

Kington St Michael Neighbourhood Plan Community Facilities Report

December 2025



Introduction

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)¹ defines community facilities as facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship. The NPPF sets out that planning policies should plan positively for the provision of these services, to help promote healthy and safe communities (para. 96).

Wiltshire Council defines rural facilities and services as ‘those that benefit the local community such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship’ (Wiltshire Core Strategy, paragraph 6.71). There is a need to protect and encourage the development of rural services and facilities in Kington St Michael to ensure that the parish can continue to meet a number of the day to day needs of the community.

There is a range of community facilities in Kington St Michael which host and support a variety of community activity within the area. This Report sets out the existing facilities in the Neighbourhood Area which, where appropriate, can be protected by a planning policy in the Neighbourhood Plan. The facilities are listed in Table 1 and identified on Map 1.



Above: Kington St Michael Primary School

This report also covers issues and opportunities and perceived gaps in provision of facilities in Kington St Michael.

¹ This Plan is being prepared under the December 2024 version of the NPPF

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/675abd214cbda57cacd3476e/NPPF-December-2024.pdf>

Kington St Michael Community Facilities

Kington St Michael's sense of community is highly valued by local residents. The thriving community is supported by a good range of facilities within the parish. The village has a community run shop, a primary school, "The Jolly Huntsman" pub (currently for sale), a village hall, a social club, St Michael & All Angels parish church, Lodge Farm nursery and a cafe. Kington St Michael also has a series of valued open spaces used for recreation, including the Recreation Field, allotments, Nymph Hay Woodland and the Village Green. There are plenty of clubs and activities held in the village hall including preschool, WI and Pilates.

Issues / Opportunities / gaps in provision of community facilities

Responses to the NDP resident's survey (2019) generally cited the sense of community in Kington St Michael as one of its most valued characteristics. Suggestions to improve facilities in the village included:

- Provision of village toddler group
- Provision of sports facilities / tennis court
- Improvements to village shop
- More provision of seating in outside public spaces

Feedback from businesses based in the village in 2022, post covid, also suggested more provision for drop-in office accommodation or hot-desking was required.

Existing Community Facilities List

Table 1 and Map 1 identify the existing community facilities in Kington St Michael.

Table 1

| ID on Map | Name | Basic Description | Owner of facility | Owner of land (if different) | Others can use? |
|-----------|-------------------------|--|---|------------------------------|--|
| A | Village Hall | <p>Kington St Michael village hall can accommodate 150 people standing, 80 people seated (theatre style rows) or 70 people seated at tables. The kitchen opens up onto the main hall which makes it ideal for serving refreshments at events. There is an enclosed playground area at the back of the hall and a car park to the side of the hall with six marked bays. Also see E, village shop.</p> <p>Regular users include Kington KidsPre-School, Music and Movement, Pilates, WI, meditation, Karate classes and Dog Training.</p> | Administered by the Kington St Michael Parish Room charity, with Kington St Michael Parish Council as Custodian Trustees and the Village Hall Management Committee as Management Trustees | N/A | The Village Hall Is available for public and private hire |
| B | The Jolly Huntsman | Grade II listed Public House with B&B accommodation serving food and drinks. Open daily (currently for sale). | Private owner | N/A | |
| C | Kington St Michael Club | Members club affiliated to the Working Men's Club and Institute Union. Facilities include WIFI, Dance Floor, Kitchen, Big Screen, Full-Sized Snooker Table, Pool Table, Skittle Alley, Children's Skittles, Dart Board, BBQ, Outside Bar. | Owned by members | N/A | The Clubhouse lounge is available to hire by members and non-members |

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| | | This is a members club open to everyone including residents from outside of the parish. Accessible and child friendly. Regular events are held throughout the year. | | | |
| D | Village Shop | Community shop owned and run by local volunteers, stocking groceries, stamps and local produce. Car park and disabled access. The shop is open Monday-Saturday. | 100+ community shareholders | See B, Village Hall | N/A |
| E | Kington St Michael C of E Primary School | Voluntary controlled Church of England Primary School with approx. 130 pupils drawn from Kington St Michael and its surrounding areas. | Voluntary controlled school maintained by Wiltshire Council. | N/A | The school's hall and grounds are available for hire with a discount for local community groups |
| F | Lodge Farm Nursery | Privately run nursery school | Private owner | Within Kington Langley Parish | N/A |
| G | Kington Café | Café serving a range of food and drink to eat in or takeaway | Privately Operated | See D, Kington St Michael Club | N/A |
| H | St Michael and All Angels' Church | Church within the Bybrook Group. The building is Grade II* Listed. A service is held here every Thursday at 10am, and most Sundays at 9.30am. The facilities are open to the public for coffee and refreshments on Mondays and areas can be hired. | Administered by the Diocese of Bristol | Church of England | The church is normally open and visitors are welcome. However, should it be locked the key may also be borrowed from and returned to |

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| | | There are annual fundraising events held in the church and grounds including a very popular Teddy Parachuting event. | | | the village shop (opposite the church) during shop opening hours. Hospitality suite available for hire |
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The Almshouses are a valued community asset, owned by Kington St Michael United Charities. They are not included in the list above as they are residential use. But they are noted as important assets to the community; providing housing for local people and a positive contribution to the street scene.

Other Facilities

Green spaces are an important local community facility. They are included in the Local Green Space and Green Infrastructure evidence base, but are listed below for information.

| Name | Basic Description | Owner of facility | Owner of land (if different) | Others can use? |
|----------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| QE2 Recreation Field | <p>Queen Elizabeth II Field with children's play area and equipment, football pitch, table tennis table and BBQ and picnic area.</p> <p>Volunteers KSM QE2 Field Group set up to enhance facilities here and encourage greater usage by the community. Annual events held on the field include Bonfire and Fireworks Night and Family Fun Day.</p> | Kington St Michael Parish Council | N/A | The Recreation Field is open to the public at all times |
| Allotments | Allotments located to the rear of the Almshouses, and administered by the United Charity (see paragraph below table). Prioritised for local residents and commonly has a waiting list. Majority of the plots are sub-divided and typically serve 30+ keen gardeners. | Kington St Michael United Charities | N/A | N/A |
| Nymph Hay Woodland | Formerly the "Millennium Wood". A small wooded area with footpaths, a stream and picnic benches used regularly by a large portion of the community and more recently as part of a village fitness event | The Woodland Trust | N/A | Nymph Hay Woodland is open to the public at all times |

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| | in conjunction with the QE2 recreation field. | | | |
| The Pond Area Village Green | This is a registered Village Green. Historically, a ford crossed the stream at the bottom of the grassed plot, forming the route south out of the village. There are, reputedly, cobbles under the grass by the stream, which presumably led to the stream, and where the cattle from Home Farm used to drink. When the nearby cottages were refurbished years ago the soil and debris were put here as the ford was no longer needed. It remains an attractive, unspoilt green area, helping to blend the village and conservation area boundaries into the surrounding rural fringes of the parish. | Wiltshire Council | N/A | Open to the public at all times |

Map showing Existing Community Facilities in Kington St Michael

Map 1

