

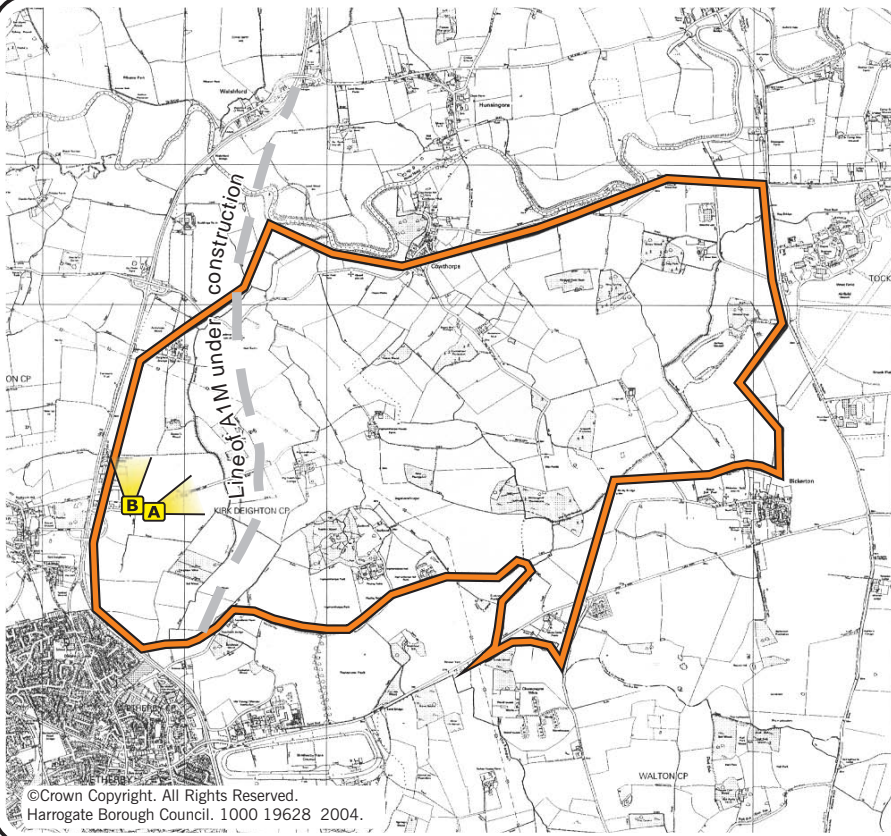
**AREA**  
**100**

**Approved**  
**Feb 2004**

**A** View east from Loshpot Lane.



## Kirk Deighton to Tockwith Arable Farmland

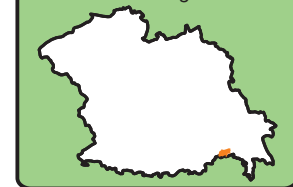


### HARROGATE DISTRICT Landscape Character Assessment



\* NB Due to the nature of landform, surface treatment and soil/geology composition Character area boundaries cannot be delineated precisely and should be considered "transitional".

Location in Harrogate District



## Description

This Character Area covers nearly 11km<sup>2</sup> of intensively managed arable farmland. It is relatively flat and well-wooded containing several woodland blocks over 2 hectares in size. Sugden Wood, in the centre of the area, is registered Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland.

Although there is little evidence of the area's history at first glance, several characteristics indicate that the area has been farmed for centuries. Ingmanthorpe Hall is the only listed building in the area and is a 19th century country house. It is not on the site of the original Ingmanthorpe (possibly medieval) which is to the east of Deighton Grange.

Fields are medium to large with a relatively random arrangement suggesting early enclosure although many boundaries may have been straightened over the years.

## Key Characteristics

### Geology, soils and drainage

- Mostly Magnesian limestone solid geology becoming Sherwood sandstone to the north east.

- Glacial till drift geology.
- Combination of deep and shallow soils, fine to coarse loamy some over clayey, slowly-permeable and well-drained seasonally-waterlogged brown soils.

### Landform and drainage pattern

- Flat landform below 35m AOD.
- Many dikes and small becks cross the area following field boundaries and generally draining the area in a northern direction into the Nidd.

### Land use, fields, boundaries, trees and wildlife

- Large arable fields of Grade 2 and 3 agricultural land.
- Fields are predominantly open with hedges in varying condition throughout.
- Several blocks of woodland scattered across the landscape but only one is registered Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland.

## Key Characteristics

### Settlement, built environment and communications

- There are several scattered farmsteads. Ingmanthorpe Hall has recently been developed and is a small village. Cowthorpe is a village on the boundary of the area with the Nidd Corridor.
- Traditional building materials are mixed, including Magnesian limestone and gritstone with slate and some pantile roofs.
- The A1 marks the western extent of the area, as it is located along the boundary where the rolling landform to the west becomes flat.
- There are also several minor roads crossing the intensively farmed landscape.
- Public footpaths and bridleways provide links but the network is not extensive.

## Sensitivities & Pressures

- Due to the reasonably well-wooded nature of the landscape, the flat landform, a lack of extensive views and the strong landscape pattern, the area has some capacity to accept change without detracting from its character. However, any proposed development must conform with landscape pattern and include an appropriate degree of woodland planting.
- However, the area is in the process of accommodating the A1(M) upgrade which takes a line east of the existing A1. This is resulting in considerable change to the landscape character by dissecting the area and introducing a feature which cannot conform with landscape pattern.
- The new A1(M) corridor is likely to lead to increased development pressure, particularly at junctions and possibly along the proposed York Road link.
- Woodland cover is extremely important to the capacity of this landscape to accommodate some measure of change.
- The historic elements of the landscape are not evident and may be lost altogether if neglected.
- Recent development at Ingmanthorpe Hall has changed the setting of the listed building and landscape character locally.

## Guidelines

### Aim: To conserve the strong landscape pattern

- Encourage the maintenance and restoration of hedgerows and hedgerow trees.
- Promote woodland management and the planting of new woodland to strengthen landscape pattern in consultation with the Forestry Commission.
- Landscape works associated with the A1(M) need to link with existing landscape pattern and avoid creating a linear corridor of planting that is not in keeping with the landscape character.
- New development should be appropriately located and designed to sit harmoniously in the landscape.

### Aim: To conserve the setting of Ingmanthorpe Hall and associated parkland

- Maintain views to and from the Hall.
- Built development within the immediate setting of the Hall should be avoided to protect the rural setting of the Hall. Further built development that will further impact upon the rural setting of the Hall should be avoided.

### Aim: To research the history of the landscape that has resulted in the strong random landscape pattern characteristic of the area.

- Research the history of woodland management in the area and use this knowledge to help make decisions regarding long-term management of woodlands in the area.
- Research historic parish and field boundaries and settlement and determine historically important hedgerows under the Hedgerow Regulations criteria.



**E** View north from Loshpot Lane.