



# Enham Alamein

## Village Design Statement



**FINAL PROOF**  
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The Charity Shop



MacCallum Road



Upper Enham

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The Green



Gate Detail



Knights Enham

## Introduction

### The Village Design Statement and Its Objectives

The aim of the Village Design Statement (VDS) is to describe the distinctive character of the village and the surrounding countryside. It is intended to establish design principles based on the distinctive local characteristics which are identified at three levels:

- The landscape setting of the village,
- The shape of the settlement,
- The nature of the buildings themselves.

The Design Statement works in partnership with the local planning authority in the context of existing local planning policy, and provides a supplementary planning document to influence future development within the village.

### The Production of the Statement

The production of this statement has resulted from discussions at numerous village meetings, input from a wide selection of villagers, who contributed directly and indirectly, and the commitment of the Enham Alamein VDS team.

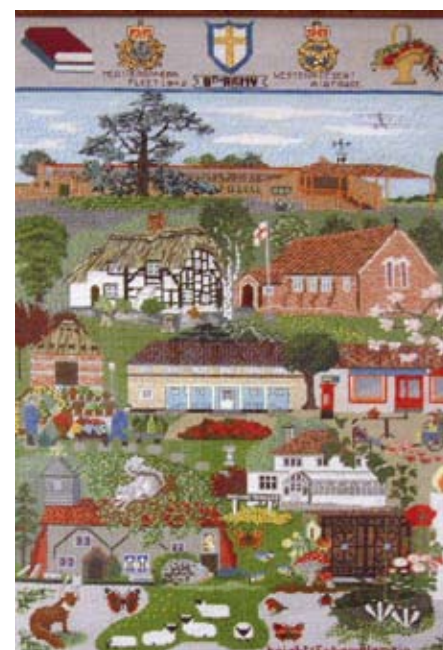
### Location of Enham Alamein

The villages of Enham Alamein, Knights Enham and Upper Enham are located to the north of Andover and are dissected by the A343 Newbury Road. The major land area of the village lies to the east of the A343, and is primarily home to the *Enham* charity and its residents, interspersed with a few private dwellings.

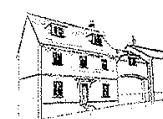


Hamlet Gardens

The majority of private residences are at the southern end of Enham Alamein village, either adjacent to the road or in private settlements such as Enham Chase and Hamlet Gardens. This document covers the area of the proposed Enham Alamein Parish.



*The Enham tapestry, depicting the church of St Michael and All Angels at Knights Enham; the cedar tree which was the logo of the Enham charity; a biplane symbolising the link between the First World War and the manufacture of glider parts at Enham; a poppy representing the war dead; and a basket of flowers which symbolises the combined industries of basket making and the garden centre at Enham Industries.*







Sheep Farming



St Michael and All Angels



The Old Blacksmith's Shop

## Historical Background

The village of Enham Alamein was known in the 11th century as Eanham which was probably derived from the word "Yean" which is the ancient word for lambing. Eanham was a place where lambs were bred, as indeed they are today. In the Domesday Book it is recorded as Etham and in the 12th and 13th centuries it became Enham.

In 1316 Enham became Enham Militis or Soldiers Enham and later took on the name of Knights Enham when the manor was in the possession of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem or the Knight's Templar.

Enham existed in various forms as a village in its own right being divided into two equal holdings, that of the existing Knights Enham and also of Kings Enham which appears on the maps of the 15th and early 16th centuries.

The church of St Michael and All Angels at Knights Enham was built in a Norman and early English style some time in the 11th century, though it is believed that there was an earlier church on the same site, probably a Saxon church made of wood, wattle and daub, and roofed with thatch.

The church is first mentioned in the history of Hampshire in 1241 and the first rector was recorded in this period as being John, the Parson who apparently owed money to the prior of Andover.

At the start of the 20th century Enham was a tiny hamlet dominated by a large house known as Enham Place and owned by Lord and Lady Earle. There were two smaller houses, Littlecote and the White House, each with a few servants.

While some of the villagers lived in their place of employment, others lived in the thatched cottages that remain today along the Newbury Road, which then ran through the grounds of Enham Place.

On the edge of the village in Anton Lane, which used to be the main road, there is a thatched cottage that still has its original tie beam, some Elizabethan beams and an inglenook fireplace that has a wooden fire door to a bread oven. The walls are 17th century wattle and daub.

In 1918 the Village Centres Council selected Enham Place as the site of the first village centre "For the medical treatment and training of ex-servicemen suffering from the effects of amputations, neurasthenia, shellshock or fever".

By the end of 1919 one hundred and fifty men were in residence in and about Enham Place and Littlecote House.

Some of these men became "settlers" who having completed their vocational training decided to stay in Enham and set up their own businesses. Carters, hauliers, market gardeners and dairy farmers were just some of the trades.





St George's Church



Landale Wilson Hall



Detail of Naval Gate

The Landale Wilson Institute building was completed in the Spring of 1926, and was given to Enham by Mr and Mrs D. Landale Wilson to commemorate their silver wedding anniversary. It was opened by HRH the Prince of Wales.

Further amenities were added with the opening of the village store to provide groceries, etc. Houses were also given to the village by outside businesses and individuals who appreciated all the work being done by the Enham Village Centre, and plaques can be seen above many houses showing the names of their sponsors.

The battle of El Alamein in North Africa was one of the turning points of World War Two, and in 1942, just after the battle, a group of Egyptian businessmen donated a large sum of money to the Enham Village Centre to show "the gratitude of Egypt and the Empire, for the gallantry and fortitude displayed by the Empire forces in delivering Egypt from the German and Italian armies, and their victorious advance to Tunis and Cape

Bon in 1942 and 1943". Three pairs of gates were also donated to mark the contribution of all three armed forces.



In recognition of these generous gifts, the village was renamed Enham Alamein.

The money was used to expand the village and house additional disabled war veterans and their families. This practice continued over the years until war casualties dwindled, the Falklands campaign providing some of the last influx of servicemen.

Since then the attentions of the *Enham* charity have turned to providing care to a wide range of disabled residents.

With the ever-increasing needs to meet funds for the charity, the trust has had to sell parcels of land for private development which has resulted in a more balanced community of private residents and tenants of the trust. The most recent of which was sold in 2002 and which is now Enham Chase.

The present church of St George was originally a games room for "the big house", Enham Place. This was later converted into a private chapel belonging to the *Enham* charity (then the Enham Village Centre). Finally, in 1974 it was dedicated and consecrated by the Bishop of Basingstoke on St George's Day.

A fine tapestry, depicting many historic aspects of the villages was created, and now hangs in the Council Chamber of the Test Valley Council.





Enham Grounds



Enham Housing



Vimy Ridge

## Enham Charity

Since 1918, Enham has responded to the changing needs of disabled people.

Founded as a rehabilitation centre for ex-servicemen returning from the First World War, *Enham* has helped disabled people find new lives, homes and employment for over 85 years.

In 1995 *Enham* embarked on an innovative project of residential care: self-contained, fully-equipped

studio apartments providing independent living for the *Enham* charity residents.

The *Enham* charity also provides support for residents to develop confidence and skills for life in the wider community. *Enham's* vision is for a society where disabled people are valued as individuals and are able to achieve their full potential.

From its inception, *Enham* has benefited from both royal patronage and government support. Many members of the Royal Family, including King George V, Queen Mary and the Duke of York, have been patrons.

Visitors to the *Enham* charity include HRH the Prince of Wales, HRH The Princess Royal, Princess Alice and HRH Princess Alexandra.



Elizabeth House

*Enham's* current patron is the Duchess of Gloucester, who opened Elizabeth House in 2003, the latest of the three modern residential care homes at Enham Alamein.



Enham complex







A343 Newbury Road



Grazing Cattle



Surrounding Landscape

## Countryside

### Landscape Setting

The area along the Newbury Road, to the north of Andover, is broken only by the small villages of Enham Alamein, Upper Enham and Knights Enham which contain a scattering of attractive dwellings and farm buildings, all of which blend well with the surrounding countryside.

The village of Enham Alamein, which is dissected by the A343 Newbury Road, is surrounded by open farmland. The ground on either side of the Newbury Road

rises to form low ridges which provide a backdrop to the village properties, and which can be seen through the many gaps between the buildings.



Farmhouse in Enham Alamein



Cottage in Upper Enham

The villages are characterised by the many open spaces within them. These in turn are complimented and identified by the open countryside surrounding them.

The soil is heavy clay and chalk, and primarily supports the growth of arable crops and open grazing land for sheep and cattle.

C1 - The surrounding countryside and approaches, which identify the villages, should be retained when any new development is considered. The countryside to the south and east is particularly important as a landscape setting protecting the villages' rural character and independence from the neighbouring town of Andover.

C2 - Any development or change of use within the landscape should take account of the open character of the villages and the public views they afford.

C3 - Uninterrupted views of landmark buildings in their settings should be retained. Examples being the current estate office on the village green and the houses along Vimy Ridge.





Cinder Path



Coppiced Trees



Hedgerow

## Countryside

### Trees and Hedgerows

A predominant feature within and surrounding the villages is the abundance of trees and hedgerows. The proliferation of the trees amongst the old and new developments provides a naturally harmonious and sympathetic landscape which is pleasing to the eye.

Recent extensive tree planting has achieved natural screening of any new developments, and has enhanced the rich diversity of the established woodland areas, which includes many hazel trees still being coppiced.

Other species of trees include beech, birch, cedar, oak, lime, sycamore, Scots pine and horse chestnut.

Mature hedgerows, largely hawthorn, enclose Anton Lane, running along the skyline parallel to the A343 and Hungerford Lane (part of the old Roman road), and border the cinder path to Smannell and Little London, creating natural boundaries between the fields and woods.

To the east of the village mature wooded areas weave their way along the edges of the arable fields of long-standing agricultural usage and are peppered with old boundary oaks.



Boundary oaks

Memorial trees have also been planted within Enham Alamein to provide the modern-day residents with a memory of the past.



Memorial tree

C4 - Domestic and commercial development should respect existing trees especially those planted or dedicated in remembrance. The removal of shrubs and hedgerows should be resisted. Where removal is deemed appropriate, replacement and additional planting should be of native deciduous species.  
C5 - Natural hedges bordering pathways or property should be preserved and added to encourage flora and fauna.







Footpath



Pedestrian Pathway



North west from Hungerford Lane

## Countryside

### Highways, Footpaths and Bridleways

An extensive network of tree-lined footpaths and bridleways links the main populated areas of Enham Alamein and Upper Enham and also loops southward towards Knights Enham.

The ancient Cinder Path links the village to Smannell via the small settlement at Woodhouse.

Hungerford Lane also forms part of the Roman road that links Winchester and Marlborough. It runs above Manor Farm through Bilgrove and Little Bilgrove Copses, starting as a metalled road and, after the farm buildings at Traveller's Rest, gives way to a bridleway leading up to the Hare and Hounds Public House at Charlton Down.

Anton Lane cuts its way along and through the chalk escarpment to Icknield Way (part of the above-mentioned Roman road) on the northernmost fringe of Andover.

All are well-maintained and enable quick and easy access to all parts of the peaceful surrounding countryside.



Hungerford Lane

C6 - The role of footpaths in the village character should be recognised. The existing network should be protected and enhanced. Where possible footpaths should be incorporated into new developments and new routes added, particularly where houses would otherwise be isolated from the rest of the village. Accessibility for disabled and less-able residents should be the primary focus.

C7 - The historical Cinder Path should be respected by any development.

C8 - Any additional development would need to take account of the impact of traffic upon the village and surrounding lanes, and ensure that parking is sufficient to avoid the tendency to park vehicles on pavements.

C9 - Light pollution at night should be minimised, without compromising safety. Lights should avoid glare and be directed downward. Low-intensity, low-energy and time-controlled lighting should be encouraged, both for street lighting and household security lights. Where lighting requires planning permission this would be considered in accordance with Policy AME 03 of the TVBC Local Plan.

C10 - Any necessary signs should be designed where possible to be in keeping with the rural character. White finger posts are preferred. Road name signs should be considered as part of the statement of style for street furniture.





Upper Enham



Greenfields



Enham grounds



Enham buildings



Thatched  
Bus Shelter



MacCallum Road



A343 Newbury Road



Village Shop and Post Office







Cinder Path



Estate Office



St George's Church

Knights Enham



Hamlet Gardens



St Michael and All Angels



Enham Chase



Landale Wilson Hall







Enham  
Alamein

## Aerial View







Upper Enham





Bluebell Wood



Peacock Butterfly



Daffodils

## Countryside

### Flora and Fauna

The central village green is dominated in the spring by a vibrant profusion of crocuses, and many of the roadsides are lined with daffodils. The area of mixed woodland to the west of the A343 is at this time of year ablaze with the colour of bluebells and primroses.

Numerous wild flowers and plants are to be found in the area during the year, including celandines, anemones, violets, foxgloves and honeysuckle.

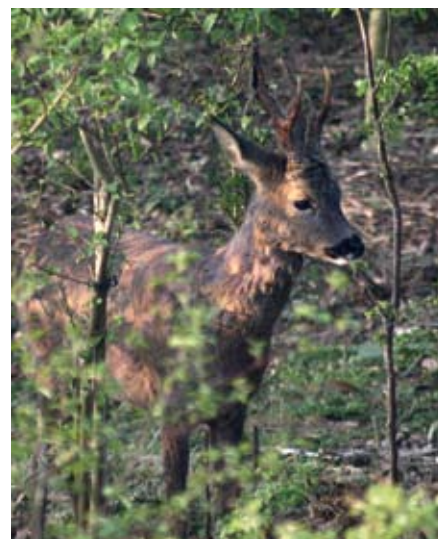


Celandines

The wide variety of habitats gives rise to an abundance of wildlife such as deer, foxes, hares, rabbits, badgers and hedgehogs, in addition to the locally-reared cattle and sheep. Wild boar are rumoured still to roam the coppiced woodland to the west of the villages.



Great Spotted  
Woodpecker



Roe Deer



Nuthatch

The woods, open spaces and gardens also provide a balanced natural habitat for bats and many species of birds, including woodpeckers, tits, finches, nuthatches, tree-creepers, owls, wrens, robins, rooks, crows, jackdaws, pheasants, magpies, kestrels, buzzards and kites.

C11 - A balanced wildlife population of indigenous and migratory types is to be encouraged by allowing and increasing suitable habitats. The development of sympathetic water features would be encouraged.







*Enham Buildings*



*Enham Post Office and Shop*



*Enham Chase*

## The Villages

### Architectural Development

Over the past ninety years the villages have been extended to provide for the housing needs of its inhabitants, both disabled and able-bodied.

This extended and staggered development has resulted in a wide variety of buildings and building styles. All of this is reflected in what now forms the unique and interesting villages of Enham Alamein, Knights Enham and Upper Enham.



*Cottage in Enham Alamein*

Travelling through Enham Alamein from the northern end, the visual impact of the buildings varies from the two-storey 1990s apartment buildings, which stand on high ground to the east of the Newbury Road overlooking a green park area, to the fine crescent of white-washed 1920s cottages on the right along Vimy Ridge.

The garage, village shop and the *Enham* charity shop also date from the 1920s, as does the Landale Wilson Hall, which was presented to Enham by Mr and Mrs Landale Wilson in 1926.

Dotted along the main road are several pairs of brick two-storey semi-detached houses which were built in the 1930s, and modern red-brick bungalows.



*Semi-detached houses*

TV1 - The villages benefit from an absence of prominent rooflines. Future development should respect existing roof heights and not be overbearing to existing dwellings.

TV2 - Any future development should consider the needs of the villages in terms of new local shops and community facilities.

TV3 - Estates of standard housing design, which do not take account of the style and layout of buildings in the villages, are not appropriate. Linear development, regular house layout and regimented design should be avoided. The existing variety of house sizes, shapes and rooflines should be maintained. New construction should match the variation in plot size and shapes.





Brick and Flint



Modern Brick and Rendering



Thatched Bus Stop

## The Villages

### Building Materials

The varying architectural styles, evident throughout Enham Alamein, Upper Enham and Knights Enham, are probably best described as eclectic.

The building materials used throughout the villages vary from brick, brick and flint, to rendered and whitewashed walls. Tile hangings and wooden cladding are used on some walls.



Example of flint and brick building

Many of the buildings currently have tiled roofs, although some of the older buildings still have traditional thatch.

Many fine examples of thatched buildings exist in and around the villages - The Enham Estate Office building, on the green in the middle of the village, is timber framed with whitewashed brick walls which were most probably originally wattle and daub. The building is believed to date from the 1600s, and was built as a pair of cottages, one of which has a hipped thatched roof and the other a ¼ hipped.

Millington cottage, just behind the Enham Estate Office, also dates from about the same period with brick and flint walls under a thatched roof.

On the green is the unusual and characteristic round bus stop, which has brick walls decorated with flint under a hipped thatched roof, believed to be one of only a few of its kind left in the country.

The 1930s/40s-style of red brick under a tiled roof can be seen in the church of St George. It does not have a spire or tower, and its rectangular shape gives it an austere appearance.

More recently, a new development of private housing has been built at Enham Chase. Much effort has been made to blend in the new building styles with that of the old. The buildings vary in design, with many of the houses having rendered and washed walls.

TV5 - Older buildings should be maintained using original or sympathetic materials and details. Existing features should be retained whenever possible.

TV6 - Materials and colours used in both new developments and renovations should blend with existing materials. Concrete, plastics and other unsympathetic elements should usually be avoided. Where possible local and natural materials should be used e.g. brick, flint and thatching.

TV7 - Large areas of hard surfacing should be avoided.





A343 Newbury Road



The Green



Enham Landscaping

## The Villages

### Open Spaces

The linear nature of the villages, with the main A343 passing through, is broken by the grassy open spaces either side of the road. This backdrop characterises the villages and ensures that they are not just presented as an anonymous tunnel of buildings through which the main road passes.

The villages are able to display their character and identity as rural locations, with a significant historical past, and an existing community presence.

Especially important are the open grass spaces around the church, Estate Office and the *Enham* charity residences and buildings to the north of Enham Alamein - many of the trees planted in these open areas are dedicated to past residents, thereby retaining important links with the village history, and also providing clear views of the buildings that represent the village's history and character.

There are three main public open spaces within the Enham villages, providing children with safe areas to play away from the main road. These offer two football pitches and a pavilion, and the more traditional swings, slides and other playground facilities for younger children. These public spaces are themselves bounded

by fields and woods, giving a further sense of space and rural nature of the villages.

The open farmland and woodlands surrounding the villages clearly mark the boundaries from each other, and also from the town of Andover. It is vital for the villages to be able to maintain their independent identities from other communities.

The open fields and woodland not only provide clear boundaries for the village, they also provide a vital habitat for the many and varied wildlife in the area.



Children's playground

TV8 - Open spaces, such as the village green, playing fields and playground are important and should be well maintained.

TV9 - In accordance with Local Planning Policy ESN21, new development should consider the impact on open space reduction and offer alternatives. Replacement areas should be better in terms of quantity and quality.

TV10 - Significant infill development of the village within recent years has not addressed the recreational needs of the families that now inhabit Enham Alamein. Any future development must address the needs of the resulting population in accordance with Local Plan Policy ESN 22.







## Design Checklist

If you are considering any sort of building work in Enham Alamein, please take a little time to look through the following checklists to ensure that your plans adhere to the guidelines. (Please ✓ the boxes.)

### Developers

*Will what you are planning:*

- ☐ Blend in with the landscape?
- ☐ Make allowance for local wildlife?
- ☐ Enhance the social mix?
- ☐ Respect the traditional settlement pattern of the village?
- ☐ Blend in with the surroundings in terms of scale, density, character and building numbers?
- ☐ Respect existing or provide additional open space?
- ☐ Provide new or preserve existing vistas into, out of or within the village?
- ☐ Encourage pedestrian access and link in with existing footways?
- ☐ Include high-quality street furniture which is appropriate for its setting?

### Architects and Designers of New Buildings

*Please ask yourself the following questions about the building or extension you are planning:*

- ☐ Is its position and size in keeping with neighbouring buildings?
- ☐ Is the roof height and pitch appropriate for the area and the style of building?
- ☐ Are the construction materials in common use in Enham Alamein and is their colour appropriate?
- ☐ Is the type of windows to be used appropriate for the building and the area, and is their size and proportion in keeping with the historic norm?
- ☐ Are the parking arrangements sufficiently inconspicuous so that, for example, the garage does not dominate the frontage?
- ☐ Will there be sufficient storage to allow the garage to be used for its proper purpose and avoid on-street parking?
- ☐ Are you retaining all existing hedgerows and native trees?
- ☐ Will what you are proposing harmonise with existing buildings and make a positive contribution to the character of the area?





## Design Checklist (cont'd)

### Householders

*If you are considering altering the exterior of your property, or changing any external detail of the building, its paintwork, signs, garden or surrounds, please undertake your own design assessment by studying each elevation or aspect of the building and asking yourself the following:*

- ☐ Are there any particular features which are out of character with the building itself or with neighbouring properties or with the Design Statement?
- ☐ Is what I am proposing in accord with the Design Statement?
- ☐ Does what I am proposing enhance distinctive features or help remove uncharacteristic ones?
- ☐ Will it make a positive contribution to the character of the area?

## Acknowledgements

The Enham Alamein Village Design Statement Team would like to thank those residents and individuals whose knowledge and contributions have made this document possible.

The Enham Test Valley Tapestry image is used with the kind permission of Test Valley Borough Council.

The pictures of the nuthatch and woodpecker on page 12 are used with the kind permission of George Marsh.





**Enham Alamein**  
Village Design Statement

Prepared by:  
The Enham Alamein Village Design Statement Team, February 2009