

Littleworth

The hamlet of Littleworth (now divided between the parishes of Wheatley, Horspath, and Forest Hill with Shotover) lies to the north of Cuddesdon, on the boundary of the ancient parishes of Cuddesdon and Horspath.

In 956 the boundaries of these two parishes with the forest of Shotover were here marked by a spring and a stream which ran along the boundary.

The medieval history of this area is not known, but there was evidently a small community living in Littleworth in 1625, when Cuddesdon Church claimed five communicants there, and the building of additional cottages is mentioned soon after this date. A few ancient cottages built of rubble with thatched roofs still survive. One has a hall reaching the roof at one end, while at the other end a floor has been inserted to make a solar.

The Munts and Currills, Morris dancing families, occupied two of these cottages for more than a century. Another thatched building was erected in 1834 as a workhouse for Wheatley, and a row of (8) brick cottages along the Wheatley-Horspath road (*Shotover View*) was built in 1892-3 by the Wheatley minister. (*Rev. Arthur Sturges was the Vicar at this time*)

There is a public house, the 'Cricketers Arms', which replaced the 'Woodman's'; and a grass drying factory.

The hamlet has its own water-supply.

(Extract from the Victoria County History of Oxfordshire 1957)