3.1.2 Bicester

Green Connections

As described above, the late 20th century development of Bicester is characterised by a series of cul-de-sac type street layouts.

A network of footpaths and cycle paths link these cul-de-sacs to allow for movement to and through the neighbourhood.

The success of these green connections vary widely - some are poorly located and poorly maintained resulting in under use; whilst others are well kept, well used and provide pleasant informal landscaped areas.

- Provision of dedicated pedestrian and cycle only routes has the potential to greatly improve connectivity and promote non-vehicular movement to benefit the whole community; however...
- ...care should be taken to ensure that these routes are well sited, safe and well maintained to ensure the widest possible usage.
- Integration of other uses such as informal play can also ensure greater usage













3.1.3 Surrounding villages

ROAD VERGES AND EDGES



Ardley



- Road edges defined by both narrow and wide grass verges, often one side only
- Road boundaries often comprise of low stone walls with
- High, visually impermeable boundaries to roads to be avoided



Chesterton



Chesterton



Chesterton



Long Crendon

3.1.3 Surrounding villages

VILLAGE GREENS









- Village greens well overlookedOften bounded on at least two sides by roads
- Generous open spaces
 A variety of uses adjacent to the Green pubs, local shops etc.







3.1.3 Surrounding villages

CHARACTER





Long Crendon



Long Crendon



Brill



Ardley



Long Crendon

- A variety of materials
 Intimate incidental green spaces
 Varied built form mix of gable and roof forms
 Undefined and varied built edge form

3.1.3 Surrounding villages

VILLAGE EDGE



Key influences:

• Buildings nestling in contours against a foreground of green

LOCAL CENTRE



Crendon

- Local facilities around central square
 A mix of uses houses co-located with local shops and facilities







3.1.4 Sustainable Communities

As well as looking locally for lessons to be learned and key influences, the high aspirations of this eco-town development demand that the sphere of influences be widened to include what are regarded as exemplar sustainable residential-led developments, on a national and European level.

Clay Farm, Cambridge

Newhall, Harlow, Essex.



Key influences:

- Formal urban blocks to primary access route (1)
- Gradually more informal layout towards open spaces (2)
- Green spaces integrated into the layout (3)

Key influences:

- Parking court arrangement widely used. Some poorly overlooked spaces created. (1)
- Loose grid layout with central primary route (2)
- Village green type space central to development (3)
- Perimeter road between settlement and large scale open spaces. (4)

Accordia, Cambridge







Key influences:

- Object buildings apartments onto large scale open spaces (1)
- Vehicle loops mixed with car free routes (2)
- Central green square (3)

Barking Riverside, Barking





- Large communal open space with 3 sides back gardens 1 side by vehicle
- Predominantly 3 storey terraced housing
- Apartment buildings next to larger scale open spaces / GI (3)

3.1.4 Sustainable Communities

Freiburg, Germany





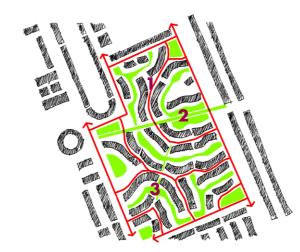
Key influences:

- A series of secondary looped vehicular routes off primary vehicle route (1)
- A series of green communal spaces extending into the site (2)
- Apartment buildings next to larger scale open spaces / GI (3)

Rijswijk, Netherlands







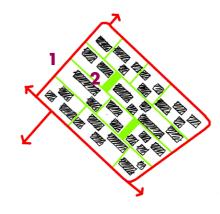
Key influences:

- Indirect meandering vehicular routes (1)
- Direct pedestrian and cycle routes (2)
- Back gardens opening onto communal green spaces (3)

Ypenburg, Netherlands







- Vehicular routes around the perimeter only
- Network of pedestrian and cycle routes to houses and open spaces(2)







3.1.4 Sustainable Communities



- informal street layout
- transition of street to front door
- use of materials



- walkable, playable streets
- use of materials to denote zones



- walkable, playable streets
- use of materials to denote zones



• footpaths and cycle paths along landscaped corridors



gardens opening directly onto green movement corridors



informal footpaths