

## Bilstone from 1086 to 2019

The meaning behind the name: Either ‘The village of a man called Bild’ or ‘Village on the promontory’, derived from the old Scandinavian – ‘Bildr’ meaning ‘the name of a man’ or ‘a blade’. The latter is used in Scandinavian place names where the topography of the area exhibits blade-shaped or angled-shaped features. Bilstone being on a promontory fulfils this possibility.

Bilstone is thought to have been Anglo-Saxon originally but seized by the Danes of the great army which dispersed in this region in 877. Bilstone replaced Bilston as the most commonly used spelling in the middle to late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*These are variations in spelling found in manuscripts, rent rolls, deeds etc since 1086.*

Year*	Name
1086	Bildestone
1261	Bildeston
1243	Bildiston
1352	Byldeston
1381	Bylleston
1422	Billeston
1430	Bilston
1445	Bileston
1580	Bylson
1673	Bilstone

\* year first recorded