

**Application to West Oxfordshire District Council for the designation of the
Ascott-under-Wychwood Parish Boundary
plus 5 additional properties within adjacent Shipton Under Wychwood Parish
as the Designated Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of producing
the Ascott-under-Wychwood Neighbourhood Plan
pursuant to The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, s5. 1.**

1. Ascott-under-Wychwood Parish Council resolved at its Parish Council Meeting of 11 May 2020 to proceed with the production of a Neighbourhood Plan and this Application is the preliminary stage in that process.
2. Ascott-under-Wychwood Parish is predominately rural with 5 outlying farms to the north of the settlement, 1 in the centre of the village and further agricultural land to the south of the settlement.
3. The settlement is built mostly along the flat land which follows the line of the River Evenlode and the Cotswold railway line. There are approximately 260 dwellings.
4. The western Parish boundary is marked by the Coldwell Brook and a Public Bridleway leading to the A361 close to Shipton-under-Wychwood railway station. It then follows the A361 North East as far as a small woodland named 5 Shilling Corner, having crossed the road briefly to include land at Glebe Farm. From 5 Shilling Corner the Boundary meanders through farmland crossing the Oxfordshire Way, the river Evenlode, the Cotswold Line. Close to Smallstones Farm it crosses the B4437 and reaches the boundary at Kingstanding before returning north of Fairspear Farm to the B4437 at Coldwell Bridge.
5. Neighbouring Parishes are Shipton-under-Wychwood, Lynham, Chilson, Wychwood and Leafield.
6. Ascott-under-Wychwood Parish Council agreed that the whole of the Parish should be submitted as the Designated Neighbourhood Area plus an area to include 5 properties in Shipton-under-Wychwood Parish.
7. These properties straddle, sit on or are very close to the border with A-u-W Parish but are up to 2 miles from the nearest Shipton properties. They have always been treated as part of Ascott Parish; homeowners have traditionally regarded themselves as Ascott residents and have participated in the life of Ascott community.
8. Wychwood Manor has held many fundraising events for the village. Melplash Farm, Wychwood Manor, Coldstone House and Coldwell House have the Coldwell Brook (Ascott Parish Boundary) running along their curtilage. Land belonging to Langley Mill which includes a large field and some woodland is actually within Ascott Parish.
9. Ascott-under-Wychwood Parish Council is a relevant (qualifying) body for the submission of this Application.