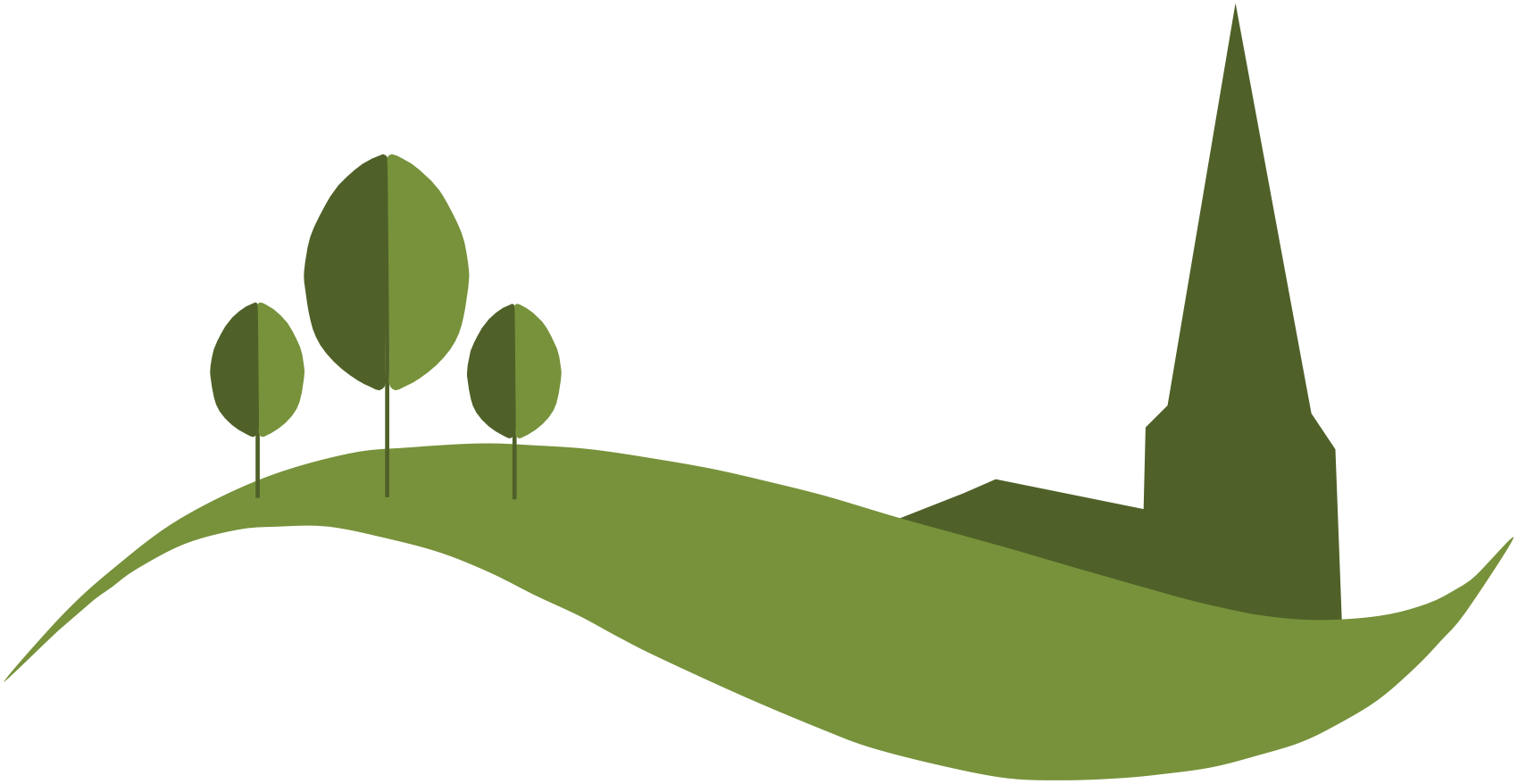


Breaston Parish Council

PARISH PLAN 2026

BREASTON VILLAGE PLAN

Breaston Parish Council

1. Contents
2. Introduction
3. What makes Breaston unique?
4. History
5. Development
6. Conservation area
7. Architecture
8. Business
9. Transport
10. Community
11. Open Space
12. Public services
13. Leisure
14. Maps

UPDATED 2026.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS : Breaston Parish Council Erewash Borough Council Kevin Miller Sandra Stock Jonathan Lupton

INTRODUCTION

Breaston Parish Council

Parish Plans are an initiative by Government to give villages the opportunity to define the needs of their community, now and for the future. It reflects the needs and desires of all sections of the community and aims to:

- Identify the features of the village that people value and wish to preserve
- Identify the key facilities that people want to maintain and improve
- Enable the people in the parish to identify local issues to be resolved
- Define how people want the village to develop in the future

The previous Parish Plan for our village was drawn up in 2021 after extensive work by a sub-committee of councillors & parishioners. An Open Day on key issues was held for residents and the plan was drawn up. Since then there have been changes in the way services are delivered locally and our Plan & Action points needed to be updated. This revision completed 2026.

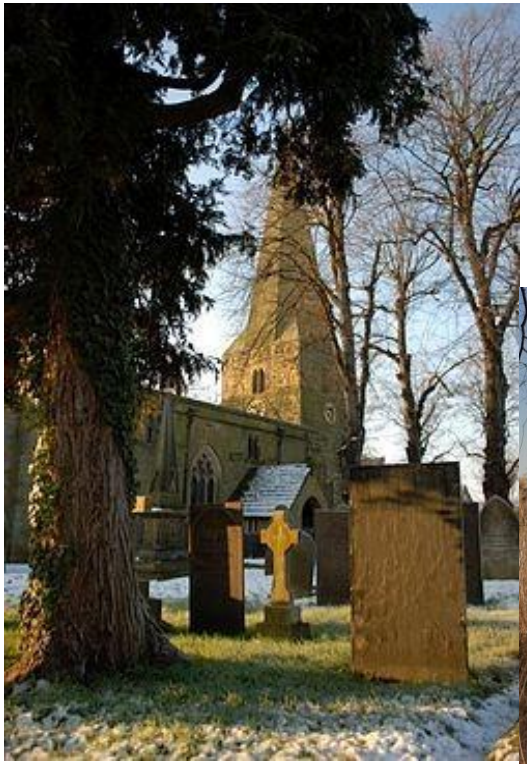
WHAT MAKES BREASTON UNIQUE?

Breaston Parish Council

Although Breaston has a population of over 4370 people (2021 Census) and is nearer to being a small town than a village, Breaston still retains a village feel and residents still consider it as a village. Much of this is due to the central architecturally interesting Conservation Area, the central openness of Duffield Close green space, the ancient St Michael's Church, three traditional pubs and the tree lined main road leading through the centre.

Village community spirit is still very much at large as evidenced by the large number of community groups, the Breaston in Bloom team and their Sign Painting team, the Breaston Litter Pickers and the Repair Cafe

Breaston won the Best Kept Village award in 1997, Derbyshire Best Urban Village award in 2000, Breaston in Bloom RHS Gold award & best in Small Town category for the East Midlands 2019.



HISTORY

Breaston appears in the Domesday book and has been variously known as Breason, Braydeson, Braidstune, Bradeston, Breydison and Breston. The origin of its name is said to be Braegd's tun, i.e. Braegd's farm.
From a population of 379 in 1801 it had risen to 4,502 in 1991.
Originally a lowland farm area, the situation of the village may have been influenced by the presence of water courses including Golden Brook.
A 1722 map shows at Domesday the Manor of Breaston *(Braidestune)* was held by a Roger de Busli. During the reign of Elizabeth I the Manor was purchased by Michael Willoughby of Risley and the Manors of Breaston and Risley were united. There was no manor house at Breaston. The building known as the Manor House (since demolished and now the site of Manor Court) was a post-medieval farmhouse and the so-called Old Manor House (39 Main Street) is an early nineteenth century house that may have earlier roots. It occupies a plot described as “The Hall” on the 1722 Map.

Breaston Parish Council

DEVELOPMENT

Breaston Parish Council

The site of Breaston has been occupied for over 2000 years. Over the years the Manor of Breaston was held by various landowners. Tax records of 1780 show 43 land owners together with 42 occupiers. By 1823 this had risen to 53 owners and 96 tenants. Certain villagers held 'Beastgates' which gave them the right to graze their cattle and horses on the 300 acre Cow Pasture which stretched along the south of the church.

Nineteenth Century Changes

This predominately agricultural community turned to industry and the railway for employment. In 1821, out of 117 families, there were between fifty and sixty framework knitters in the village. In the 1880's Plackett's Lace Factory on Longmoor Lane ran 40 machines.

W H Paul was an engineering factory set up just after the 2nd World War. Also located on Longmoor Lane they manufactured quality stainless steel sinks for houses etc. They made a paraffin heater called the Paul Warma, quite famous in the early 1950s, and a major employer. The business moved to Draycott and then to Castle Donington where it is still operating. Other businesses over the years have included Hoggs Cobblers, plant nurseries, Manor Farm Wheelwrights, Statham's Fish and Chip shop, Breaston Independent Co-op, a dressmaker, Post Office, a bookmaker, furniture shop and a library.

Schools & Churches

The National School on Main Street is dated 1857. A second classroom was added in 1887. In 1913 it was superseded by a new primary - Breaston County School (Firfield). Secondary children attended Western Mere school off Hills Road until it closed in 1990.

St Michael's became recognised as a church in early 17thC and from 1719 held baptisms and marriages. Interments began in 1824, though the churchyard is now closed. A primitive Methodist chapel formerly existed in Bourne Square and the United Church was built in 1876 on Main Street.

Notable families

The Watson family of The Hollies, former owners of Duffield Close
The Plackett family - owned Lace factory on Longmoor lane and provided several Parish clerks
George Anstee Perks JP - donated Perks Park to the village

Mrs E Stevens of Jasmine Cottage. - reached 100 in 1886, possibly the origin of Stevens Lane
Rev C M Lambrick - First Rector of Breaston parish & builder of Breaston library

CONSERVATION AREA

Breaston Parish Council

The central area of the village is a designated Conservation Area, with specific controls and special considerations relating to development in this zone. The valuable buildings and attractive spaces that make up the conservation area are much valued by the community. It is strongly felt that any new development/alterations must be in keeping to preserve and enhance the village character. The Parish Council seeks to ensure that any development is in sympathy with the village.

Listed Buildings

There are 6 listed buildings in the Conservation Area, as follows:

- Rose Cottage, 8 Blind Lane (II)
- 6 Church View (II)
- Church of Saint Michael, Main Street (I)
- 39 Main Street (Old Manor House) (II)
- Manor Farmhouse, 34 Risley Lane (II)
- Barn to the east of Manor Farmhouse (II)

Heritage Buildings

There are several buildings of special Character:

- Former Primitive Methodist Chapel, Bourne Square
- Former National School, Main Street
- 1 Church View
- Hartington House, Risley Lane
- The Hawthorns, Risley Lane
- Jasmine Cottage, Stevens Lane

ARCHITECTURE

Breaston Parish Council

The different village areas show architecture relating to former use and eras. Red brick and plain tile are the main building materials throughout most of the village. The village centre, part of the Saxon village, is densely developed. Plots are small and irregular in shape. On the west side of The Green, non-traditional materials dominate.

Stevens Lane is a street of 2 styles. The west side of the street comprises one of the late medieval extensions to the village. The area has developed at a medium density; buildings are arranged with their gables to the back of the pavement, in narrow regular plots with a common rear boundary. Red brick and no single roofing material dominates. Buildings on the east side of the street are set within spacious plots, with soft landscaping

Risley Lane - post medieval extension developed at a low to medium density; the buildings are generally set within spacious grounds or set behind forecourts. About 40% of houses are rendered or painted. Pre-Victorian brickwork in the village is a subdued reddish brown; the bricks tend to be narrow and quite irregular in shape and bonding style.

The farmstead area to the south of Main Street coincides with some of the higher status plots in the Saxon village. The area is sparsely developed; the buildings are set within large, irregularly shaped plots, some non-traditional materials are present.

There is also a group of 31 Park homes just off Draycott road

BUSINESS

The village has many thriving businesses and hosts 3 historic public houses, a Co-op, several cafes, a Bistro, a Delicatessen, a Post Office and many Hairdressers. Currently there are also an Optician, a nail bar, Car Repairs, Petrol Station, a Florist, Beauty Salon, Bike Shop and a soon to open Caravan and Motorhome Showroom. A central parking area, 'The Green', is the hub of the village, bounded on all sides by St Michael's Church, Duffield Close and various shops.

Breaston Parish Council

TRANSPORT

Breaston Parish Council

Breaston lies along the A6005 road between Derby and Nottingham. The road is wide and for the most part tree lined. North and South roads link the village to nearby settlements such as Risley and Sawley. The town of Long Eaton is to the east of the M1 motorway and Draycott village is beyond the railway line to the west of the village. The cities of Derby and Nottingham are 8 miles and 10 miles away respectively and can be easily accessed via the A52 which joins the M1 motorway Junction 25 about 1 mile from the village.

The railway line between Nottingham and Derby was opened in 1839 and runs through the village. At one time there was a station to the West of the village. The nearest stations now are in Spondon and Long Eaton, both of which enable direct travel to London as well as links to other major cities.

Prior to 1964 the Derby Canal ran through Breaston in the north of the village, where a wharf and the Navigation Inn provided necessary facilities. Adjacent to the inn was a Winding hole for the barges to turn round. With the coming of the railway, canal trade declined. Currently the Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust are working on reopening a large stretch of the canal.

We are well served by a Derby/Nottingham bus route that passes through the village on a regular timetable. Buses also run from nearby Long Eaton to many areas including the East Midlands Airport.

COMMUNITY

There is a strong sense of Community in the village and many thriving community groups. There is no village hall but the two Church Halls, St Michaels Church and the Scout Hut are in constant use. All support a wide range of activities, such as, a Youth Café for Teenagers, a Renew Café for wellbeing, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. The Parish Council is very open and accessible. Interactions with residents include a regular Newsletter, a Facebook page and a yearly open meeting.

Breaston Parish Council

Yearly Summer band & Christmas Carol Concerts are held on Duffield Close. At Christmas the central Green area is decorated with lights and the Breaston in Bloom group plant regularlyaround the village. There are also strong links with our neighbour village, Draycott, with shared Village Church services.

There is a very active litter picking group.

The annual May Day Gala is extremely popular & well attended by people from

Christmas craft by Pins, Hooks & Pompons group.

all around the area,
come rain or shine.

OPEN SPACE

Breaston Parish Council

Breaston is fortunate when it comes to open space. There is the beautiful Duffield Close village green at the centre of the village. Also Perks Park recreation area where an old metal windmill stands proudly on one side. The disused paddling stream, has been removed and that area incorporated into the new walking path that follows the circumference of the park. Several new memorial benches have been placed around the path.

Currently plans are underway to develop a new wider, accessible entrance off Rectory Road. A new archway, path and dropped kerb will allow access for all.

The Firfield Primary School also has its own 'Field of Dreams' and on Risley Lane there are football pitches and a cricket pitch. At the western end of the village is Johnson's play area, an open field with space for paying games and football. To the east is the Golden Brook storage lagoon which is maintained by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and open to members.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II
GARDEN

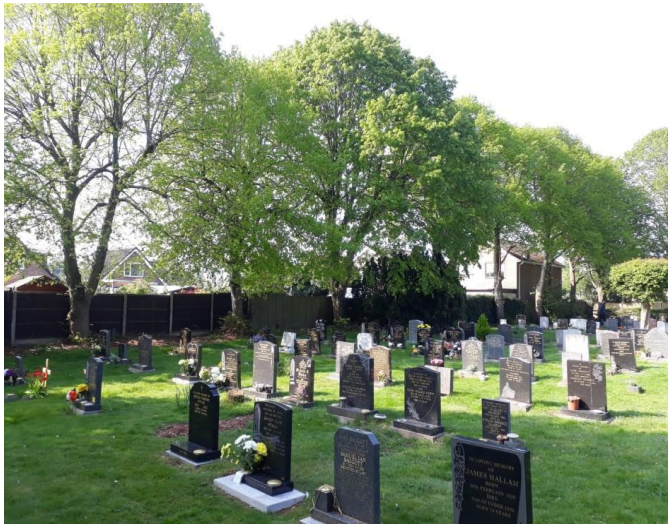
PUBLIC SERVICES

Breaston Parish Council

Breaston is in the County of Derbyshire and the Borough of Erewash. Policing, Highways, Transport and Social Care are covered by Derbyshire County Council. Erewash Borough Council deals with Planning, Council Tax and Housing and local services such as Refuse Collection and street cleaning. The Parish Council has an office on Blind Lane in the centre of the village and deals with local matters such as maintaining our parks and cemeteries. It gives support for residents and deals with litter & dog mess. The Parish Council employs a Village Maintenance Officer to maintain our perfectly kept village environment.

Breaston has low crime statistics, mainly shoplifting and other thefts and antisocial behaviour. Breaston is part of the Long Eaton rural area for policing, managed by a Safer Neighbourhood team (SNT) of local police officers, Police Community Support Officers and Specials. There is a Neighbourhood Watch group. The Parish Council have funded four Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) that have been placed strategically around the village to monitor speeding traffic and encourage traffic calming.

Overdale Medical Practice serves the residents and is backed by a chemist in the village and Long Eaton Health Centre which offers further facilities such as X-ray and physiotherapy. There are a Dentist and Darling Opticians.



At one end of the village is a Chapel and Cemetery which is in two sections for Breaston and Erewash burials.

Breaston Parish Council

A complete renovation of the Chapel has been carried out after severe flooding in 2023 qnd 2024. With a Food Resilience Grant and an extremely generous donation from a Breaston Resident, the Chapel has had a new floor, walls have been mended and replastered, pews have been cleaned and polished and pew heaters have been installed. Reconfiguration of some space at the Chapel has enabled an accessible WC to be installed. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held in February 2025.

Most recently renovation of some of the Chapel windows has been carried out by a specialist team.

A new water butt at the Chapel provides water for floral displays and memorial cleaning.

The Church Cemetery is closed for burials.

LEISURE

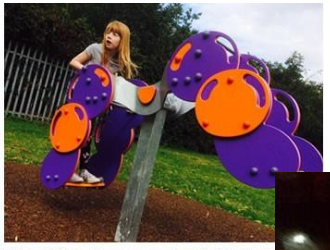
The village is well served for leisure activities. The central Duffield Close open space offers room for children to play, the chance to listen to brass band music in the summer, a visiting climbing wall, a willow tunnel and Sensory, Shade and Butterfly gardens to enjoy.

On Perks Park there are football pitches, a children's play area with both traditional and adventurous play equipment, a MUGA and plenty of space to ride a bike or run around. Several teams play football on the local pitches and there is a thriving cycle group.

There is a network of footpaths and bridleways radiating from the village, including the Midshires way, which link to other areas, so it is easy to make the most of the countryside from many areas of the village. One main footpath runs along the course of the disused Derby canal. Another popular path, the 'Coffin Walk', was formerly used to transport coffins for burial at St Chads in nearby Wilne.

Horse riding has a long history in the village and is still very popular - there is a local riding club and a tack shop.

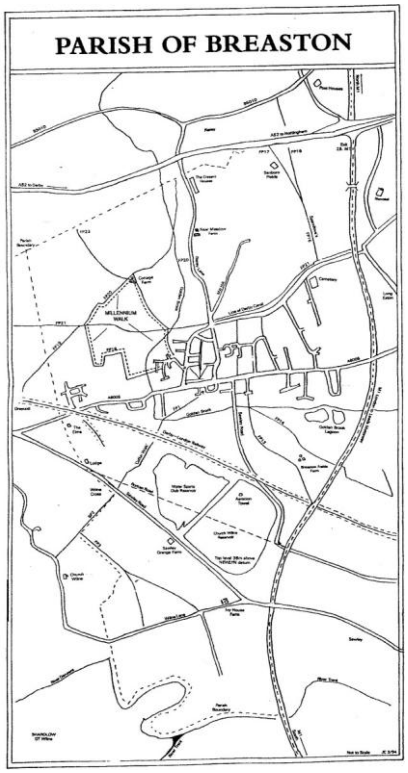
There are several groups for fitness, a ukulele group, two Womens' Institute groups, a Youth café for teenagers, Evergreens & Bridge club and many more.



PERKS PARK

Currently the Parish Council are applying for additional funding to replace the play equipment on the Park. The Parish Council consulted all groups and residents in Breaston and gained much feedback particularly from children. New equipment, climbing frame and other activities have been identified.

An area of the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) has been repaired and updated. New Trim Trail equipment was recently installed and other pieces are regularly updated.



MAPS

There are various maps you can access online:

Derbyshire Mapping Portal - https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/partnerships/derbyshire-mapping-portal/derbyshire-mapping-portal.aspx

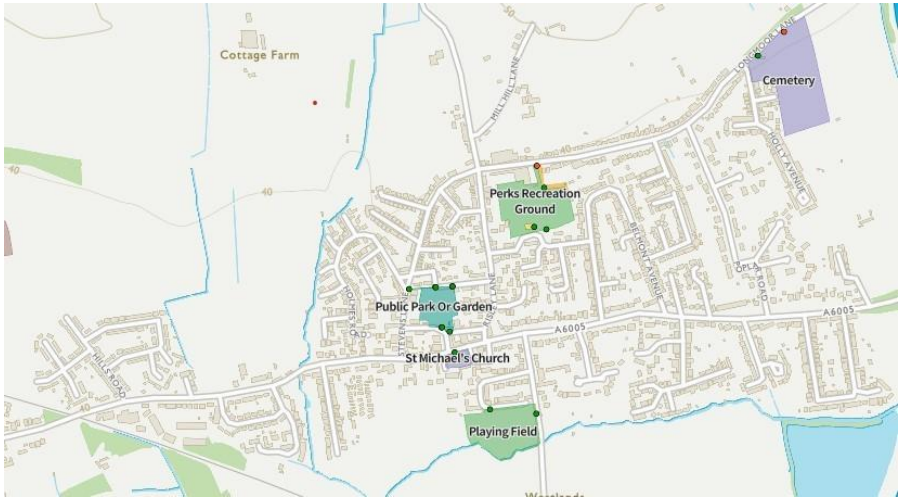
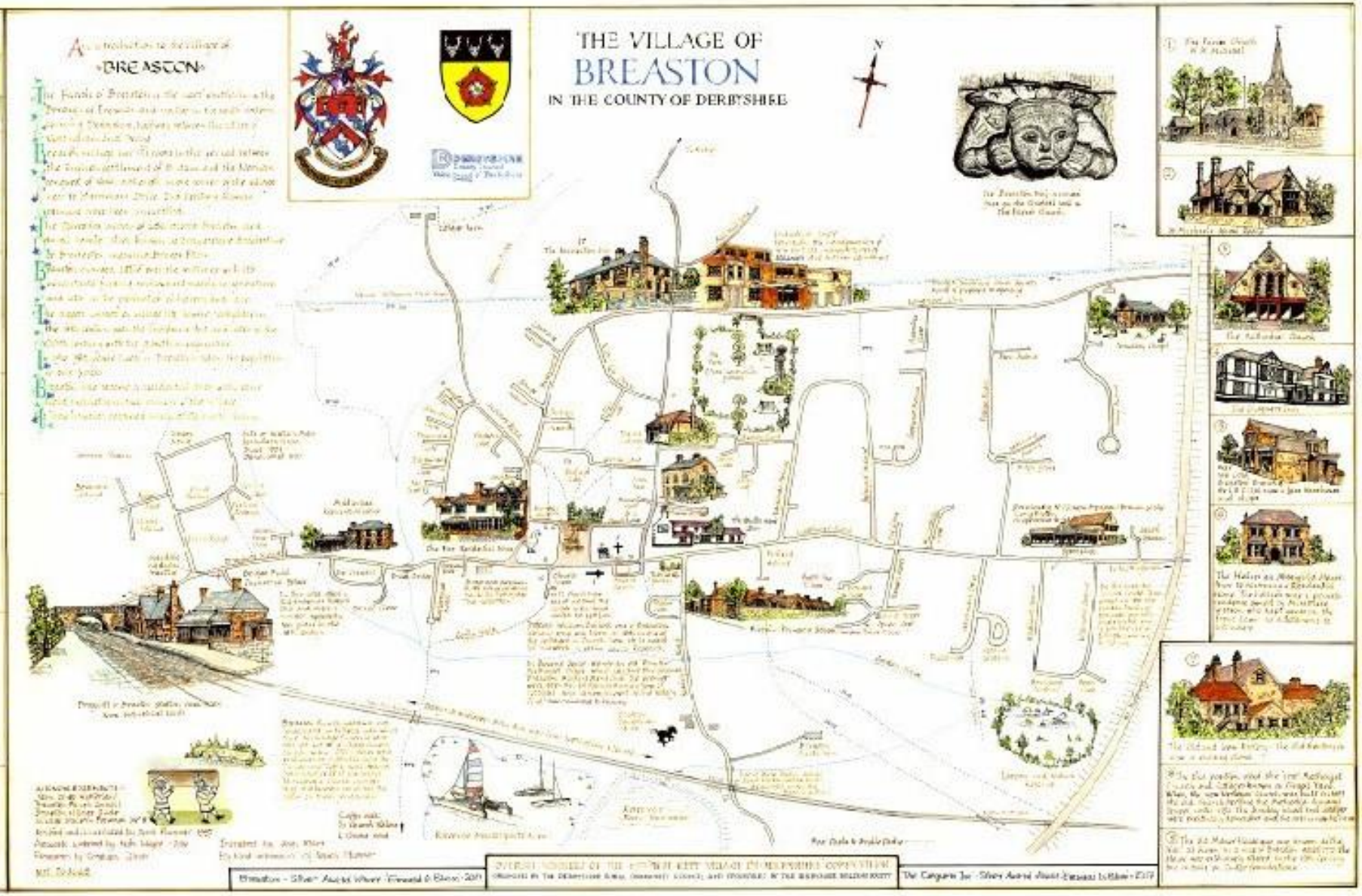
Breaston Parish Council - breastonparish.co.uk

Footpath maps - https://footpathmap.co.uk

National cycle network - https://www.sustrans.org.uk/

Ordinance survey maps - https://osmaps.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/

Breaston Parish Council



THE VILLAGE OF BREASTON
IN THE COUNTY OF DERBYSHIRE