

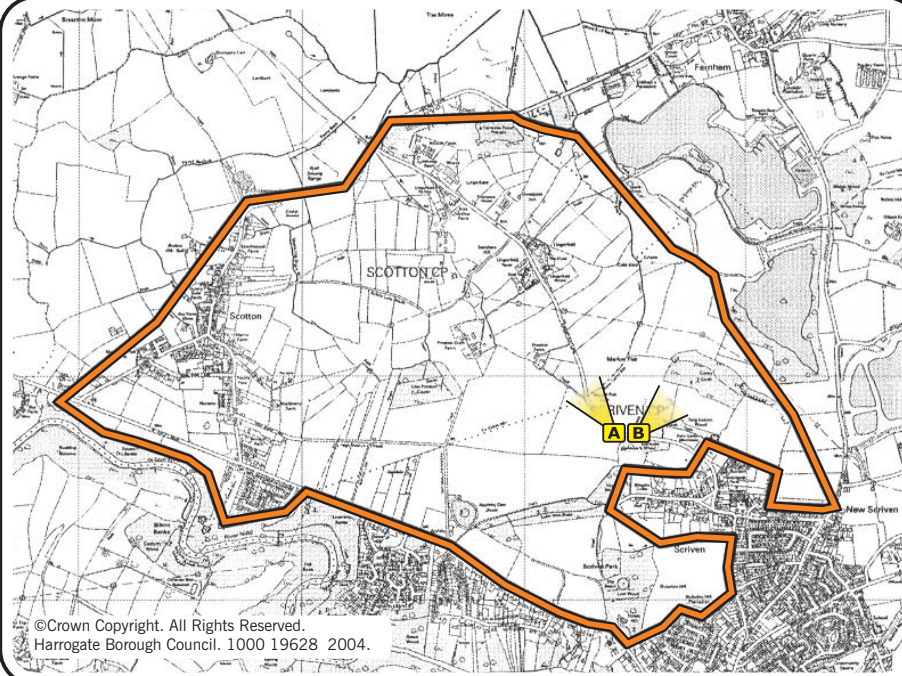
**AREA**  
**52**

**Approved**  
**Feb 2004**

**A** Outside Scriven on the way to Lingerfield.



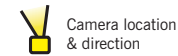
## North Knaresborough Improved Grassland



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### HARROGATE DISTRICT Landscape Character Assessment

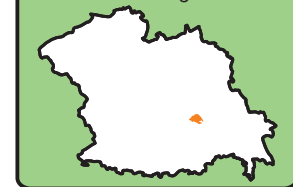
— Area boundary\*



Not to  
Scale

\* 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 area extends from the north west of the urban edge of Knaresborough and covers around 4.5km<sup>2</sup>. Development pattern is random giving rise to a diverse area that is well-settled with the villages of Scotton and Scriven plus several farmsteads and houses built relatively close together. Scriven Park is an important designated landscape at the urban edge and is included in this area.

Grassland fields are managed for livestock enclosed by a mixture of hedges and fences.

There are a lot of established trees along field boundaries and around settlement that enclose the area, channelling views and bringing balance to the landscape.

The area is easily accessible with a few elements of discord such as telegraph poles and pylons.

In general this is a well-tended area (with clipped hedges etc.) which provides a pleasant and attractive approach to Knaresborough from the west.

## Key Characteristics

### Geology, soils and drainage

- Millstone grit solid geology. Till and glacio-fluvial drift geology.

- Fine, loamy brown soils and slowly permeable, seasonally-waterlogged, fine loamy over clayey surface water gley soils.

### Landform and drainage pattern

- Gently rolling/undulating landform between 40m and 80m AOD.
- Small ditches along field boundaries drain the area.
- A pond at Appleby Carr and Jumwell Beck are the main water features.

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

- Land managed for both grass and arable production.
- Field boundaries are hedges of good condition and fences for livestock control.
- Some evidence of old field systems possibly medieval at Scotton. Other areas of parliamentary enclosure.
- There are few small blocks of woodland mostly around Scriven Park plus mixed plantations.
- Individual trees are scattered along field boundaries and within parkland at Scriven Park.

## Key Characteristics (Cont'd)

### Settlement, built environment and communications

- ▶ The main settlements are Scotton, Scriven and the urban edge of north Knaresborough.
- ▶ Traditional building materials are mixed including local Limestone and red brick, with blue slate and red tile roofs.
- ▶ A few public footpaths including the Knaresborough Round.
- ▶ A golf driving range, caravan park and Scriven Park are all in this area which is an important link to the countryside from Knaresborough.

## Sensitivities & Pressures

- ▶ The urban edge of Knaresborough impacts upon this character area to the southeast. Development pressure is likely to bear as a result.
- ▶ Scriven Park is an important (unregistered) parkland area at the urban edge, which contributes to the setting of the town and links with the countryside. There is likely to be pressure for the area to accommodate recreation facilities in the future that would impact upon character.
- ▶ Neglect of hedges has resulted in fragmentation and replacement with fences, giving rise to a loss of landscape diversity and pattern.
- ▶ Inappropriate fencing around woodland also impacts upon rural character.
- ▶ Settlement pattern is relatively dense for a rural area and large scale buildings are detractors.
- ▶ Already a place with recreational facilities (caravans, golf), expansion or further development could be detrimental to landscape character.

## Guidelines

### Aim: To protect the parkland character at the edge of Knaresborough.

- ▶ There should be no loss of the parkland characteristics. New facilities should be low key where required and visual impact minimised. Avoid tall structures, changes in land cover and buildings.
- ▶ Maintain and repair the walls associated with parkland character.
- ▶ Continue traditional land management regimes in the park and explore ways of improving biodiversity.
- ▶ Encourage parkland tree planting for the long-term future of parkland character.

### Aim: Maintain the rural character of the area.

- ▶ Encourage replanting in hedge gaps with appropriate species and the planting of hedgerow trees.
- ▶ Encourage use of fencing of appropriate and less intrusive materials.
- ▶ Proposed development should be small scale and of rural character appropriate to the area. Development should not be permitted where it is highly visible or does not respect settlement and landscape pattern.
- ▶ Ideally, fencing should be used in combination with hedges and follow traditional post and rail or post and wire design.
- ▶ New planting associated with development should respect local native vegetation cover. Ornamental planting should not be permitted particularly along boundaries



**B** Outside Scriven looking north towards Coney Garth.