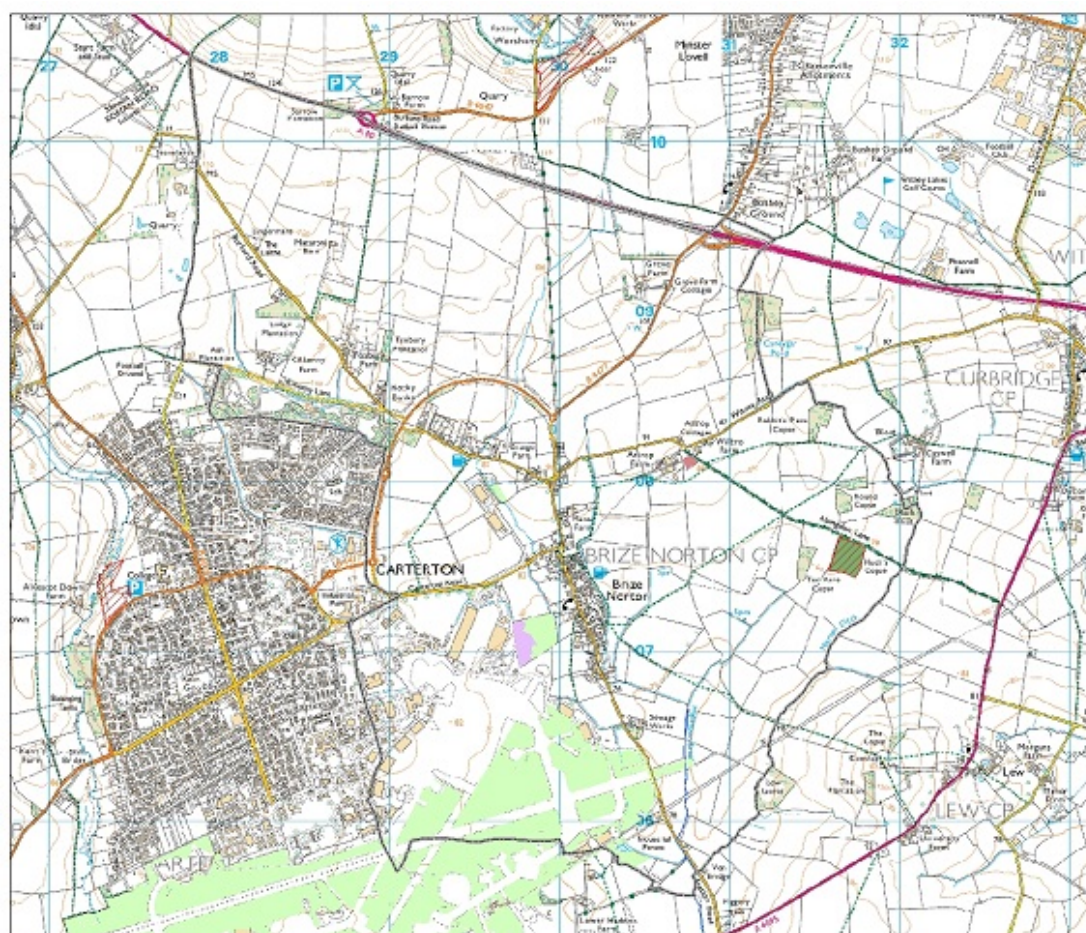


Neighbourhood Green Corridors

Name of LERC	Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC)
Contact for enquiries	www.tverc.org
CASE STUDY	Neighbourhood Green Corridors
Summary	Our countryside is fragmented by buildings, roads and railways so it can be difficult for people and wildlife to move through it. TVERC has used connectivity modelling and interactive workshops to help local communities identify and protect existing green corridors and create new ones.
Issue/project to be addressed	<p>Green corridors are corridors that allow people and wildlife to move through the landscape. They are important both in connecting patches of habitat to allow wildlife to find food, homes and mates, and in helping people to access the countryside and to experience wildlife first hand.</p> <p>Many Neighbourhood Plans are identifying green corridors and including policies which specifically address the protection, creation and enhancement of new and existing green corridors.</p> <p>The identification and mapping of green corridors accords with the NPPF paragraph 17 in identifying and mapping ecological networks and wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Brize Norton Neighbourhood Plan group asked Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) to identify and map green corridors in their Neighbourhood Plan area.</p>
Action taken	<p>TVERC identified priority habitats (map 1) and carried out detailed mapping of habitats and land use for the whole of Oxfordshire, analysed information about Local Wildlife Sites and collated data for Public Rights of Way.</p> <p>TVERC modelled connectivity between patches of priority habitats using a cost-distance method. The Cost-Distance</p>

	<p>analysis was carried out using the r.cost tool in the GRASS (v7.0.6) plugin in QGIS (v2.16)</p> <p>Output of the model showed the connected habitat network for each of these habitats (map 2 and 3).</p> <p>Proposed corridors have been identified that run from the northern boundary of the Parish towards the centre and that link the existing Country Park to the centre of the Parish. Both existing and proposed green corridors converge in the centre of the parish. (map 4)</p> <p>The proposed corridors were then discussed with the local community in a workshop, before being finalised.</p>
Results/The change that has been made	<p>These green corridors will be included in the Neighbourhood Plan so they can be protected and enhanced. The corridors will allow people and wildlife to move through the landscape.</p> <p>They provide a focal point for local conservation effort to aid community cohesion, will increase landscape permeability for wildlife, and help people access the countryside and to experience wildlife first hand.</p>
Sharing best practice	The same approach could be applied in neighbourhoods all over the country.
Any other information	TVERC has completed similar green corridors projects for South Leigh, Mid-Cherwell and East Challow parishes.

Map 1



Brize Norton - Local Wildlife Sites and Priority Habitats

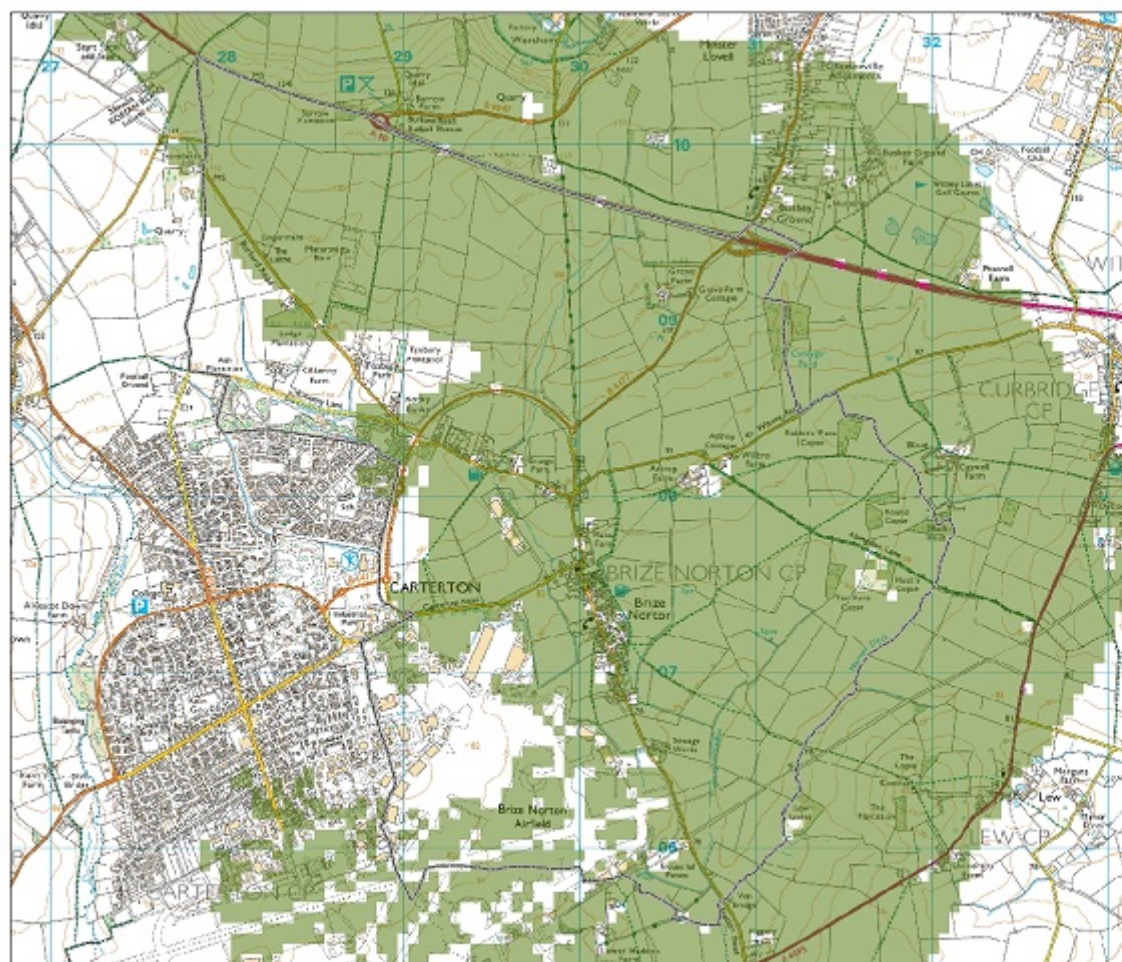
Legend

- Brize Norton parish boundary
- Brize Norton LWS
- Brize Norton habitats**
- Priority Habitat**
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Possible priority fen habitat
- Possible priority grassland habitat
- Rivers
- Traditional Orchards

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1 cm equals 200 meters

Map 2



Brize Norton - Habitat Networks

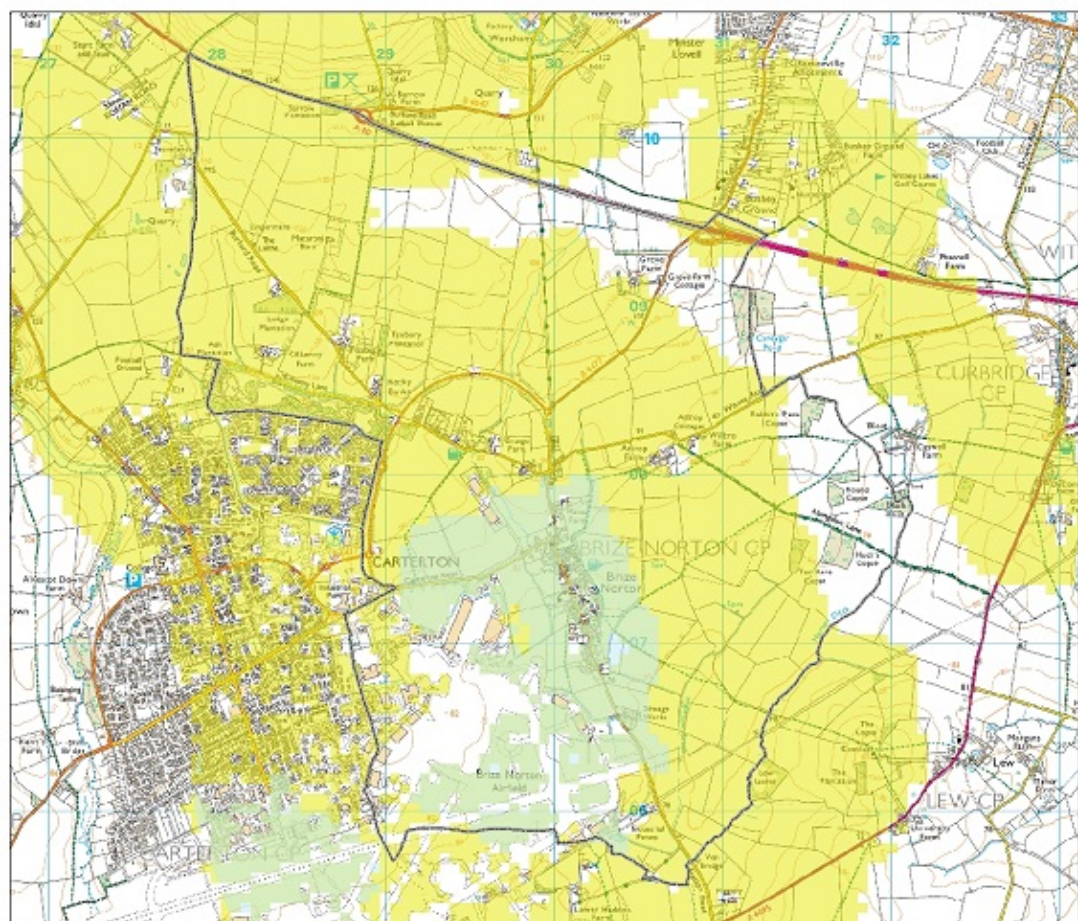
Legend

-  Brize Norton parish boundary
-  Woodland Habitat Network

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1 cm equals 200 meters

Map 3



Brize Norton - Habitat Networks

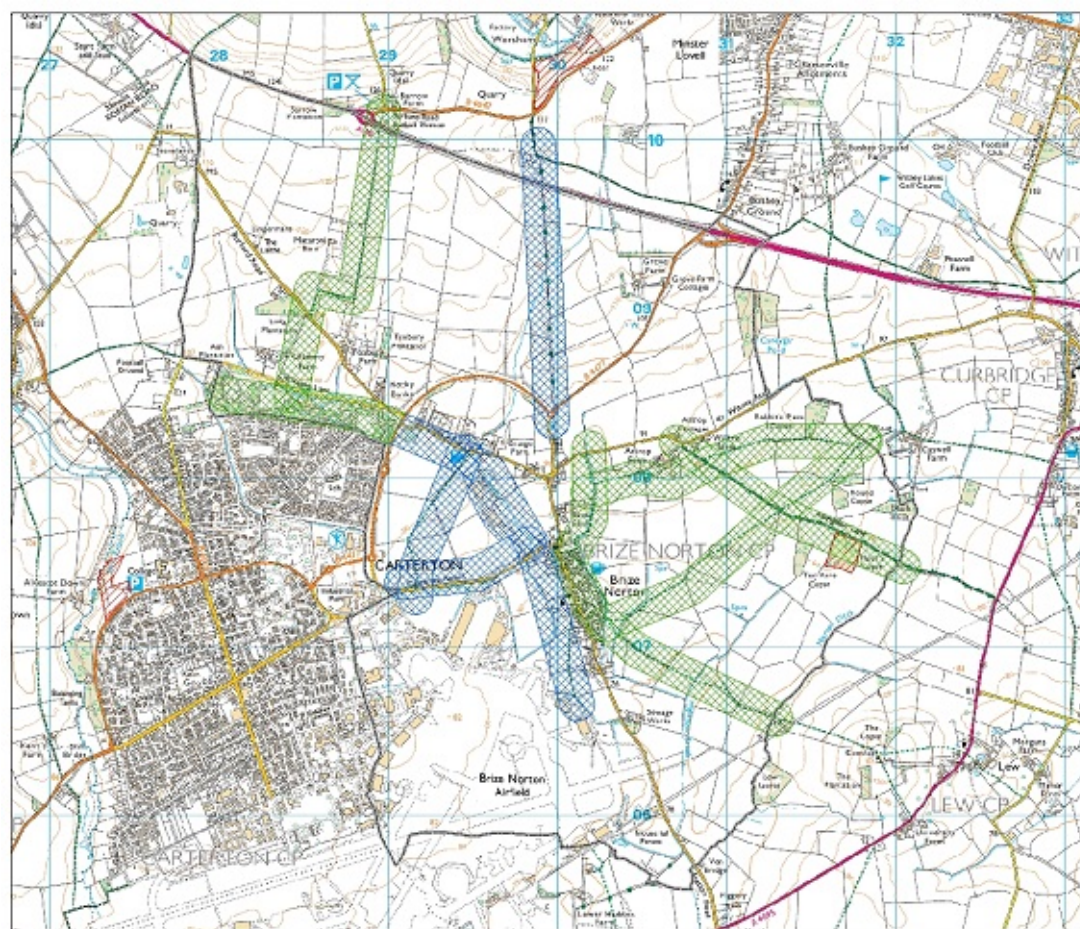
Legend

- Brize Norton parish boundary
- Wetland Habitat Network
- Grassland Habitat Network

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1 cm equals 200 meters

Map 4



Brize Norton - Green Corridors

Legend

- Corridor**
- Existing
 - Proposed
 - Brize Norton parish boundary
 - Brize Norton LWS

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1 cm equals 200 meters