

Eastby Conservation Area Appraisal August 2016

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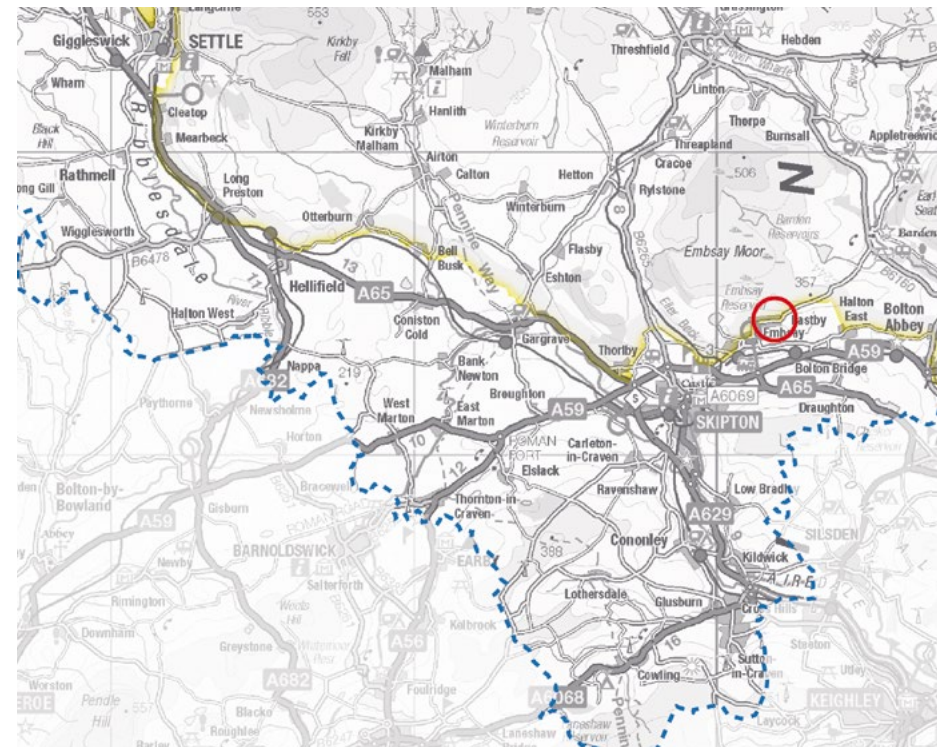


Introduction

How to use this document

This Conservation Area Appraisal should be read in conjunction with the document *Introduction to Craven Conservation Area Appraisals*, which can be downloaded from the Craven District Council website. This document contains an explanation of the purpose and methodology of this Appraisal, together with a general introduction to the history, landscape, buildings and settlement forms of Craven.

When viewed as a pdf document, this Appraisal includes an interactive map with a series of layers that can be activated using the menu panel that appears on the left-hand side of the report. Refer to the *Introduction* document for advice about how to reveal this menu panel. These layers, which can be turned off and on in any combination, illustrate aspects of the Appraisal that are described in the text. These elements are: the conservation area boundary, Victorian Ordnance Survey maps, listed buildings, key buildings, significant views, open space analysis and woodland. At any time the map can be found by clicking the MAP button on the bottom right corner of every page.



Location of Eastby

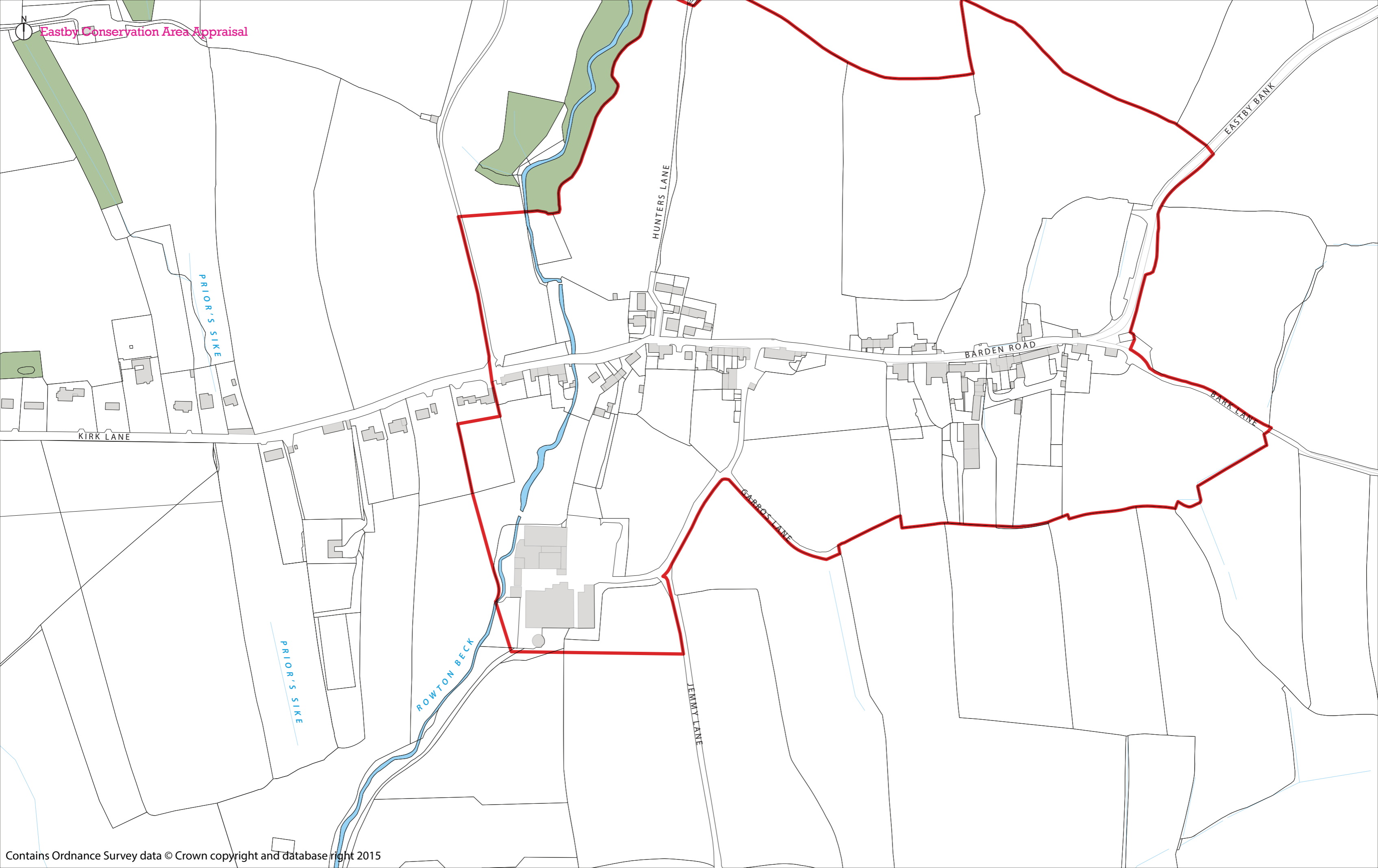
Overview of the conservation area

Eastby is a linear settlement to the north-east of Embsay with which it shares a number of characteristics. The two settlements are usually grouped together and known as 'Embsay with Eastby' which is also a civil parish. The two villages are physically separate and they are two distinct conservation areas. It is unusual in that there are no large twentieth century estates, making its character particularly rural.

Where Embsay was an Anglo Saxon settlement, Eastby was a slightly later Viking (Danish) settlement.

The northern half of Eastby is within the Yorkshire Dales National Park and comes under their planning jurisdiction. This appraisal describes the whole village, both within and outside Craven's boundary as this is essential in order to understand it. The assessment of the contribution that the open space makes however does not address the areas outside Craven.

Designation date: 1986



1.0 Character

The Conservation Area boundary takes in the historic core of the village which lines Barden Road on its north and south sides. Eastby is a small historic rural village which retains a strong agricultural character. Development is more consistent on the south side but there are in fields on both sides. Within the boundary there are almost no new buildings fronting the roads (there are new outbuildings and farm buildings behind the frontage). The Conservation Area includes the crofts (see *Introduction to Craven Conservation Area Appraisals*) and adjacent fields on either side of the road to preserve the settlement's setting.

1.1 Historic & contemporary development

- There are few differences between the development shown on the 1891 OS map and what exists today.
- At the west end of the Conservation Area, close to where Barden Road traverses Rowton Beck the road dips into the Beck's little valley. At the end of the



nineteenth century there was a large textile water mill – Eastby Mill – on the north side of the road. This was a tall, four and six storey, building. By 1891 it is shown as being disused although the building was still present into the twentieth century.

- To the south of Barden Road, on the east side of Rowton Beck is now a large group of agricultural buildings. One barn is shown on the site in 1891 and appears to, at least partially, still remain.
- Further east, the buildings that line the road have not substantially changed though most of the farm buildings have been converted to residential use. Other changes of use include the Mason's Arms which is now also a house as is the Methodist Chapel.
- Behind No.38 Barden Road (a farmhouse) are a number of ancillary agricultural buildings that have been constructed in the twentieth century.
- Most of the surviving buildings appear to date from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries though a number clearly have seventeenth-century origins. They are a mixture of farmhouses, some with their attached barns (now largely converted to residential use), and terraces of cottages.
- There are many stone walls within the Conservation Area that form plot boundaries. These add considerably to the historic urban grain of the village.

1.2 Spatial and Urban Character

- The character is overwhelmingly rural with long views northwards, up the valley towards Embsay Moor and south, down the valley across the Aire Valley.
- Much of the north side of Barden Road (outside Craven District) is still undeveloped. Along these stretches, dry stone walls with cattle troughs are a feature along the road, adding to the agricultural character.
- The village is strongly linear in character and Barden Road is fairly straight but the changes in topography mean that the views are constantly changing moving along the road in either direction.
- The houses on the road have a fairly consistent building line, on or close to the road's edge.



- Although many of the houses that line the road have outbuildings behind there are constant views between the buildings to the countryside beyond, either to the National Park to the north or across the Aire Valley (Haw Park Quarry is a notable feature in the landscape to the south).
- Perhaps due to the exposed nature of Eastby, on the slopes of the Valley, many of the dwellings on the south side of Barden Road have walled gardens and crofts, creating a distinctive character in views of these rear spaces. There is a particularly notable walled field (Grade II Listed) behind the terrace at Nos. 22-32 Barden Road with high, stepped stone walls. This may well have originally been an orchard (trees are shown



in nineteenth-century OS maps). Part of the terrace is pre-eighteenth century (apparent from its stone mullioned windows at the rear); the arrangement of these houses and the walled garden would benefit further study.

- The number of small stone outbuildings and field barns within the village (particularly evident at the east end of the village) also adds to the distinctive character of the village.



1.3 Materials and palette

- Walls: both coursed and uncoursed gritstone ashlar and rubble for buildings and boundaries.
- Window reveals: ashlar gritstone (often tooled)
- Roofing: Westmorland slate and Yordale Sandstone slates.
- Windows: casement and sash generally painted white. Numerous replacements of timber windows with upvc (detracts from the character of the Conservation Area).
- Pavements: majority asphalt with stone or concrete kerbs. Some areas of concrete and stone pavements.
- Road surfaces: Asphalt throughout.
- Street furniture: lampposts – the majority are galvanised columns with simple luminaires.
- Other: a number of stone front boundary walls with stone monoliths forming the gateposts survive.
- A couple of examples of surviving historic ironwork, such as fragments of railings.



1.4 Key buildings and structures

- Methodist Chapel, Barden Road - Unlisted

1.5 Relationship with other settlements

Eastby is situated to the north-east of Embsay with which it forms a civil parish and is often known as 'Embsay with Eastby'. The two conservation areas are only about 500 metres apart and Embsay can be seen across the valley from Eastby. The Church of St Mary, Embsay with Eastby is a feature in views from Eastby.

2.0 Landscape and Open Space

2.1 Overview

There is no distinction between the landscape around Eastby and the open space within it. The surrounding agricultural land continues right up to Barden Road, the only public road in the Conservation Area. The rural character of the settlement and the aesthetic appeal of the surrounding landscape means that the majority of the open space makes a strong contribution to the character of the settlement.

To the north of Barden Road the Conservation Area is within the Yorkshire Dales National Park. This open space makes a strong contribution to the character of the rest of the Conservation Area and takes up about half of it overall space.

2.2 Methodology

The following categories have been used to assess the contribution of open space to the Conservation Area and are shown as a layer on the map at the front of this appraisal:

Purple: Open space that makes a strong contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area

Yellow: Open space that makes some contribution to character and appearance of the Conservation Area

Brown: Open space that makes no or negligible contribution to character and appearance of the Conservation Area

Areas of open space and individual fields that have been identified as making a less than strong contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area have been numbered for reference in the descriptions below. Refer to the 'open space analysis' layer on the Appraisal map that can be accessed from the button on the bottom right corner of the page.

2.3 Open space assessment

The National Park boundary runs along Barden Road and Eastby Bank. This assessment only addresses the contribution of the open space with Craven District; that is south of Barden Road and east of Eastby Bank.

Open space west of 32 Barden Road (south side of the road)

Predominantly makes a *strongly positive* contribution

- On the east side of 32 Barden Road is a track that leads south-west to a collection of farm buildings. This section assesses the open space west of this track.
- There are a number of glimpsed views to this area of open space from between the houses on the south side of Barden Road, notably from the drive of Meadow Laithe which looks towards the former Haw Park Quarry.



- Where Barden Road crosses Rowton Beck there are views along the wooded course of the stream which terminate with the large agricultural buildings to the south. Although these are fitting in their context as farm buildings in an agricultural landscape they do not specifically enhance the character of the Conservation Area. They also block views of the open space on their west side (F2) making this area of *no contribution* to the character of the Conservation Area.
- To the south of the buildings on the south side of Barden Road at this western end of the Conservation Area there are three walled enclosures, possibly historic crofts. Behind the terrace at Nos. 22-32 Barden Road is a large walled field (F1) (Grade II Listed) with particularly high stepped walls with a flat millstone grit coping, probably originally an orchard. It is currently mainly grassed but may have been used in the past



for productive gardening or crops. This open space contributes to the setting of the listed walls and viewpoint **HF4**. The walled enclosures therefore make *some contribution* to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area..

Area east of 32 Barden Road and west of Bark Lane (south side of Barden Road)

Predominantly makes a *strongly positive* contribution

- West of Dalecroft (a house), as far as the Bower is open pasture along Barden Road. Where much of the north side of Barden Road (within the National Park) is undeveloped along the road frontage, the south side (within Craven District) is more consistently developed. This section of open space with its long views both south to the former Haw Park Quarry and west across the crofts towards F1 and the Church of St Mary at Embsay with Eastby in the distance is very important to the rural character of the Conservation Area and its connection with the surrounding landscape.
- There is a small area of open space behind No. 38 Barden Road which is not visible from Barden Road. It is visible from the lane adjacent to No. 32 Barden Road (leading to Garros Lane and Jemmy Lane) but is seen in the context of a number of other farm buildings, one of which is large, at the rear of No.38. The contribution of the rest of this plot is therefore of less significance than the open space around it.

- At the east end of Barden Road where it turns north and becomes Eastby Bank there are long views south across the Aire Valley. These views are framed by No. 62 Barden Road and its outbuildings.

North of Bark Lane and east of Eastby Bank

Predominantly makes a *strongly positive* contribution

- This open space borders the eastern periphery of the Conservation Area and the settlement. There are wide views to the south, east and north from this eastern end of Barden Road.
- Views to the north are towards the National Park and Eastby Crag which contribute to the character of the Conservation Area. To the east is agricultural land with stone field boundaries which also contributes strongly. To the south are views over the Aire Valley which is similarly rural with the former Haw Park Quarry in the distance.

3.0 Views

Refer to the layered map at the beginning of this appraisal.

3.1 Highly significant fixed views (HF)

HF1: Views along Rowton Beck from Barden Road.

These views north and south along the road take in the small wooded valley of this stream running through the Conservation Area that was the location of its mill.

HF2: View south from the east end of the Conservation Area adjacent to Eastby Hall.

This view is between Eastby Hall (Grade II Listed) and its outbuilding, looking over the stone walls that enclose its yard. This is an important historic building in the Conservation Area dating from the seventeenth century and the stone walls in the foreground are a key feature of the Conservation Area. The view over the Aire Valley beyond is of particular aesthetic value.



HF3: View west from the east end of the Conservation Area looking along Barden Road.

There are a number of attractive views along Barden Road in both directions but this is one of the best. The consistency of the historic townscape, materials and building line make this view of aesthetic value.



HF4: View south-west from Barden Road just west of Dalecroft.

This view is important as it takes in an expanse of undeveloped land on the south side of Barden Road. The listed field walls behind Nos. 22-32 Barden Road can be seen, and in the distance, the Church of St Mary, Embsay with Eastby.



3.2 Highly significant dynamic views (HD)

HD1: Views north and south from Bark Lane.

Bark Lane is a public footpath that approaches Barden Road from the east. It is undeveloped and has aesthetically valuable views both up (north) and down (south) across the Aire Valley.

HD2: View south between Dalecroft and Bower House.

This is an important undeveloped stretch on the south side of Barden Road which allows long views across the Aire Valley.

4.0 Traffic and Movement

4.1 Pedestrian

There are some footpaths in the centre of the settlement on the south side of Barden Road. These are generally narrow and are largely tarmac with stone kerbs.

4.2 Vehicle

Barden Road is fairly narrow though wide enough for two cars to pass where there is no on street parking. There are road markings in the centre of the Conservation Area though these are not consistent. The traffic is generally not busy through the village.

4.3 Parking

There is not a public car park in the village though there is also not obviously a great deal of need for it. Many houses have off-road parking though there is still on-street parking along the south side of Barden Road which is unrestricted.

5.0 Recommendations for further work

- Consider Article 4 Directions
- Identification of buildings that positively /negatively contribute to the character of the Conservation Area.
- Further research on the historic development of the village
- Identification of development problems and pressures and potential solutions

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