider network of surrounding settlements including Woodstock, Abingdon, Witney and Didcot, in terms of business, education, transport and retail, with high levels of in and out commuting.
- The village is well connected by road and bus routes with the A4260 running through the centre of the village, creating a direct connection to Oxford city centre and Banbury, and the A34 linking to Bicester. However, bus services to smaller settlements including Woodstock and Yarnton are infrequent.
- The Oxford Canal and River Cherwell running along the east and west boundary edges of the village link Kidlington to Oxford whilst providing an attractive leisure corridor, in particular for canal boat hire, walking and cycling.
- Facilities associated with the University of Oxford form an educational corridor which stretches from North Oxford to Kidlington and the Begbroke Science Park site. In addition, Oxford Brookes University further extends the educational quarter with three campuses situated across Oxford.
- To the south west, Oxford's Northern Gateway is a major employment led growth area set to deliver up to 90,000 sqm of employment space and 500 homes by 2026. An Area Action Plan has been adopted by Oxford City Council. The development has yet to be implemented.

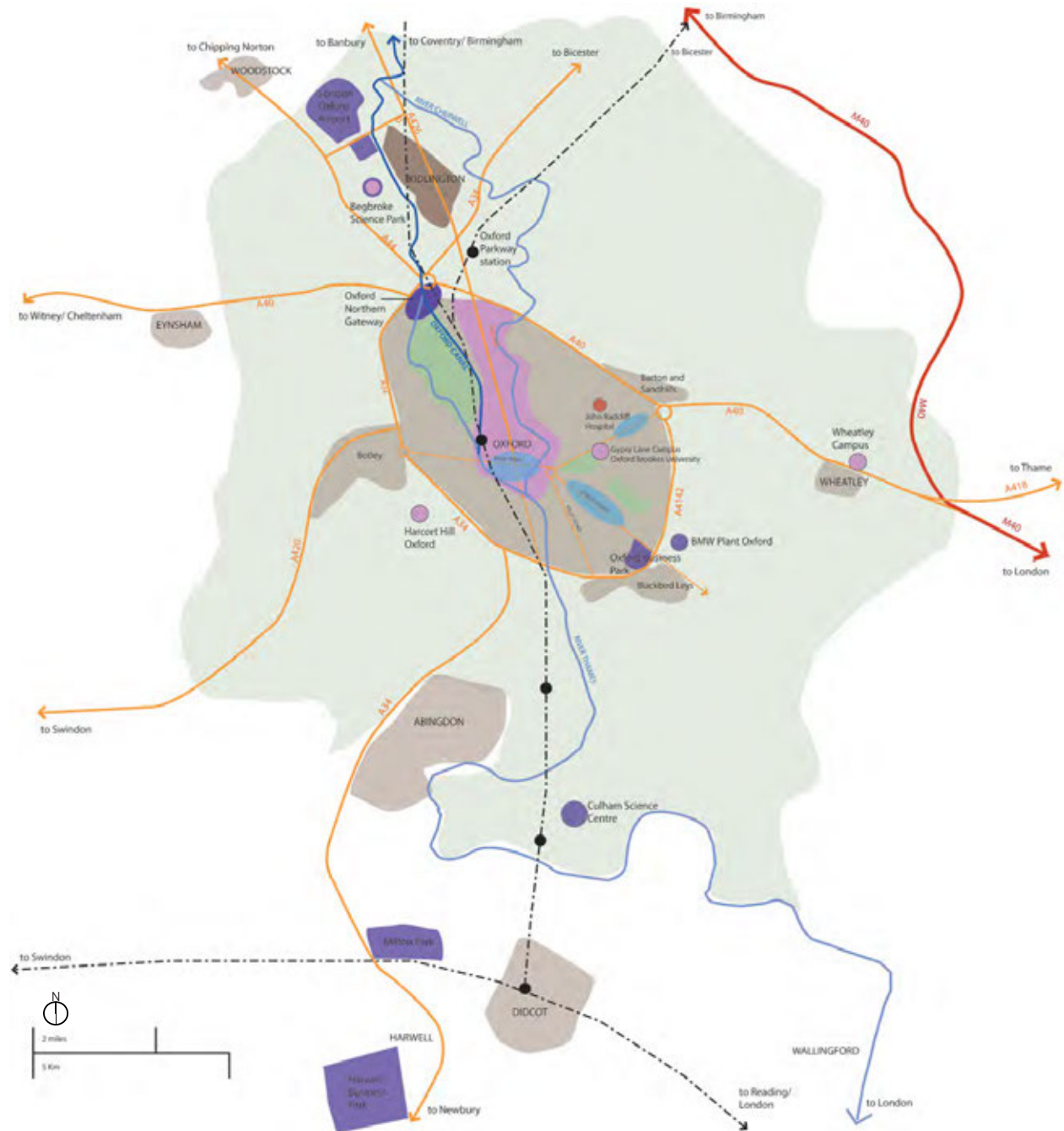
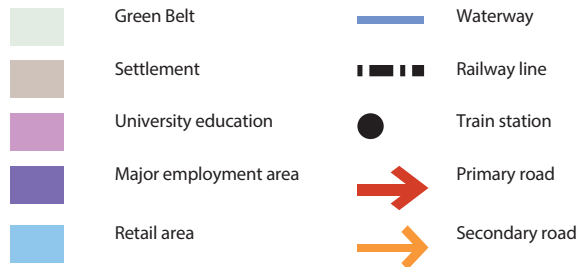


Figure 1.6 Local context