sheilsflynn

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

Landscape sensitivity study - settlement analysis

August 2022

YORKSHIRE DALES
National Park Authority

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Introduction

Study scope and objectives

The National Park designation recognises that the scenic beauty of the Yorkshire Dales is nationally important and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) therefore places emphasis on a landscape-led approach to the process of identifying suitable development sites.

This report provides a 'whole settlement analysis', which describes the wider landscape setting of each settlement, together with an analysis of key approaches, landmarks and views. It identifies the important landscape elements and features that structure the way each settlement is perceived and which merit conservation in relation to future landscape change, including built development. The analysis incorporates and extends a similar study undertaken for 8 settlements as part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP) Landscape Character Assessment[1]. The landscape setting for each settlement is deliberately not shown as a definitive 'boundary' because it is based on subjective judgement and because the extent of important views will inevitably vary with changing weather and seasonal conditions.

Relationship to the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment

YDNPA is producing a new Local Plan that will need to release additional land for new build housing developments. It will do so either by specifically identifying larger sites (5 dwellings or more) within and on the edge of towns and villages across the National Park. A process to scope out candidate sites took place in 2021, including a public 'call for sites'. This yielded 139 sites for consideration.

This report builds upon the work of a landscape sensitivity assessment[2] produced earlier this year. The landscape sensitivity assessment looked at 139 potential development sites and gave each a rating according to the likely effects of residential development upon the landscape. The National Park Authority used this report to help carry out an initial sift of the 139 sites.

Sites that were assessed as having High or Moderate-High landscape sensitivity (38 in total) were dismissed because the landscape sensitivity assessment concluded that these sites would give rise to significant adverse impacts. Sites that were assessed as having Moderate, Low-Moderate or Low landscape sensitivity (54 in total) can be considered further because the landscape sensitivity assessment concluded that these sites would not give rise to significant adverse impacts.

The landscape sensitivity assessment gave the remaining 47 sites an 'intermediate' rating denoted with an asterisk. This indicates that a carefully designed layout which focuses built development on part of the site only would reduce the risk of adverse landscape and visual effects and so, in turn, would reduce the overall sensitivity score. As a result, these sites can be considered further subject to having their site extents reduced to reflect partial suitability for development. In three cases this resulted in a significant enough reduction in the developable area available that these sites will fall to be considered as small-scale 'rounding off' plots (see below), rather than as larger-scale potential housing site allocations. This leaves 44 'asterisk sites' that can also be considered further, although the majority of these are rated as Moderate-high* (33), meaning that appropriate reductions and site area and other mitigation measures must be adopted in order to avoid significant adverse landscape impacts.

In total 98 sites remain under consideration as potential housing site allocations following the landscape sensitivity assessment. The whole settlement assessment focuses on 18 towns and villages where the majority (75) of these sites are concentrated and where the impact of multiple potential sites being developed together are most likely to occur. These are incorporated into the mapping and analysis of the whole settlement assessments.

The Local Plan will also allow some smaller sites (4 or less dwellings) to come forward for development in the form of infill and 'rounding off' plots (including some that were initially considered as larger sites but had their extents reduced following the landscape sensitivity assessment). These sites have not been considered in detail as part of the landscape sensitivity assessment or settlement analysis, although the YDNPA's response to future development proposals for such sites will be influenced by the conclusions of the landscape sensitivity studies.

The Settlement Analysis will inform the Local Plan site allocation process. The mapping for each settlement shows the potential allocation sites, together with areas of important open space. Its objective is to provide a balanced judgement of the opportunities and constraints for development and green infrastructure enhancement in each of the 18 settlements assessed.

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1 Sheils Flynn on behalf of YDNPA, 2020, Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character Assessment

2 Sheils Flynn on behalf of YDNPA, March 2022, Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment

1 Airton

Landscape setting

The village of Airton developed beside the upper River Aire, which flows within a valley with an irregular drumlin-strewn topography. The settlement is separated from the river by low rounded glacial landforms. It flows within an incised, wooded channel to the east, where the historic river bridge crossing and large former riverside mill are almost screened by mature trees.

Airton Mill was originally the site of a medieval corn mill owned by Bolton Abbey. In the late 18th century, a new 'Arkwright-style' mill was built alongside the old corn mill for cotton spinning and a new mill race was constructed from the upstream hamlet of Scosthrop to ensure a steady water supply to the mill. The mill building is now converted for residential use.

The historic village is laid out around a triangular village green which is partially enclosed by rows of cottages to form an attractive, informal and deeply rural village layout. Alongside the green the historic Friends Meeting House dates from the early 17th century and is one of the earliest Quaker meeting houses. A former squatter's cottage on the village green is a distinctive local landmark.

The principal valley road (which connects the A65 in the south with Malham at the head of the valley in the north) passes through the centre of the village along the western side of the village green. The main part of the village, including a mix of farms, barns, traditional cottages, modern houses and a former Methodist Chapel, is densely sited alongside a network of narrow lanes to the west of the main road.

The 'bumpy' local topography contains a proportion of local views, but the rounded fell summits on both sides of the valley form Airton's broad landscape setting, with long views along the valley to the north and south of the village. There is a particularly attractive long view eastwards from the main road towards the river across a large, hummocky pasture, which contributes to the rural character of the village.

Analysis

Box 1 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Airton's distinctive landscape character and setting.

Figure 1.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Land to the west of Back Lane on the gentle slopes of Robcross Hill on the western fringes of the village, where development would not intrude on the landscape setting of the village.
- A limited part of the large pasture in the centre of the village adjacent to the minor tributary beck, where a small development would continue the line of terraced houses and could frame but not screen the important expansive views eastwards across the open pasture from Main Street.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Airton are:

- The large open (undeveloped) pasture in the centre of the village and to the east of the main valley road, which contributes to Airton's rural character. It is important that the expansive scale of the view eastwards across this pasture from the road and the perceived dominance of the pastoral valley landscape setting is conserved.
- The walled, enclosed character of Airton's network of back lanes and the juxtaposition of a relatively dense settlement layout with the surrounding open walled farmland. The mature trees, stone gateposts and field stone walls are important and sensitive components of village character which merit conservation and development should utilise existing lanes and field access points to conserve the rural character of the narrow lanes.
- The open fields that separate the principal village from adjacent farmsteads and cottages should be conserved as undeveloped land to prevent coalescence and roadside ribbon development which would damage Airton's strong nuclear settlement form.



Long views across an open pasture in the centre of the village



Enclosed, walled character of Back Lane



Photo © habiloid (cc by s

Airton's informal village green

BOX 1

Valued landscape features and elements within Airton are:

- The juxtaposition of walled riverside pastures, traditional stone buildings (including the 17th century Friends Meeting House and squatter's cottage) and village green, which creates a deeply rural village character.
- The attractive long view eastwards from the principal valley road across a large open pasture, which reflects the historic connection between village and riverside mill and makes a particularly strong contribution to Airton's distinctive rural landscape setting.
- The informal layout of groups of houses and terraced cottages around the triangular village green.
- The historic riverside mill complex, with former mill race, pond, bridges and mill buildings, which can be traced in the landscape today.
- The rural enclosed character of the narrow walled lanes within and on the fringes of Airton.

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- Land within broad landscape setting of Airton
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of Airton's landscape setting
- Key views which describe Airton's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity
- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 1.1

Airton - Settlement analysis

2 Askrigg

Landscape setting

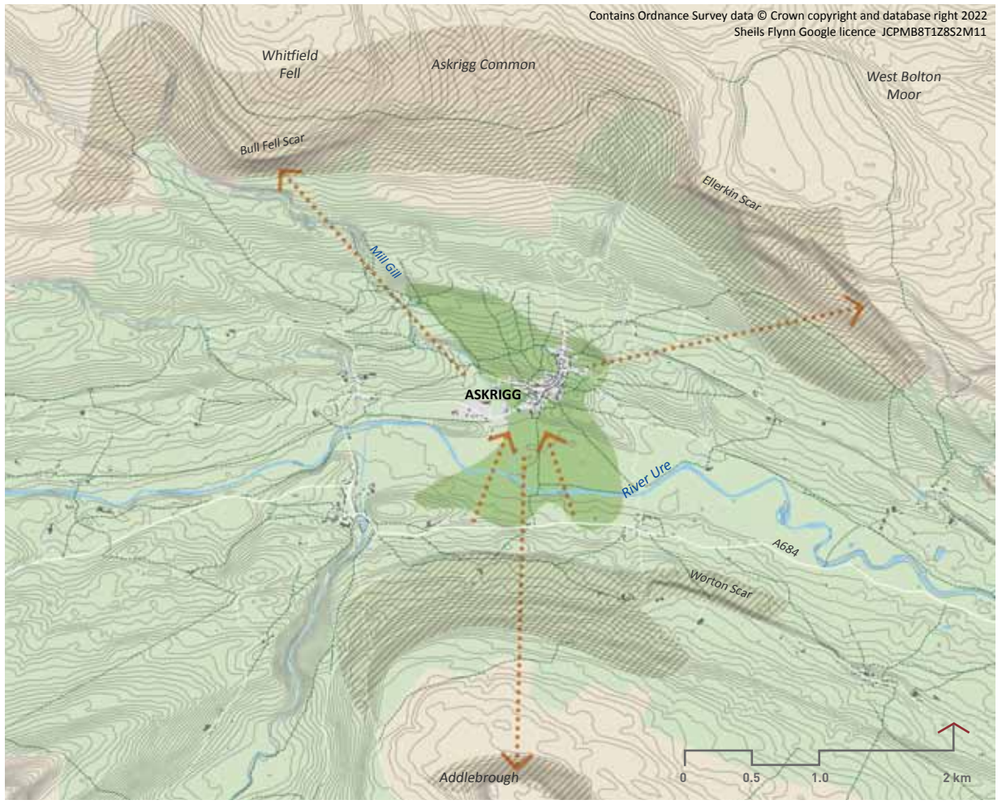
The village of Askrigg developed around a market place on the undulating lower slopes of Askrigg Common, overlooking the River Ure floodplain. It has a 'layered' landscape setting; in close views, the settlement is visually contained by the elongated rounded drumlins on the lower slopes of Wensleydale, but there are dramatic longer views southwards across the dale to Brough Scar, Worton Scar and the slanted summit of Addlebrough, and northwards to Ellerkin Scar and Bull Fell Scar. There are also particularly attractive composed northward views of Askrigg from the A684 west of Worton, in which the historic village is seen across the meandering river floodplain, stepping up the fell slope. The tower of the Church of St Oswald is a landmark in these views.

Figure 2.1 illustrates Askrigg's broad landscape setting context and shows the principal ridgelines which form the horizon in local views. The areas which are generally visible in views from and to the settlement are shown in a darker, brighter tone.

Askrigg has a compact form; the historic core of the settlement concentrated around the Market Place and along the Main Street, which curves as it climbs up between the rounded landforms on the dale slope.

Figure 2.1

Askrigg - landscape setting context





Path to Askrigg from the River Ure floodplain to the south



Addlebrough from the fell slopes just north of Askrigg

The steep rounded drumlins that enclose the village form a sheltered local landscape setting and the dense network of public rights of way that cross these drumlins offers a diverse range of attractive views across the village.

The eastern gateway to Askrigg, from Howgate, is tightly framed by two drumlin landforms and the road curves sharply to skirt the lower slopes of the drumlin before following the alignment of Askrigg Beck at the entrance to the village. From the west, the gateway is the thick belt of mature woodland along Mill Gill, which separates Askrigg from the former railway station (now a commercial development) on the edge of the River Ure floodplain to the west.

Moor Road climbs steeply to the north of the village, with a sharp transition from pastoral farmland to unenclosed moor on the slopes of Askrigg Common. To the south of Askrigg, the River Ure meanders across a broad floodplain (Askrigg Bottoms). The alignment of the former Wensleydale Railway can be traced as a curving earthwork on parts of the floodplain and lower fell slopes.

The local bedrock (sandstone and limestone) makes an important contribution to Askrigg's landscape setting. The intact gridded pattern of field stone walls, which undulates to reflect the rounded drumlin landforms, and the rocky limestone scars on the stepped fell slopes that form a backdrop to longer views accentuate Askrigg's distinctive topographic setting and help to 'anchor' and integrate the historic settlement within Wensleydale.

Analysis

Box 2 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Askrigg's distinctive landscape character and setting.

Figure 2.1 shows Askrigg's landscape setting in more detail, together with the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Brownfield land (the former Carrs Billington depot site) to the south of Askrigg's village centre,

BOX 2

Valued landscape features and elements within Askrigg are:

- The open walled farmland, with an undulating grid of field stone walls, on the slopes and crests of the rounded drumlins that form Askrigg's landscape setting to the east and south.
- Visible medieval earthworks - lynchets and ridge and furrow - in fields on the fringes of the village
- The sequence of framed views within the village centre, along the streets and outwards, between groups of buildings, to the surrounding fells, which shift as the main road twists and climbs upslope.
- Cross-dale views, northwards from the A684, the river floodplain and Worton/Brough Scar, in which Askrigg's built form 'steps up' the fell. The historic (grade I listed) Church of St Oswald is the centrepiece and focus of these views.
- Wooded Mill Gill and the complex of historic mill/power house buildings and structures in this steep, narrow tributary gill landscape.
- The curving earthworks associated with the dismantled Wensleydale Railway, which are prominent on the lower fell slopes and River Ure floodplain.


Askrigg Beck


Looking south west across the Askrigg rooftops from the crest of Stony Bank

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- Land within broad landscape setting of Askrigg
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of Askrigg's landscape setting
- Church tower (upstanding landmarks)
- Key views which describe Askrigg's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
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Figure 2.2

Askrigg - Settlement analysis

Looking north to the north part of Askrigg, against the backdrop of Askrigg Common



where a high quality residential development could provide an opportunity to enhance the local townscape.

- Land off Station Road to the south west of Askrigg, where existing large industrial and agricultural buildings are a degrading influence; a residential development with a 'statement' built frontage (retaining the existing roadside trees) alongside Station Road could be successfully integrated with the local landscape and settlement pattern to create a positive village gateway. Strategically sited belts of native woodland planting would be required to integrate and partially screen the new buildings in cross-dale views from the south.
- Land on the northern edge of the Abbey Works industrial area, where a development of live-work units and/or employment units could be developed if partially screened and integrated by native woodland belts and groups of native trees. It would be important to reinforce the rural character of this site, which is generally perceived as a component of the broader complex of wooded semi-industrial and institutional (Wensleydale Centre) sites in this area.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Askrigg are:

- The slopes of the drumlins that form part of Askrigg's immediate landscape setting and the backdrop to local views, including Stony Bank to the north east and the drumlins to the east and south of the village centre. Development on these slopes would be visually intrusive and dominant in local views.
- Land on the southern fringes of Askrigg, where there is a risk that development may intrude on Askrigg's sensitive river floodplain landscape setting and particularly the setting of the grade I listed church of St Oswald, which is the focus of the scenic cross-dale views to Askrigg from the south. There are some opportunities for development to the south of Askrigg, particularly where new housing would replace existing buildings which have a degrading influence (see above) but this is a sensitive settlement edge which requires a sensitively designed layout and strategic tree planting to integrate built development.



Askrigg village centre

3 Barbon



Centre of Barbon, looking south along the High Street

Landscape setting

The village of Barbon is sited on the eastern fringe of the River Lune Valley, on the rolling footslopes of Barbon Low Fell. The smaller watercourse of Barbon Beck flows westwards through the village, from the steep wooded valley of Barbondale to the River Lune.

Barbon has a loose-knit, rural character in which groups of densely packed village buildings are interspersed with fields and paddocks. The clusters of buildings are connected by narrow lanes and the sequence of strongly contrasting views (from built to rural to built) is one of Barbon's distinctive characteristics.

The landscape setting of the village is illustrated on Figure 3.1, which shows the importance of the open, rolling slopes of Middleton Fell to the north-east and Barbon Low Fell to the south-east, which provide a striking backdrop to local views. There are also views to and from the village along the valley, which are generally enclosed by woodland (Ellers to the north) and hedgerow trees. At a broader scale, the low drumlins on the valley floor of the Lune valley provide enclosure to the west. The wooded historical parkland landscapes of Barbon Park (which include Ellers) are prominent in eastern views to the fells. The extensive formal parkland landscapes to the south, with groups of mature specimen trees, also contribute to Barbon's landscape setting.

Barbon is well connected by a network of narrow lanes, which link to the A683 along the Lune Valley to the west. The gateway to the village from the west is Hodge Bridge (a scheduled monument); from the south there is a gradual gateway, enclosed by groups of trees along narrow lanes; from the north it is the minor lane junction at Eller Beck. Mature hedgerow oak trees are a feature of the approaches to the village centre and the Church of St Bartholomew (a Grade II* listed building) is a landmark in local views.

The attractive village centre is characterised by terraces and groups of buildings, separated by small paddocks and orchards. The open fields within the village contribute to its distinctive rural sense of place.

Analysis

Box 3 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Barbon's distinctive landscape character and setting.

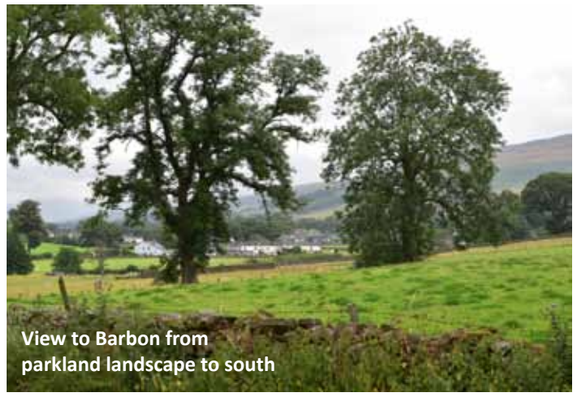
Figure 3.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- One of the open fields that separates the small groups of houses on the northern fringes of Barbon. Development here could contribute positively to the character of the gateway sequence of views on this approach to the village, provided there is a high quality built frontage, incorporating stone wall boundaries and specimen trees.
- Part of the open arable farmland on the western edge of Barbon, where development that conserves the small-scale, rural character of Moorthwaite Lane could be integrated.

BOX 3

Valued landscape features and elements within Barbon are:

- The smooth, open slopes of Middleton Fell and Barbon Low Fell, dissected by the small wooded valley of Barbondale, which form the backdrop to views to the east of Barbon
- The small open paddocks and orchards that separate groups of buildings in the centre of the historic village
- Stone walls and outbuildings within the village, which integrate houses, pubs, outbuildings and fields within a unified composition
- Views to the Church of St Batholomew, for instance from Scaleber Lane and from Barbondale
- Views south and south-east to the village (and the fells) from High Road to the north
- The water's edge landscapes alongside Barbon Beck, including the historic bridges of Hodge Bridge (a scheduled monument) and Beckgate Bridge (a grade II listed structure)
- Mature hedgerow oak trees and linear woodland belts which enclose and frame views along local lanes at gateways to the village
- The extensive parkland landscapes, with groups of mature specimen trees, to the south and east of Barbon.



View to Barbon from parkland landscape to south

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River Lune
High Road
Middleton Fell
Ellers
Barbon Park
Barbondale
Barbon Beck
Hodge Bridge
BARBON
Moorthwaite Lane
A683
Scaleber Lane
Barbon Low Fell
0
0.25
0.5
1 km

- Land within the broad landscape setting of Barbon
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Church tower (upstanding landmark)
- Key views which describe Barbon's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Amenity open spaces
  South Lakeland District Council Local Plan Land Allocations DPD, December 2013

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

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Figure 3.1

Barbon - Settlement analysis

- Parts of the matrix of fields and former orchards in the centre of Barbon, provided a proportion of the land is retained as public open space which is integrated as a component of the village's public realm with links to the village hall, roads and public rights of way (see below for constraints on the overall proportion of built development : open space in Barbon).

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Barbon are:

- The rural, loose-knit form of the village, in which groups of buildings are interspersed with open farmland in the village centre, is a distinctive characteristic. Development that 'fills in' the central fields could create large blocks of housing that seem over-scaled and dominant. If both central sites are developed, the layouts should incorporate village greens/community orchards so that the new housing fits comfortably within the overall scale of the village.
- The remnant heritage orchards in the village centre.
- The inter-connected pattern of field stone walls and garden walls, built of local stone, helps to 'knit' the village buildings into their landscape setting - the layout of all new development should incorporate local stone walls that form a network with the existing field and settlement pattern.
- The remaining open fields within and on the fringes of Barbon contribute to its rural character and spacious form. All the 'Amenity Open Spaces' (South Lakeland Local Plan) are critically important to Barbon's distinctive settlement form and should be conserved. In addition, the remaining open fields along Barbon Beck, to the west of the village and alongside the lanes that form the gateway to Barbon from the south, should remain undeveloped to ensure the distinctive rural character of the village is conserved.



Stone walls, barns and paddocks
Middleton Fell is a backdrop to local views

Groups of houses separated by fields in the centre of Barbon





Barbon Fell and Middleton Fell form a stunning backdrop to the view eastwards to Barbon from the A683 near Hodge Bridge.



Newly planted orchard and stone walled paddocks in the centre of Barbon

4 Burnsall

Landscape setting

The linear village of Burnsall developed on the west bank of the River Wharfe at a historic river bridge crossing. The five arched bridge (grade II listed) dates from the 17th century and is a focus for views from the surrounding fell slopes, which show the village nestled against the contours, with the densely packed roadside buildings reflecting the sharp curves of the road.

The Church of St Wilfrid (grade I listed) was built during the 16th century, but is on the site of an earlier Norman church. It is adjacent to "The Old Grammar School" (grade II listed) which was built in 1601. The large village green is alongside the river, beside the bridge.

The River Wharfe flows in a deeply incised channel to the north east of Burnsall, before the floodplain widens to the south of the bridge. The combination of sinuous river channel, and spacious floodplain framed by verdant valley slopes forms a stunning visual composition and the historic buildings within the village of Burnsall are sited to take advantage of this beautiful natural landscape setting.

Burnsall's landscape setting is illustrated on Figure 4.1. There are a number of 'set-piece' gateway views to Burnsall Bridge, with the village alongside. These are the views:

- northwards from the B6160 as the road descends gradually from the slopes of Burnsall and Thorpe Fell at the point when it emerges from woodland at Garrelgum;
- south westwards from Skuff Road on the lower slopes of Langerton Hill (east bank);
- westwards from the road to Hartlington on the east bank of the river.

Burnsall is a centre for walking and the popular River Wharfe section of the Dales Way passes through the village, utilising the bridge. There are long scenic views along the river and to the surrounding fells from Burnsall Bridge.



Streetscape in the centre of Burnsall

BOX 4

Valued landscape features and elements within Burnsall are:

- The composed scenic 'postcard' views to and from Burnsall Bridge, in which the traditional village, St Wilfrid's Church and arched bridge form an attractive focus.
- The undeveloped character of the land within the curve of the river on the riverbank to the east of Burnsall Bridge, which enables clear views to the bridge and to the snaking River Wharfe.
- The riverside settlement character; village buildings are concentrated along the curve of the contours that define the edge of the floodplain. The open slopes of Burnsall and Thorpe Fell, to the west of the village, are prominent in cross-dale views and sensitive to change.
- The intact pattern of walled fields, which mirrors and accentuates slight variations in topography; the shape of local village edge fields reflects the natural curve of the river and the transition upslope from valley floor/lower slope pastures to unenclosed moorland.



View south west from Skuff Road, showing the visual sensitivity of the fell slopes on the southern fringes of the village

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- Land within broad landscape setting of Burnsall
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Key views which describe Burnsall's's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

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Figure 4.1

Burnsall - Settlement analysis



View north west from Skuff Road towards the northern fringes of Burnsall and the River Wharfe

The settlement is concentrated along the B6160 and is contained to the south by a tree covered slope up from the river's edge. The road twists sharply to the north of the village green and is lined by buildings to form a village 'street'. There is a secondary core alongside the church and 'Old Grammar School', where the historic buildings are sited on the gently sloping edge of the floodplain and the main street is set back, hugging the fell slope contour to the west. The northern gateway to the village is less sharply defined, with a single terrace of traditional cottages overlooking the walled river terrace pastures.

Analysis

Box 4 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Burnsall's distinctive landscape character and setting.

Figure 4.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites, there is an opportunity to integrate carefully designed residential development on the northern fringes of Burnsall, to the east of the B6160, on a relatively spacious part of the river terrace landscape. This is a sensitive site with an intact historic field pattern. However a high quality development here would fit with the existing built form of the village edge and would not mask the character of the river terrace landscape as it is of sufficient scale to 'contain' a line of buildings. A development on this site would be visible in views westwards from Skuff Road but would be seen as an integrated component of the existing village.

The key landscape sensitivity constraint for residential development in Burnsall is the interface between settlement and the elevated open moorland edge fields on the fell slopes outside and to the south of Burnsall. Development here would be prominent and visually intrusive on the skyline and along the road in the exceptionally scenic gateway views to Burnsall (and Burnsall Bridge). It would be over-scaled in relation to the small cluster of existing buildings on the fell slope and would extend the existing settlement form beyond the mid fell slopes into a more exposed moorland fringe landscape.

5 Carperby

Landscape setting

Carperby is a linear village which developed as a medieval market centre along one of the narrow roads that traces the contours of Wensleydale's upper slopes, just before the transition from walled pastoral farmland to unenclosed moor.

Figure 5.1 shows Carperby's broad landscape setting. Carperby is relatively close to the undulating wooded riverside landscape of the River Ure, near to the Aysgarth Falls, but the village has a 'moorland edge' landscape setting, with views northwards to Great Wegber and Carperby Moor and the distinctive stepped rocky outcrops of Ponderledge Scar, Ivy Scar and smaller steep banks which 'ripple' upslope. The ladder pattern of the low field stone walls on the edge of the open fell slopes emphasises the distinctive stepped slope.

The Conservation Area Appraisal identifies three distinct village character areas:

- The eastern part of the village has a '*much more open character with numerous trees and small fields being interspersed with a somewhat sporadic development of old and new buildings within plots of differing sizes and shapes. This general randomness and lack of formality is a key aspect of the area today*'.
- The central section *displays buildings arranged for the most part, in a number of linear or terrace rows with some set quite close to the road's edge and others set back within private gardens of varying depths.*
- The western part of the village *is characterised by an attractive arrangement of buildings round a small triangular village green, with a monumental market cross and an attractive pair of mature trees*

The site of the medieval market place can be traced in the present day layout of buildings and roads, but the western green is the focus of the village and this area has quite a formal layout; the view across the village green is revealed via a strikingly abrupt gateway to



View north to Carperby against the backdrop of Great Wegber and Ponderby Scar, from the Aysgarth Road

Carperby from the west and historians have suggested that the strong built western edge to the village may be the result of a planned layout which has persisted over 300 years. There is more informal eastern gateway to Carperby, with farmsteads, groups of cottages, trees and small fields along the road before it becomes a village 'street'.

The pattern of linear tofts to the south of the village (between the main street and Low Lane) is considered to be of medieval original. There is a dense network of public rights of way across these fields and framed views southwards across Wensleydale through gaps in the line of buildings.

A steep bank/scar immediately to the north of East End Farm contains views northward in this part of the village, but there are longer views northwards from the western part of the village and particularly from the Aysgarth Road. One of the most important village views (noted in Carperby's Conservation Area Appraisal) is the one southwards across Wensleydale from the west boundary of the village. This vista is framed by a pair of mature trees and the eye is drawn to the undulating pattern of field stone walls and



Market cross on Carperby's linear village green

BOX 5

Valued landscape features and elements within Carperby are:

- The 'surprise' gateway view of the village green, framed by buildings, at the western approach to the village.
- The contrast in landscape character between the open moorland-edge to the north of Carperby and the pastoral walled crofts to the south; the alignment of the linear village defines the boundary between these landscape types.
- Long cross dale views southwards to the Wensleydale summits of Addlebrough and Penhill from the West End and occasionally, via gaps between buildings on the village street.
- The historic pattern of linear tofts and crofts on the south side of the village, between Carperby and Low Lane.
- The sequence of small (garden and verge) greenspaces and trees along the principal village street, which contribute to its distinctive character and reflect the historic layout of buildings, roads and spaces, including the medieval village green.
- The moorland-edge character of Carperby's landscape setting; the village street is aligned to integrate with the fell slope landscape, with buildings tucked just below the 230m contour.
- A close relationship between local bedrock and landscape - village buildings and walls are built of the local stone, echoing that of the field stone walls and local limestone scars.

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Great Wegber
Carperby Moor
Ivy Scar
Ponderledge Scar
East End
CARPERBY
West End
Low Lane
Bear Park
River Ure
AYSGARTH
0
0.25
0.5
1 km

- Land within broad landscape setting of Carperby
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Key views which describe Carperby's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity
- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 5.1

Carperby - Settlement analysis

an avenue of trees along the lane to Bear Park. The low, partially wooded ridge in the middle distance is backed by a stunning backdrop of moorland summits, including Addlebrough and Penhill.

Analysis

Box 5 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Carperby's distinctive landscape character and setting.

Figure 5.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. Opportunities to integrate residential development in Carperby are limited to the brownfield site which comprises the principal group of buildings at East End Farm, where the sensitive conversion and restoration of traditional buildings could be well integrated within the pattern and character of the local landscape; there would be an opportunity for new houses on the site of the modern barns and existing silo.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Carperby are:

- Carperby's linear form, with a limited depth of buildings, which contributes to the village's striking landscape setting and the sharp interface between settlement and landscape (open moorland edge landscape to the north and linear walled crofts to the south). Groups of new buildings could easily seem over-scaled within this setting.
- The relatively open, rural character of the eastern part of the village, in which buildings are interspersed with crofts and where there is a strong relationship between the village and its scenic dale-side landscape setting, including views northwards to the distinctive steep scar immediately north of East End Farm and the expansive views southwards across the dale. New housing would reduce this informal rural character and could screen views from the road to distinctive surrounding landscape features and vistas.
- The historic pattern of built form and moorland edge landscape in the West End part of Carperby, where development could degrade the sensitive gateway views.
- The views northwards to Carperby from the Aysgarth Road and from Low Lane in which the whole of the small linear village is seen within its distinctive and scenic landscape setting.



Buildings are intermingled with pastures in Carperby's East End

Gateway and west edge of Carperby from the Aysgarth Road



6 Casterton


Eastward views to Low Barbon Fell from High Casterton

Landscape setting

The twin settlements of Casterton and High Casterton are on the eastern fringes of the Lune Valley close to the foot slopes of Brownthwaite, a dramatic, open rolling upland on the edge of Leck Fell. The low, smooth rounded hills and ridges at the transition between the valley floor and the fell slopes are formed by glacial deposits. The village of Casterton steps up the rolling lower slopes of one of these ridges.

Casterton's landscape setting is illustrated on Figure 6.1. Views from and to the village are contained by the broad ribbons of woodland along the River Lune and the tributary of Mill Gill to the west and by the ridgetops of the fells to the east, which form a dramatic backdrop to local views. At a local scale, views to the east are enclosed by the rounded landforms of two drumlins on the lower slopes of Brownthwaite.

This part of the Lune Valley has a relatively wooded character, influenced by the composed parkland landscapes associated with the former Casterton Hall, Underley Park and Beckfoot Park.

The principal north-south road along the Lune Valley (the A683) passes through the larger village of Casterton. The Church of Holy Trinity is a prominent landmark on the elevated northern side of the road in the centre of the village; the land falls away steeply to the wooded river valley to the west and the playing fields and buildings associated with part of Sedbergh Preparatory School are prominent in the gateway to Casterton from the north. A second group of school buildings, on the well treed slopes of a drumlin to the east of the church, have a more enclosed landscape setting. Away from the A683, the approaches to Casterton are along narrow rural lanes with high hedgerows. Views into and out from the village are often constrained by these hedgerows and by linear built development, but the fells always form a backdrop to longer village views.

The hamlet of High Casterton is separated from Casterton by Casterton Golf Course. A cluster of houses at the crossroads to the south of Casterton is known as Bee Nest and the groups of buildings along the narrow lane between Casterton/Bee Nest and High Casterton are separated by small fields, with most local views containing buildings seen across an open field. The approaches to High Casterton from the north generally have a more open aspect, with attractive views eastwards towards the slopes of the fells. At a local scale, the embankment of the disused former Lune Valley Railway is a feature in these views.

Analysis

Box 6 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Casterton's distinctive landscape character and setting.

Figure 6.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- An under-used brownfield site adjacent to the main access to Sedbergh Prep School in NE Casterton, accessed via the existing school entrance, where a small housing layout that incorporates native tree planting could create a softer and more sheltered interface between settlement and farmland on the eastern, fell slope fringes of the village.
- The gently sloping farmland on the eastern edge of Casterton adjacent to and south of the large complex of buildings, sports pitches and parking infrastructure at Sedbergh Prep. School. A relatively low density scheme could be integrated here if buildings are separated from the school complex by a belt of native woodland and sheltered by groups of native trees to form a soft interface with the adjacent open, farmland. Any highways improvements that impact the quality

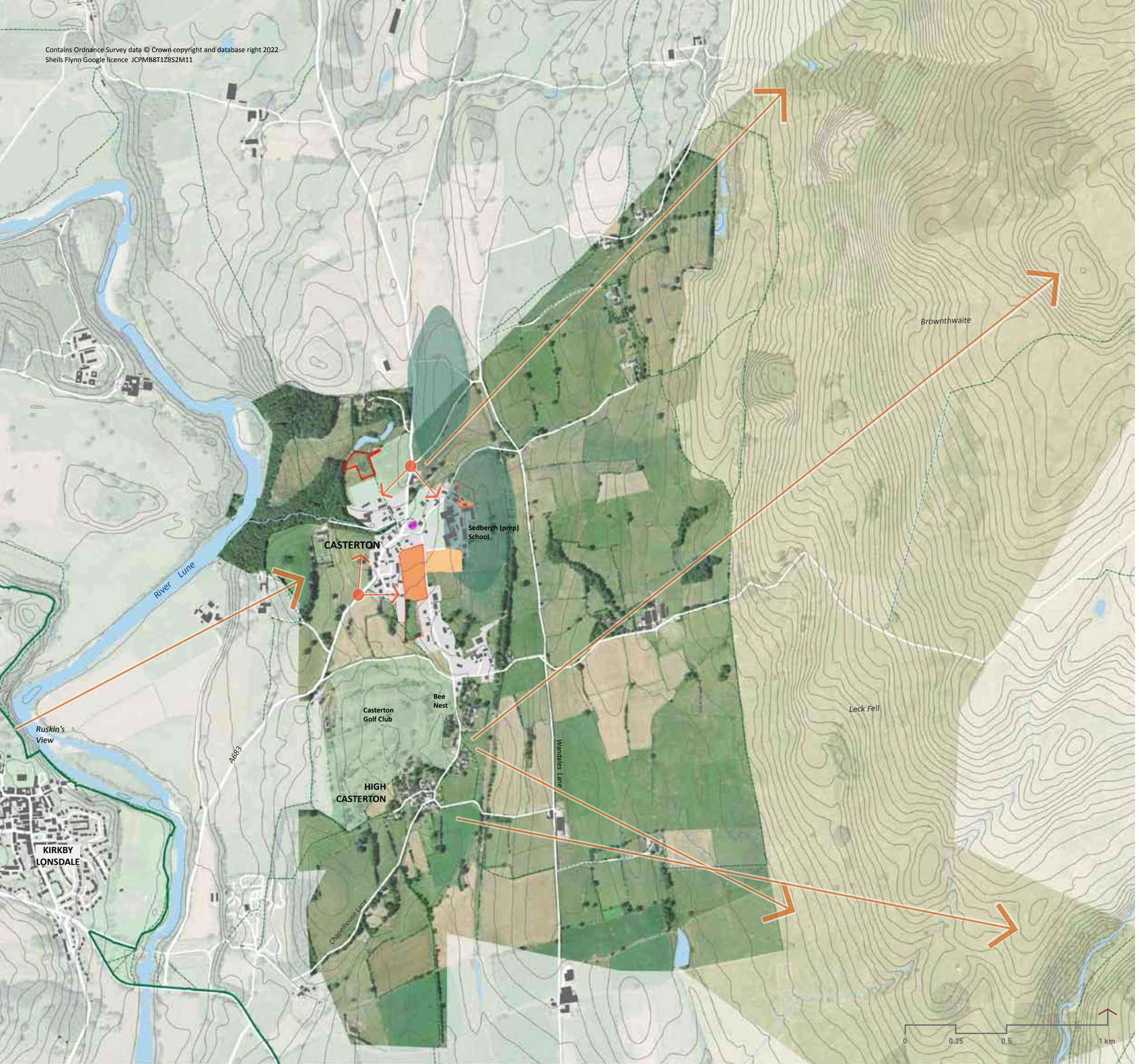

Casterton

BOX 6

Valued landscape features and elements within Casterton are:

- The immediate landscape setting of the Church of Holy Trinity (grade II listed) in the centre of Casterton
- The slopes and crests of the drumlins to the east of Casterton
- The rural, tightly enclosed character of the narrow hedged lanes on the approaches to both villages
- The small open fields that separate the clusters of houses in Casterton/Bee Nest and High Casterton
- The enclosed wooded parkland character of Mill Gill and the Lune Valley to the west
- Remnants of the medieval field system on the edge of the settlement, including areas of ridge and furrow
- The relatively open views eastwards towards the fells from High Casterton

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- Land within broad landscape setting of Casterton
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of Casterton's landscape setting
- Church tower (upstanding landmarks)
- Key views which describe Casterton's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Amenity open spaces
  South Lakeland District Council Local Plan Land Allocations DPD, December 2013

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity
- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 6.1

Casterton - Settlement analysis

and character of the narrow hedged lane to the west of the site would need to be avoided (see below).

- The Sedbergh Prep. School buildings are dominant in the north east part of Casterton and opportunities for small housing developments on sites adjacent to the school should provide opportunities for additional native planting that serves to integrate the existing school buildings, reducing their apparent bulk in local views.
- Land in the centre of the village, to the east of housing at Fern Croft/Smithy How, is visually well contained and development on the northern part of this central village field could be developed if it is accessed via the housing estate to the west. Development would need to be set well back from the narrow hedged lane to the east to conserve the distinctive character and string time depth of this lane.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Casterton are:

- The extensive parkland landscapes in this part of the Lune Valley, which together form a unified, relatively wooded valley floor landscape with a deeply rural, verdant character. Housing development within or on the fringes of the parkland would potentially have an urbanising influence. It would seem disconnected from the main settlements, which have a more elevated lower valley slope site, and would be incongruous within this parkland setting.
- The slopes and crests of the local drumlins and ridges within Casterton's landscape setting. Development on these slopes would be prominent and buildings could potentially form the skyline in local views.
- Remnants of Casterton's medieval field system, including areas of ridge and furrow, which make a strong contribution to Casterton's traditional character and time depth.
- The narrow, enclosed and rural character of the lanes along this part of the Lune Valley slopes, which could easily be damaged by the road standards required to create safe vehicular access to new housing development.



Farmland on the eastern fringes of Casterton which is visually contained



Church of Holy Trinity, from A683



The buildings of Sedbergh Prep. School are dominant within the village



Enclosed, narrow lanes within and on the fringes of Casterton

7 Cracoe

Landscape setting

The village of Cracoe has a linear form, with houses and farms grouped along the B6265, which is aligned along the broad valley drained by several branching small tributary streams that flow from Cracoe Fell and Hall Fell to the south east and Linton Moor and Boss Moor to the north.

A series of narrow lanes connect the main road to Back Lane, along Town Beck, forming a grid of small fields that are inter-mingled with farms, cottages and laithes within Cracoe to the south of the B6265 corridor. A few narrow tracks and lanes (e.g. Fell Lane) leading up from the village to barns on the adjacent fell slopes.

The linear form of the village is interrupted in the centre by an open field (to the north) and a block of mature trees (remnant wood pasture) to the south. This break marks the historic separation between the village of Cracoe to the west and the smaller cluster of farms and cottages at Green End to the east.

There is also a gap between the main village and a smaller group of buildings at 'Town End' (the junction between the B 6265 and the Hetton Road) in the west of the village. Reference to historic maps indicates that there has been a small group of buildings, including a pub and smithy and the village school house, at Town End from at least the late 1880s and that it has long been slightly separate from the 'main' part of the village.

The farms and cottages on the north side of the B6265 are all set back from the road and the private land (walled gardens and crofts) between the road and the buildings is designated as Important Open Space to acknowledge and protect this distinctive local characteristic of Cracoe's settlement pattern.

Cracoe's landscape setting is illustrated on Figure 7.1. There are long views northwards across the sweeping pastoral farmland to Hamerton Hill and Boss Moor from the Hetton Road gateway to Cracoe and there are similar views northwards from the B6265 at the gap between Cracoe and Green End. To the south east, just east of the belt of woodland near Fell Lane, the lack of buildings south of the road enables long views to Cracoe Fell. The fells to the south of the village loom higher and closer and the distinctive conical summit of Skelterton Hill is a local landmark on the slopes of this broad block of fells.



Buildings are set back from the road, behind walled crofts/ gardens, to the north of the B6265

Analysis

Box 7 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Cracoe's distinctive landscape character and setting.

Figure 7.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Land at Town End, the western gateway to Cracoe, adjacent to the primary school. Development here would fit well within the historic pattern and form of the settlement.
- Land to the east of Back Lane - development on one of the small walled crofts in the dense 'grid' of small plots to the south of the main B6265 would reduce the rural, loose-knit character of settlement in this part of Cracoe but it would not be widely visible and would not have a significant adverse effect on the important natural and



The remaining open field separating Cracoe from Green End to the north of the B6265

BOX 7

Valued landscape features and elements within Cracoe are:

- The 'ladder' pattern of open walled pastures and straight tracks on the lower slopes of the fells which form the sweeping landscape setting to Cracoe.
- The distinctive alignment of buildings on the north side of the B6265, which are set back to leave a band of green space (comprising paddocks, gardens and orchards) with a consistent width.
- Lines of mature trees and stone walls along the B6265, which contribute a rhythm to the linear village form.
- The undeveloped character of the farmland to the south of the B6265 at Green End. This reduces the dominance of the road and the scale of the 'ribbon' roadside development, retaining a village character; a group of mature trees (remnant woodpasture) lends a parkland character to this part of Cracoe's landscape.
- The small gaps in the linear settlement that separate the main part of Cracoe from the former hamlets of Town End to the west and Green End to the east, which provide a perceptive 'pause' in the sequence of views along the road, breaking the linear form of the village and framing local views.
- The tight grain and intimate character of the Back Lane southern part of Cracoe, including the setting of Town Beck, which flows alongside Back Lane

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- Land within broad landscape setting of Cracoe
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Key views which describe Cracoe's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate sensitivity
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- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 7.1

Cracoe - Settlement analysis


Intimate pattern of cottages and walled crofts on the southern fringes of Cracoe

historical feature of the village.

- Land to the north of the B6265 - the few remaining open plots of land on the north side of the road contribute to Cracoe's distinctive landscape setting and development on these sites would extend the village's linear form, emphasizing the dominance of the road within the village. There are opportunities for new housing on such plots, provided the built development is set back from the road to respect the existing building line and layouts are designed to conserve the mature trees which are local landmarks on these sites. The layouts should also incorporate attractive framed views from the B6265 to the fells beyond.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Cracoe are:

- The open, sweeping fell slope landscape setting to the south of Cracoe. The fields on this side of the village form part of the smaller scale pattern of enclosure on the edge of Cracoe but also contribute to the scenic foreground views to Cracoe Fell and Skelterton Hill, which is part of the Cracoe Reef Knolls SSSI. This sensitive village-edge transition is prominent in views from the open access land on Cracoe Fell and from the Fell Lane public right of way and is exceptionally sensitive to change.
- The relatively small-scale pattern and form of settlement. The layout of new residential development should reflect the distinctive alignment and set-back of the existing buildings to the north of the B6265 and should incorporate belts of trees and framed open views that interrupt the linearity of the road corridor.
- The intimate, small scale pattern of cottages, walled crofts and narrow lanes alongside Town Beck on the southern fringes of the village, which could easily be dominated by modern development; only carefully scaled, traditional buildings are appropriate in this landscape context.
- The scenic gateway views eastwards to the Town End part of Cracoe from the Hetton Road, which focus to the north side of the road and across the gently sloping Ings Beck Valley to the rounded summits of Boss Moor. This is a particularly attractive and expansive view across a shallow valley with an intact walled field pattern, which contributes to the character and quality of Cracoe's rural landscape setting.


Lane alongside Town Beck


Groups of mature trees frame views to the fells at the eastern gateway to Cracoe

8 Dent

Landscape setting

The village of Dent developed as a market centre in a relatively wide part of Dentdale, on the lower slopes of Towns Fell, to the south of the River Dee. Its economy was based on mills, mining, agriculture and thriving cottage textile industries.

The focus of the settlement is the Church of St Andrew (grade I listed) which is in a prominent position, overlooking the river floodplain. The Main Street arcs around the churchyard, with a dense 'urban' townscape of terraced whitewashed and stone cottages lining narrow cobbled streets and lanes. Most buildings in Dent's historic core face inwards onto streets and courtyards and external views across Dentdale are typically screened or tightly framed by buildings. Exceptions are the churchyard, the view northwards from Dragon Croft and the approaches to Dent from local roads, from which there are long cross-dale views to Aye Gill Pike to the north, Towns Fell to the south and Whernside to the south east.

Figure 8.1 shows Dent's broad landscape setting, which includes the floodplain of the meandering River Dee to the north of the village and the ridgelines of the fells that flank Dentdale on either side of Dent, which are carved by narrow wooded gills. One of these, Seeds Gill, flows downslope to the south of Dent, through the tiny hamlet of Flinter Gill Head and northwards through the village centre to its confluence with the River Dee.

The low ridge of Mill Beck Hill forms the local horizon to the west of the town. There is a particularly attractive view of Dent, set against the slopes of Towns Fell, looking south westwards from the main road at Church Bridge (over the River Dee).

Dent has maintained a tightly clustered settlement form as it has grown from its historic core adjacent to the church and former Grammar School. There has been expansion to the south of Main Street and around an early linear development of stone cottages along the road southwards to the hamlet of Flinter Gill Head.





Dent's tight-knit, intricate and small scale historic townscape (above). Seeds Gill (below)

BOX 8

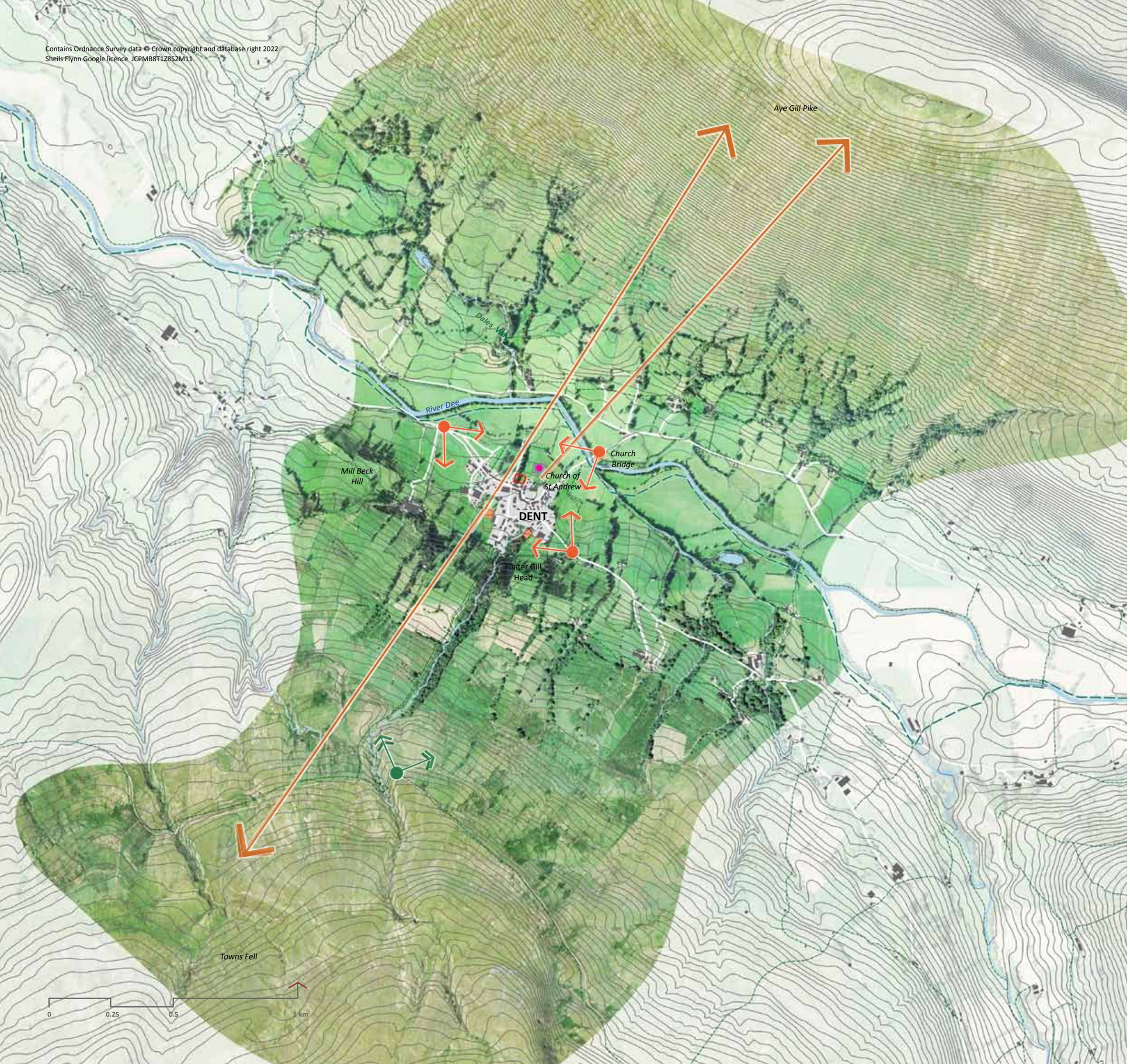
Valued landscape features and elements within Dent are:

- Tight-knit, inward facing townscape of narrow streets, courtyards and lanes
- Landscape setting of the Church of St Andrew and the Old Grammar School, which overlooks the River Dee floodplain
- Relationship of Dent to Seeds Gill, which flows within a wooded channel to the south and east of Flintergill and then within stone channels through the centre of the village
- Sharp contrast between settlement and the surrounding Dentdale landscape, with limited roadside development on approaches to Dent
- Rural landscape setting of Flintertgill and the Flinter Gill Head hamlet at the foot of the steep slopes of Towns Fell.
- View south west to Dent from Church Bridge.



View south west to Dent and the Church of St Andrew from the bridge over the River Dee

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Land within broad landscape setting of Dent

Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)

Settlement

Contour lines (5m interval)

Water courses

Church tower (upstanding landmark)

Key views which describe Dent's overall landscape setting

Promoted long distance routes

Public rights of way

Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary

Principal vehicular route gateway

Principal recreational route gateway

Important open spaces
Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity

Sites scored as moderate sensitivity

Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity

Sites scored as low sensitivity

Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites

Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 8.1

Dent - Settlement analysis

The Flintergill neighbourhood is characterised by rows of small traditional cottages along the street which slopes up Towns Fell and a cluster of houses and outbuildings at Flinter Gill Head, all sheltered by trees and bordered by neat stone walls. There is considerably more tree cover here compared to the village centre.

Analysis

Box 8 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Dent's distinctive landscape character and setting.

Figure 8.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites in both settlements, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Land to the north and west of Glebe Fold,adjacent and to the south of the playing field, where there is an opportunity for a small, courtyard-style development, which complements the Glebe Fold scheme.
- Land adjacent to the south of Ghyllside and to the south east of Seeds Gill. This is a highly visible village edge and only a sensitively designed scheme could be integrated, with a built form that extends and complements the existing traditional small-scale Ghyllside development, incorporating the public right of way.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Dent are:

- The immediate landscape setting of Dent's distinctive historic village centre is highly sensitive to new built development, particularly land to the north and east of the Church of St Andrew and the Old Grammar School, which forms the foreground to views to the church across the River Dee floodplain.
- The small-scale, intricate character of Dent's townscape, which ensures that any large scale new development would seem overly 'urban' in form and character. Only traditional, small-scale built development, which complements the local vernacular, would be appropriate.
- The sensitive rural landscape setting of the Flintergill neighbourhood and the wooded Seeds Gill to the south of Dent, which displays a strong visual connection between Dent and the adjacent slopes of Towns Fell. New built development in this part of Dent could damage the existing valued sense of separation between the rural hamlet of Flinter Gill Head and the main village of Dent.



View north from the public right of way on the lower slopes of Town's Fell. Glebe Fold is on the right



Traditional small cottages in Flintergill



View north from Flinter Gill Head to Ghyllside. The trees on the left are along Seeds Gill

9 Embsay/Eastby

Landscape setting

The village of Embsay and the smaller linear hamlet of Eastby are sited on the slopes of Barden Moor, overlooking the valley of Haw Beck. The valley is dominated by the broken ridge of Skipton Rock Quarry to the south, which has chopped the landform of the ridge to the south; the broken, remnant of the ridge, cloaked in broadleaf woodland, forms the skyline in views to the south.

To the north of both settlements, the dramatic dark gritstone crags of Embsay Crag and Eastby Crag are local landmarks, which form the skyline on the moorland slopes.

In 1120 Embsay was the site of an Augustinian Priory (now the site of Embsay Kirk) which moved to Bolton Priory in 1155, leaving only a small religious cell at Embsay. The village subsequently developed as a centre for the textile industry during the Industrial Revolution, with a cluster of mills, including a spinning mill at Whitfield Syke Mill (which was demolished to make way for the construction of Embsay Reservoir) Primrose Mill and Millholme Shed. The mill ponds and chimney alongside Pasture Road are remnants of Primrose Mill and Millholme Shed is being developed as a centre for business and recreation.

The village has an semi-industrial character, with rows of terraced houses. Mill buildings remain in the centre of the village and the former mill race and pond off Embsay Beck is a local landscape feature, along with the lane that leads up to Embsay Reservoir, Embsay Crag and the open access land on Barden Moor. The band of mature woodlands alongside Embsay Beck is also an important local landscape feature which defines the historic setting of the mills and the remnant mill chimney in the industrial centre of the village. The beckside woodlands and wetlands are a nature reserve

The Embsay to Bolton Abbey steam railway line and station on the southern fringes of the village also contributes an active, industrial character.

The village of Eastby has a linear form, with groups of buildings strung out along the Barden Road. The historic village centre has densely packed and terraced lines of roadside stone cottages and farm buildings, which are grouped so that a ‘village



Sweeping scale of the Haw Beck Valley from the slopes of Eastby Crag



Lower slopes of Hill Top and the north west edge of Embsay, from Brackenley Lane

BOX 9

Valued landscape features and elements within Embsay and Eastby are:

- The moorland slopes to the north of the village, which sweep up to the dramatic dark gritstone crags of Embsay Crag and Eastby Crag
- Views across the open countryside to the south and east of Embsay and Eastby, which provide opportunities to appreciate the landscape of Haw Beck Valley
- The open fields either side of Kirk Lane, which allow views northwards to the crags and eastwards across the valley and which also form the landscape setting for the Church of St Mary the Virgin and provide a clear separation between the villages of Embsay and Eastby
- The slopes of the drumlin landforms on the southern and eastern edges of the village, which frame views across the valley to the distinctive notched profile of the Skipton Rock Quarry from East Lane and Shires Lane
- The steep wooded valley of Embsay Beck, which provides the setting for the remnant historic features associated with the former Primrose Mill and is managed as a nature reserve
- The gateway view looking south west towards Embsay and Eastby from Kirk Lane, which reveals the settlements within their landscape context

street' zone, with buildings on both sides of the road, alternates with zones where the buildings are confined to one side of the road only, allowing views upslope northwards to Eastby Crag and downslope southwards to the valley of Haw Beck.

A network of public rights of way connects both settlements to the surrounding landscape - alongside the wooded becks that lead upslope to the moors and downslope to Haw Beck, and across the fields to the north of Embsay to connect residential neighbourhoods to the parish church of St Mary the Virgin, which is surrounded by farmland and overlooks the valley on the north west side of the village.

Analysis

The landscape setting of both Embsay and Eastby is illustrated on Figure 9.1. Views from and to the settlements are contained by the steep wooded ridgelines of the Haw Park Quarry to the south and Barden Moor to the north. A rounded hill or drumlin on the valley slopes to the south east of Embsay also contains local views to the Haw Beck valley. There are longer valley views across open farmland to the west.

Box 9 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the distinctive landscape character and settings of Embsay and Eastby.



Eastby Crag

Figure 9.1 provides a more detailed analysis of these landscape settings, taking account of views into and out from the settlements and their principal gateway approaches. It shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites in both settlements, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Land at Holly Farm in the historic centre of Embsay, where there is an opportunity for a relatively dense, traditional development which enhances this brownfield site.
- The lower, southern slopes of Hill Top, where there is sufficient space to integrate new development adjacent to the existing north west edges of Embsay without obscuring the sweeping views to the high fells and Embsay Crag.
- Land to the to the south of the western (Brackenley Lane) gateway to Embsay which is visually contained and where development would fit well with the existing settlement form.
- A small part of the farmland to the north of Barden Road within the modern part of Eastby, where there would be an opportunity to continue the small-scale linear settlement form whilst conserving the landmark views to the crags and the distinctive setting of this historic village.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Embsay and Eastby are:

- The sweeping slopes to the south of the two gritstone crags, which are important in the landmark views to the two crags; the transition from walled pastures to exposed moorland, carved by narrow wooded gills, and rocky crags is a distinctive and striking local feature.
- The intimate pattern of woodland and pasture alongside Embsay Beck, Pasture Road and the historic mill ponds and mill chimney in north west Embsay.
- The open fields on either side of Kirk Lane, between the two sharp bends in the road, which provide opportunities for distinctive views northwards to the crags and eastwards across the valley of Haw Beck. They also contribute to the landscape setting of the Church of St Mary the Virgin and provide clear separation between Embsay and Eastby, preventing coalescence.
- The small-scale and traditional 'walled' character of historic Eastby, where the landscape setting is defined by the pattern of walled fields that extends right to the road and alternates with the buildings, framing views to the upper dale slopes and forging a strong perceived connection between rural hamlet and moorland edge landscape.

Framed view to Embsay Crag from Main Street, Embsay



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Embsay Crag
Eastby Crag
Hill Top
Embsay Reservoir
Kirk Lane
EASTBY
Embsay Kirk
Embsay Beck
Church of St Mary the Virgin
Pasture Road
Former mill ponds and mill chimney
EMBSAY
Shire's Lane
East Lane
Brackenley Lane
Embsay to Bolton Abbey Steam Railway
Haw Beck
Skipton Road
Skipton Rock Quarry
A59
SKIPTON
0
0.25
0.5
1 km

- Land within broad landscape setting of Embsay/ Eastby
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of the landscape setting of Embsay and Eastby
- Church tower (upstanding landmarks)
- Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Embsay and Eastby
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces (YDNP)& Local Green Spaces (Craven)
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016 and Craven Local Plan 2012-2031, Adopted November 2019

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity
- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development
- Sites which have planning approval for development or where development has recently been implemented

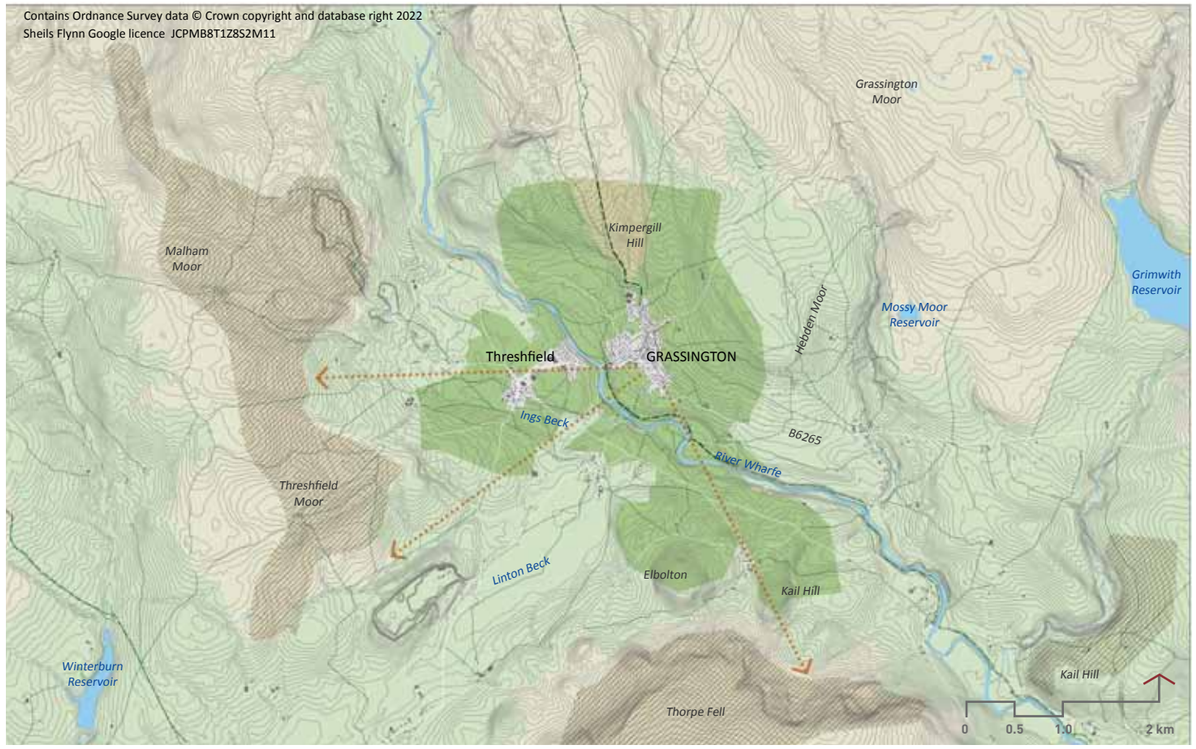
Figure 9.1

Embsay/Eastby - Settlement analysis

10 Grassington/Threshfield

Figure 10.1

Grassington/Threshfield - landscape setting context



Valley farmland

Protected open upland
Policy L10 - YDNP Local Plan 2015-2030

Landscape setting of Grassington and Threshfield
(see Figure 10.2 for detail)

Settlement

Contour lines (5m interval)

Promoted long distance footpaths

Public rights of way

Locally important ridgelines

Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Grassington and Threshfield

Landscape setting

The settlements of Grassington and Threshfield developed on shallow terraces on the lower slopes of Wharfedale above a section of the River Wharfe which flows within an incised, meandering channel. This is a relatively broad part of Wharfedale, where the North Craven Fault cuts across the valley to create a bowl-shaped, undulating landform. The relatively narrow, incised river channel within a broad, undulating dale creates a complex and scenic landscape setting for Grassington and Threshfield. The layers of visual interest stem from the striking contrast in scale between the intimate incised river valley views and the expansive cross-dale views from the terraces and slopes of Wharfedale.

The area has an exceptionally rich archaeology, with a concentration of sites dating from Bronze Age to medieval times, including Romano-British settlements and deserted medieval villages on the on the slopes of Kimpergill Hill, which remain to the north of the existing settlement of Grassington.

Both settlements grew from the 17th century as a result of the thriving lead and coal mining and limestone quarrying industries on the surrounding moors and Linton Mill on the River Wharfe. The twin settlements also benefitted from their accessibility, with a bridge across the River Wharfe and road connections south-east along Wharfedale to Bolton Bridge, south-west via Cracoe along the Eller Beck valley to Skipton and east across the moors to Pately Bridge. The arrival of the Yorkshire Dales Railway to Threshfield in 1909 led to further growth as the area became an important visitor destination.

Figure 10.1 illustrates this dramatic landscape setting and shows the principal ridgelines which form the horizon in local views from Grassington and Threshfield. The areas which are broadly visible in views from and to the settlements are shown in a darker, brighter tone. Kimbergill Hill, with Grass Wood and Bastow Wood forms a continuous relatively close landform horizon to the east and



Looking east to Grassington across the Ings Beck Valley from the B6160

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Land within broad landscape setting of Grassington and Threshfield

Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)

Settlement

Contour lines (5m interval)

Water courses

Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Grassington and Threshfield

Promoted long distance routes

Public rights of way

Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary

Principal vehicular route gateway

Principal recreational route gateway

Important open spaces
Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity

Sites scored as moderate sensitivity

Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity

Sites scored as low sensitivity

Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites

Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 10.2

Grassington/Threshfield - Settlement analysis

north, but there are longer views to the south and west, where views are contained by the upland ridges of Thorpe Fell, Threshfield Moor and Malham Moor. The distinctive conical summits of Elbolton and the two Kail Hills (remnants of limestone reef knolls) are landmarks on the fringes of the settlements' landscape setting to the south.

Analysis

Box 10 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the landscape setting and distinctive character of Grassington and Threshfield.

Views to Grassington from the south (B6265 and B6160) show the town on the edge of the valley slope terrace, above the deeply incised bluff of the River Wharfe. Two large houses (Kirkfield and Elbolton), which are set within belts of mature trees, give a parkland character to the southern fringes of the town. Grassington steps upslope, with the narrow streets of terraced cottages petering out as a network of moorland tracks. Both Grassington and Threshfield are surrounded by long rectangular pastures enclosed by stone walls, which form a distinctive 'layered' pattern in local gateway views. Given the widespread use of local stone for buildings and walls, the walled fields seem to anchor the settlements within their wider landscape setting.

Grassington and the historic part of Threshfield village have tightly clustered layouts, but the Station Road area of Threshfield, on the east banks of the River Wharfe, has a more loose-knit character, with a mix of residential, institutional and leisure developments, including sports pitches associated with Upper Wharfedale School and the Wharfedale RUFC). The settlements are separated by the deeply incised channel of the River Wharfe. There are attractive tree-lined riverside walks (including The Dales Way) connecting a string of individual dwellings (farm houses and cottages), the former mill site at Linton Falls and the Church of St Michael and All Angels.

BOX 10

Valued landscape elements and features within Grassington and Threshfield are:

- The distinctive topographical relationship between both settlements and the River Wharfe, which is defined by broad sloping terraces on the lower dale slopes and a deeply incised river channel.
- The striking historic pattern of stone walls which enclose the long rectangular pastures on the slopes of the dale surrounding both settlements.
- The scenic landscape setting of the historic bridge over the River Wharfe which connects Grassington and Threshfield.
- The incised corridor of the River Wharfe, including the tree-lined river banks and the network of walled valley slope and riverside paths that link Grassington and Threshfield with the former mill site of Linton Falls and Linton Parish Church.
- The network of narrow, walled moorland tracks that connect Grassington and Threshfield with the former mines, coalfields and limestone quarries on the adjacent upland moors.
- The valley of Threshfield Beck-Ings Beck-Captain Beck to the south of Threshfield, which has an undulating landform and an attractive, intimate scale.
- Views from the B6160 to the southern fringes of Grassington, in which there is an attractive composition of prominent individual dwellings against a backdrop of mature woodland and specimen trees.



The rural fringes of north east Grassington, looking east from across the dale from Wharfedale Avenue



Sedber Lane connects Grassington and Linton Falls



The River Wharfe flows within an incised, narrow channel near Linton Falls

The village of Threshfield is on the northern slopes of the small valley of Threshfield Beck-Ings Beck, which forms a distinctive 'edge' with the sense of a gateway to the landscape setting of Threshfield on the western side of Wharfedale. To the north west of Threshfield, the extensive Long Ashes caravan park is set within mature woodland on the slopes of Malham Moor. To the west, the former Threshfield Quarry site is well screened by mature woodland. Ambitious future plans for this site include an integrated mix of business, education and leisure facilities.

Figure 10.2 provides a more detailed analysis of the landscape setting of Grassington and Threshfield taking account of views into and out from the settlements and their principal gateway approaches. It shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment. With reference to these sites in both settlements (Figure 10.2), there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Part of the broad, relatively flat river terrace to the west of the River Wharfe on the northern fringes of Threshfield, conserving opportunities for spacious gateway views from the B6160 to the north west. An integrated approach to built development would be beneficial across this relatively extensive potential development area to fit a layout within its sensitive landscape context.
- The gently sloping, open farmland to the south of Threshfield, where development which incorporates belts of native trees could provide a positive gateway to south east Threshfield from the B6160.
- The southern part of the remnant small wedge of walled farmland in north east Grassington, which is visually well contained.
- A small area on the northern edge of Grassington where high quality new housing may form a more attractive built edge in views to Grassington from the dale slopes to the north.
- Part of the lower fell slope on the south east edge of Grassington, where development that is carefully integrated with bands of native woodland planting (reflecting the slope contours) and set back from the road to provide foreground space for filtered roadside views, may help to enhance the existing rather abrupt B6265 gateway to the town.



View west from northern edge of Grassington to the northern riverside edge of Threshfield

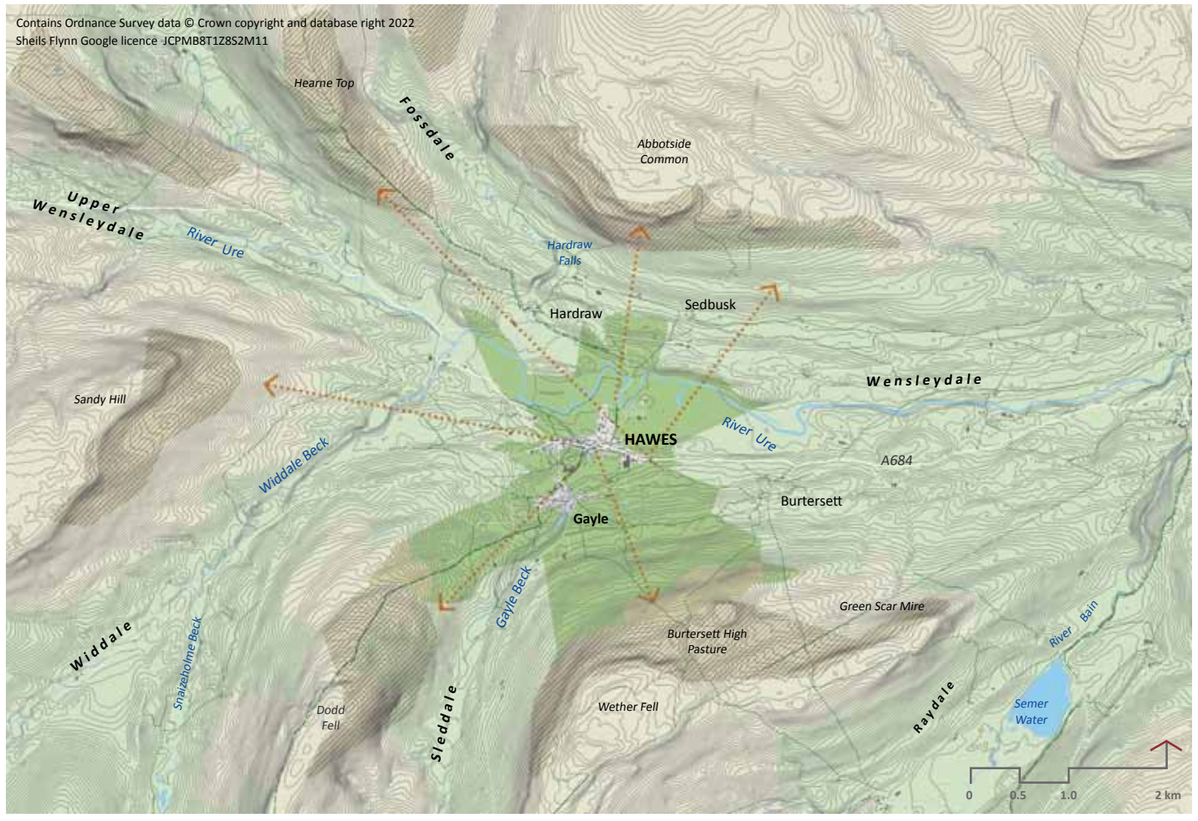
The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Grassington and Threshfield are:

- The landscape setting of the incised River Wharfe valley as it slices between the twin settlements of Grassington and Threshfield. Built development should not intrude within the enclosed riverside views from the Wharfeside paths and Linton Mill complex or within the wider scenic gateway views to the historic River Wharfe Bridge from the principal A65 and A682 approaches to the settlements.
- The transition between the settled pastoral landscapes on the mid-slopes of Wharfedale and the exposed moorland of the upper slopes. The upper edge of settlement is generally tucked just below the zone where the slopes steepen (between the 220-230m contours) and buildings beyond this threshold are typically rural farmsteads or small groups of cottages; large blocks of residential development would be intrusive.
- The northern part of the remnant 'wedge' of walled pastoral landscape which integrates built development with the slope contours in north east Grassington and which contributes to the distinctive rural character of this part of the town. Physical and visual links between these fields and the farmland to the north/west should be conserved.
- The separate landscape setting of the rural hamlet of Skirethorns Lane, which should be conserved to avoid ribbon development within a rural setting and coalescence with Threshfield.
- The rural character and perceived 'village' scale of Threshfield in views south westwards from the B6160 approach to the north east of Threshfield. Development should be set back from the B6160, with a tapered edge that conserves and enhances the gateway views across the flat pastures to the settlement edge.

11 Hawes/Gayle

Figure 11.1

Hawes/Gayle - landscape setting context



Valley farmland

Protected open upland
Policy L10 - YDNP Local Plan 2015-2030

Landscape setting of Hawes/Gayle
(see Figure 11.2 for detail)

Settlement

Contour lines (5m interval)

Promoted long distance footpaths

Public rights of way

Locally important ridgelines

Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Hawes/Gayle



Old Gayle Lane and the gateway to Gayle from the east.

Landscape setting

The small market town of Hawes is sited on the undulating southern margins of the River Ure floodplain, alongside the tributary of Gayle Beck. The village of Gayle is a historic mill settlement which developed at a fording point on Gayle Beck just to the south of Hawes. The two settlements share an attractive setting in the broad, sweeping landscape of Upper-Mid Wensleydale.

The twin settlements are at the confluence of several tributary dales: Sleddale (drained by Gayle Beck) is to the south, Widdale to the south west, Upper Wensleydale to the north west and Fossdale to the north. The resulting steep slopes and high summits that have been carved by the tributary streams in the banded rocks of the Yoredale series have created a dramatic and complex topographic setting. There are long views from Hawes-Gayle to the surrounding high fells. The stepped profiles and slab-top summits of Wether Fell and Dodd Fell to the south and Sandy Hill to the west are particularly distinctive. Abbotside Common forms a more solid massif to the north.

Figure 11.1 illustrates this landscape setting and shows the principal ridgelines which form the horizon in views from Hawes and Gayle.

Figure 11.2 provides a more detailed analysis of the landscape setting of Hawes and Gayle, taking account of views into and out from the town and its principal gateway approaches. The areas which are broadly visible in views from and to the town are shown in a darker, brighter tone.

At a local scale, views are contained by the



Village of Gayle, looking north from Beggarman's Road on the slopes of Wether Fell Side

numerous steep rounded drumlins and post-glacial landforms that are scattered along the River Ure floodplain and lower valley slopes. These rounded landforms, the sequence of waterfalls along Gayle Beck, as it steps down the valley side slopes, and the pepperpot form of Hawes church tower add layers of complexity to local views.

The whole settlement is visible, within its landscape setting, in long, cross dale views southwards from the minor roads between Sedbusk and Hardraw. The Church of St Margaret is a focus in these views, which show the principal clusters of built development, separated by drumlins, along the lower fell slopes.

Gayle Beck bisects and links the two settlements. The open landscape alongside the beck, which is visually contained by several drumlins, is a distinctive and critically important component of the landscape which separates the two settlements of Gayle and Hawes. The Pennine Way follows the lower contours of this central drumlin alongside Gayle Beck to its confluence with the River Ure at Haylands Bridge to the north. This well traversed pedestrian thoroughfare provides a popular connection between the two settlements, with a distinctive sequence of views. The tower of the Church of St Margaret is a frequent visual focus within these views. The local landscape setting of Hawes-Gayle can be subdivided into three distinct components:

The floodplain of the River Ure to the north of Hawes. There are striking views to the meandering river from the A684, but the river channel can only be glimpsed in views from the town as it is contained by a series of drumlins which form an intimate 'landscape edge'.

The former railway line, which follows the southern margins of the floodplain, also contributes to a subtle sense of separation between the main settlement and the industrial area and caravan site on the edge of the floodplain to the north. Two of the floodplain drumlins are distinctive local landmarks - Floshes Hill to the west and The Knolls to the east.

The southern valley edge and the green space which separates Hawes and Gayle - The landscape setting of Hawes is dominated by drumlin-type landforms and influenced by the large buildings associated with the Wensleydale Cheese Factory (which are cut into the side of a drumlin which lies immediately to the south of the town centre) and the livestock market, to the south of the A684. The historic pattern of stone walled fields is a distinctive feature of this central valley side landscape.

The slopes of Wether Fell to the south - Wether Fellside, and the deep open 'bowl' of Sleddale form an upland landscape setting to the hamlet of Gayle. There are stunning long views northwards from the slopes of Wether Fell to the two settlements in which Gayle Beck is visible as a prominent silvery thread as it cuts down, winding through the undulating lower valley slopes, across a broad stone ford in the historic centre of Gayle before stepping down via a sequence of falls en route to Hawes and the River Ure. The pocked and flat broken slabs of limestone bedrock beneath Gayle Beck are exposed when water levels are low.

Analysis

Box 11 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the landscape setting and distinctive character of Hawes and Gayle.

Alongside analysis of the settlements' landscape setting, Figure 11.2 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment and which were considered to merit further consideration. With reference to these possible development sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- The remaining part of the existing Kirkbrides Way development, where development would be well integrated within the existing mix of buildings that front this northern part of Gayle Lane.
- The eastern gateway to Hawes from the A684, where southward views are contained by the steep slopes of a long drumlin and there is an

BOX 11

Valued landscape features and elements within Hawes and Gayle are:

- The sweeping slopes of Wether Fell and Dodd Fell, to the south and west, which form the backdrop to local views and the immediate topographical context for Hawes and Gayle
- The slopes and rounded ridgetops of the drumlins that enclose and frame local views from within the two settlements, particularly Floshes Hill and the Knolls on the River Ure floodplain to the north and the central drumlin that lies between the two settlements.
- The sequence of informal green spaces alongside the Gayle Beck, which are also the setting for the Pennine Way and which provide critically important separation between the two settlements
- The landmark buildings and bridges, which form a sequence of views along the Gayle Beck, including Gayle Bridge, Gayle Mill (a scheduled monument) the Church of St Margarets and Haylands Bridge
- The historic pattern of walled fields on the undulating lower fell slopes
- The groups of mature trees along Gayle Beck, on the slopes of local drumlins and along some local tracks and lanes, which help to contain and structure local views, diminishing the visual impact of the larger buildings on the southern fringes of Hawes



The small walled lanes and cottages in Garris, the western part of Gayle



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- Land within broad landscape setting of Hawes and Gayle
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of the landscape setting of Hawes/Gayle
- Church tower (upstanding landmarks)
- Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Hawes and Gayle
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity
- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 11.2

Hawes/Gayle - Settlement analysis



Long cross dale view southwards from the roads in the Sedbusk-Hardraw area, which show the whole of the settlement in its fell slope landscape setting

opportunity for development alongside and to the rear of the existing roadside houses on the lower slopes of the drumlin. However, this is a sensitive and scenic gateway to Hawes and a high quality layout, which avoids the more elevated slopes to the south, conserves the setting of a minor beck intact and incorporates native tree planting to form a soft interface with the drumlin slopes and frame local views northwards from both the A684 and the public footpath that crosses the site. Given the landscape and visual sensitivity of this eastern gateway to Hawes, an integrated approach to built development would be beneficial.

- To the north of Old Gayle Lane at the gateway to Gayle from the east. This is a sensitive site where there is a risk that development could tip the balance of built development : walled pastures to the point where it feels over-developed. However, a sensitively designed scheme, which conserves the historic barn, provides a positive frontage to Old Gayle Lane and incorporates attractive, soft boundaries (greenspaces, stone walls and native tree planting) that interface with the surrounding farmland could be integrated here.
- Land north of Garris and the West End part of Gayle, where development would be relatively well contained by existing housing and the drumlin landform of Cross Rigg to the north.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Hawes and Gayle are:

- The slopes and summits of the drumlins that separate the twin settlements of Hawes and Gayle and which form a backdrop to views to and from (and between) both settlements.
- The traditional and distinctive ‘stone barns and walls’ character of the undulating pastoral landscape on the fringes of Gayle (and between Gayle and Hawes) which contributes to the rural character and time-depth of the settlement’s landscape setting.
- Views from the Pennine Way, which crosses and links the villages of Gayle and Hawes, connecting the settlements to the wider Wensleydale landscape and encouraging circular recreational walks around them.
- The clustered form of the settlements - there is a risk that roadside development along the A684 could result in ribbon development, with an urban character.
- The relatively small scale and rural character of both settlements, which could easily be overwhelmed by large-scale residential development. Layouts would need to incorporate stone wall boundaries and groups of native trees that ‘knit it’ into the surrounding field pattern.



View northwards from the public right of way connecting Old Gayle Lane and roadside houses along the A684

12 Horton in Ribblesdale



View west from New Inn Bridge towards Rowe End; the grey rockface of Horton Quarry is a backdrop

Landscape setting

The village of Horton in Ribblesdale has a dispersed form, with buildings clustered in three centres:

- **Horton in Ribblesdale** - a historic nucleated settlement (mentioned in the Domesday Book), which developed around the Norman Church of St Oswald
- **New Inn** - a hamlet that developed at the river bridge crossings over the River Ribble and its tributary, Brant's Ghyll. A separate hamlet that developed around the site of the medieval water mill, on Brant's Ghyll to the south of New Inn, is today merged with the New Inn settlement.
- **Rowe End** - a Victorian development that grew up around Horton Station on the Settle to Carlisle Railway. The station opened in 1876 to serve the local community and the adjacent Horton Quarry and Limeworks.

The broad landscape setting of Horton in Ribblesdale is shown on Figure 12.1. The village is on the valley floor of the River Ribble in an area where mounds of glacial drift have created an undulating local topography, with rounded low drumlins and ridges alongside the river and on the lower slopes of Pen-y-ghent to the east and Ingleborough to the west. The B6479 connects the three parts of the settlement, twisting abruptly to cross the valley floor between New Inn and Rowe End.

Horton in Ribblesdale is overlooked by the distinctive and dramatic slanted summit of Pen-y-ghent to the east and by the stark industrial backdrop of Horton Quarry to the west. However,the village's landscape setting is complex because views to the surrounding fells, and indeed to the river, are often obscured by low rounded drumlins. This mounded topography, together with terraced houses along the road and belts of trees towards the river's edge, ensures that parts of the village feel enclosed at a local scale.

There are particularly striking views across the Ribble floodplain at the New Inn Bridge, looking north westwards across the floodplain towards Ingleborough and looking eastwards along the B6479 to the summit of Pen-y-ghent on the approach to the New Inn Bridge from Rowe End.



Crown Inn at New Inn, Horton in Ribblesdale



View south from the B6479 at the northern gateway to Rowe End. The railway embankment is to the right and Pen-y-ghent is to the left of the photograph

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Settle to Carlisle Railway
B6749
Views to summit of Pen-y-ghent
ROWE END
NEW INN
Brant's Gryll
Horton Railway Station
Horton Quarry
HORTON IN RIBBLESDALE
Church of St Oswald
River Ribble
B6749
0
0.25
0.5
1 km

- Land within broad landscape setting of Horton in Ribblesdale
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of the landscape setting of Horton in Ribblesdale
- Church tower (upstanding landmarks)
- Key views which describe Horton in Ribblesdale's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

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- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 12.1

Horton in Ribblesdale - Settlement analysis

Analysis

Box 12 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the landscape setting and distinctive character of Horton in Ribblesdale. Alongside analysis of the settlements' landscape setting, Figure 12.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment and which were considered to merit further consideration. With reference to these possible development sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Land south of the Church of St Oswald in the historic core of Horton in Ribblesdale, where a relatively dense residential scheme could provide a positive built frontage to the B6479 while bringing land that is under-used (and partially derelict) into functional use as an attractive and permeable part of the village landscape.
- Land to the south of Rowe End and east of the Settle to Carlisle Railway, where residential development (on both sides of Cragg Hill Road) could create a new neighbourhood of sufficient scale to have its own sense of place and would fit with the rather dispersed 'linear-with-clusters' form of settlement that is typical of Horton in Ribblesdale. There is space to integrate the built form with bands of trees that align with and emphasise the terraced slope landform.
- Land on the eastern fringes of Rowe End, which is partially enclosed by existing houses/trees. Carefully designed residential development here would be seen against the backdrop of existing buildings and could potentially enhance riverside and cross dale views. The informal character of the village should be conserved, with indented built edges and groups of trees that shelter and contain the buildings within the relatively large scale and open landscape of Mid Ribblesdale.
- Land between the B6479 and the Settle to Carlisle Railway embankment on the northern approach to Rowe End, where a relatively low density development could be integrated, provided the existing traditional roadside barn (and its setting) is incorporated as part of the scheme and if the elevated southern part of the site remains undeveloped. Groups and bands of native trees should form part of the layout to form a backdrop to local views southward from the B6479

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Horton in Ribblesdale are:

- The setting of the historic (grade I listed) Church of St Oswald. The B6479 wraps around the walled churchyard and there are stunning views north eastwards in which the historic church is seen against the slopes of Pen-y-ghent. New built development to the south of the church should reflect the architectural form, character and local materials of the Ribblesdale area.
- The narrow steep lanes that lead upslope from the B6479. Development along these lanes would be intrusive in local views from the road and would damage Horton in Ribblesdale's Pen-y-ghent slope landscape setting
- The landscape setting of the River Ribble and views from the Ribble Way long distance path. Blocks of built development should not be visible from the incised, rural riverside landscape that threads between the drumlins to the south of the river crossing.
- The remaining gaps that separate the three component parts of the settlement and which prevent coalescence.
- The scale and informality of Horton in Ribblesdale's settlement pattern and the diversity of character between the three local village centres. New development should respect the local traditional architectural form, incorporating a higher proportion of native trees within housing layouts than is currently present to integrate buildings and enhance the local industrial environment.
- The open slopes and crests of the drumlin landforms on the valley floor, which contain local views and contribute to the gateways and landscape setting of each component part of Horton in Ribblesdale

BOX 12

Valued landscape features and elements within Horton in Ribblesdale are:

- The distinctive character of each of the three separate clusters of buildings with their focus (separately) on the Church of St Oswald (Horton in Ribblesdale), the river bridge crossings (New Inn) and the railway station (Rowe End).
- The slopes and rounded ridgetops of the drumlins that enclose and frame local views.
- The setting of the Church of St Oswald (grade I listed), particularly views in which the church is seen against the backdrop of Pen-y-Ghent.
- The abrupt right angled bends in the B6479 as it twists through each part of the settlement, which provide thresholds within the diverse sequence of roadside views.
- The landscape setting of the River Ribble, particularly at the historic (grade II listed) New Inn Bridge and Gray Bridge crossings, where views suddenly open up along and across the river floodplain.
- The historic landscape of the Settle to Carlisle Railway and former Horton Limeworks, which is a component of the linear Settle to Carlisle Railway Conservation Area.



The summit of Pen-y-ghent dominates views eastwards across Ribbledale from Rowe End.

13 Long Preston

Landscape setting

Long Preston has developed with a broadly linear form along the A65/Main Street. The road and historic 'spine' of the village follows the contours on the undulating lower slopes of the Ribble Valley on the southern fringes of the National Park. The village has developed along a distinct terrace near the base of the valley slope although the topography is locally influenced by glacial drift, which often has a gently mounded landform at the foot of the fell slope. Long Preston is set against a backdrop of the moors to the north and the open marshes of the Ribble Valley to the south.

The Main Street curves as it follows the contours and there is a network of narrow, walled back lanes leading up onto the moors to the north (Newton Moor, Rangeber Hill, Hunter Bark) and to the site of the historic mill complex at Mill Bridge on the Ribble floodplain to the south. The village green is traversed by the A65, so that there are a series of green spaces in the village centre along and off to both sides of the curving road.

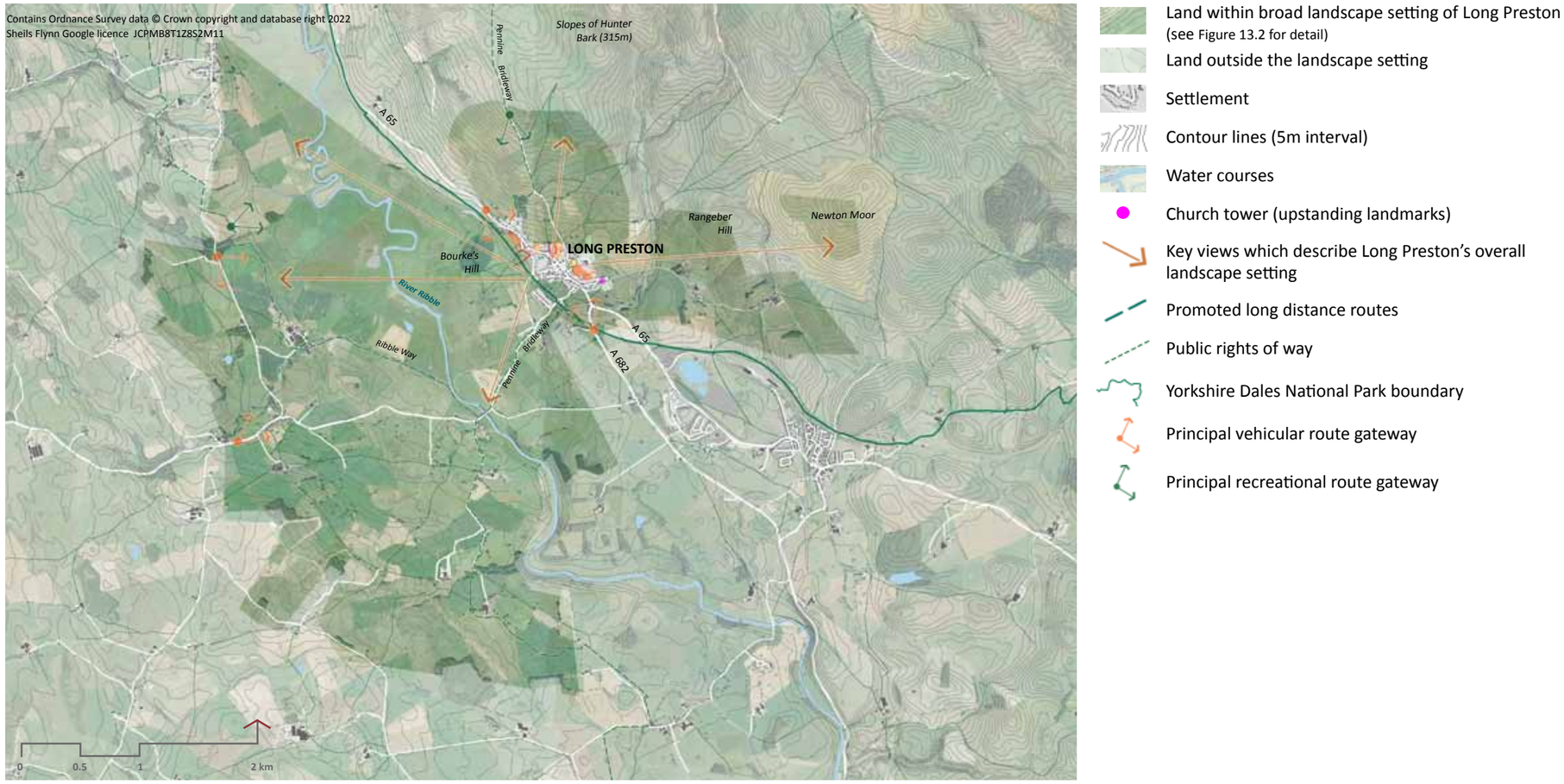
Occasional gaps in the lines of buildings allow views to the moors to the north and there are dramatic panoramic views across the Ribble Marshes to Pendle Hill (some 18km to the south) from the walled lanes to the south of the village.

Figure 13.1 shows that the landscape setting of Long Preston includes the moorland slopes that form a backdrop to views to the north and an extensive and unchecked area of the Ribble floodplain to the south. The views from the south show how the village is well integrated within its landscape setting; the Main Street and lines of buildings follow the contours and 'fit' comfortably on the slope. In views south westwards from the moorland edge lanes and public rights of way, the village buildings are typically only partially visible as they are nestled against the slopes and partially screened by the undulating landform and by groups of mature trees.

Parts of Long Preston's historic croft pattern are

Figure 13.1

Long Preston- landscape setting analysis





View northwards from Back Lane to the south of Long Preston; the slopes of Rangeber Hill and Hunter Bark form a backdrop

conserved and the network of walled lanes, which connect the village centre to the church, the site of the former mill and the moorland pastures is a distinctive feature of the Long Preston landscape.

To the south west of Long Preston, the shallow rounded drumlin landform of Bourke's Hill is a local landscape feature, partially containing the long views south across the Ribble floodplain.

Analysis

Box 13 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the landscape setting and distinctive character of Long Preston.

Given its accessibility to major road and rail connections, Long Preston is under considerable pressure for development. Figure 13.2 provides a more detailed analysis of Long Preston's landscape setting and shows the possible development sites in the village which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment and which were considered to merit further consideration. With reference to these possible development sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- The backland off School Lane to the west of the village school, where the remnant walled croft adjacent to the school playing field is visually contained and where development could be well integrated as part of the local townscape.
- The walled crofts to the south (to the rear of Hartley Green and Jubilee Croft) are more visible and these gently undulating walled pastures are of scenic and historic value as they contribute to the setting of the village in views from the moorland lanes and are part of the historic pattern of linear walled crofts on this moorland-edge part of the village. There would therefore only be an opportunity for a housing development on the part of these crofts that is adjacent to the existing housing, if it is designed to create a high quality frontage of traditional (local) stone buildings in views south westwards from Back Lane and the elevated public rights of way on the moorland edge.
- Farmland to the north and east of the Burial Ground, where development that is softened by native trees and contained within the existing linear pattern of walled crofts could form a positive village edge in important local views.
- Land on the northern edge of Long Preston, fronting Main Street, where a sensitively designed scheme could contribute positively to the historic townscape.
- The gently sloping river terrace land immediately south west of Tranmere Court, where development would continue Long Preston's traditional pattern of growth without damage to its wider landscape setting.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for



View southwards from Back Lane across the Ribble floodplain to the south of Long Preston



Village centre green, off Main Street (A65)

BOX 13

Valued landscape features and elements within Long Preston are:

- The panoramic open views across the Ribble floodplain to the south of the village (outside the YDNP boundary) and the views northward to Long Preston from the Ribble Way and Pennine Bridleway promoted routes, in which the landscape setting of the village, aligned along the contours on the lower slopes of the fells, can be appreciated.
- The historic network of narrow walled lanes that connect Long Preston to the moors to the north (Green Gate Lane, Scalehaw Lane and Cross Lane) and to the site of the former mill on the marshes to the south (Back Lane).
- The sequence of village greens at the heart of the village and the occasional views out from these greens to the moors to the north, which connect the village to its landscape setting.
- The remnant croft pattern on the fringes of the village and its close relationship to the historic pattern of narrow walled lanes.
- The rural setting of the parish church of St Mary the Virgin which is surrounded on three sides by open farmland, with pedestrian access via a network of attractive historic walled lanes, including Back Lane.

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- Land within broad landscape setting of Long Preston
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of Long Preston's landscape setting
- Church tower (upstanding landmarks)
- Key views which describe Long Preston's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity
- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development
- Sites which have planning approval for development or where development has recently been implemented

Figure 13.2

Long Preston - Settlement analysis

residential development in Long Preston are:

- The landscape setting and historic character of Back Lane and the Church of St Mary the Virgin. Development should be set well back to the south of Back Lane, leaving a broad swathe of land, including the more elevated 'knoll' adjacent to the school undeveloped so that the setting of the lane and the foreground of views from moorland to village edge is conserved. There should also be no development to the north of Back Lane.
- The historic linear pattern of walled crofts on the slopes of the fells to the north of Main Street, which should be conserved and integrated within the layout of any built development off Green Gate Lane.
- The framed views between terraced houses north and north eastwards to the moors and south and south westwards to the Ribble floodplain. The most important views are those where there is a direct visual connection between village greens and/or central walled crofts and Long Preston's wider landscape setting.



Long view south westwards from New House Lane, on the moorland edge to Back Lane and the Church of St Mary the Virgin (on the left)



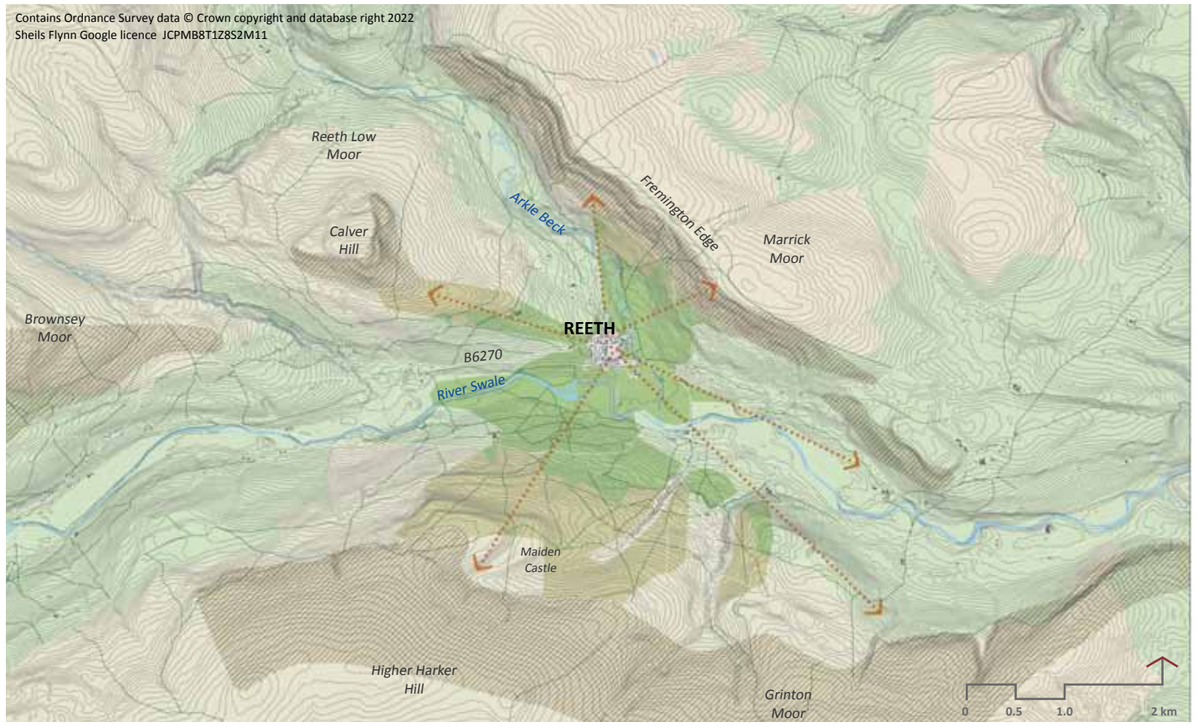
Visual connection between village centre greens and the fells to the north



View eastwards along Back Lane to the Church of St Mary the Virgin (on the left) and across the walled linear crofts on the north eastern edge of Long Preston

14 Reeth

Figure 14.1
Reeth - landscape setting context



Landscape setting

Reeth has a stunning landscape setting on the broad south-facing slopes of Calver Hill close to the confluence of Arkle Beck and the River Swale. The town is surrounded by moorland peaks and the wild, exposed moorlands of Arkengarthdale and overlooking the floodplain meadows and meandering channel of the River Swale. This is a relatively narrow part of Swaledale and the village is prominent in long views from Higher Harker Hill (and the Iron Age fort of Maiden Castle) to the south. From this vantage point, Reeth is seen against the rounded summit of Calver Hill and the sheer rocky backdrop of Fremington Edge at the entrance to Arkengarthdale.

Reeth is sited on the northern margins of the River Swale floodplain at a point where the Swale meanders in a broad loop across extensive wetlands

- Valley farmland
- Protected open upland
  Policy L10 - YDNP Local Plan 2015-2030
- Reeth's landscape setting
  (see Figure 14.2 for detail)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Public rights of way
- Locally important ridgelines
- Key views which describe Reeth's overall landscape setting


Reeth and the Swale floodplain from the slopes of Harkerside Moor to the south


The village green and layout of Reeth is clear in the view from Grinton Moor to the south east

and water meadows. There is a striking contrast between the sinuous river channel and pools of water on the floodplain, the walled pastures on the lower valley slopes and the steep, rocky moorlands above. Figure 14.1 illustrates this dramatic landscape setting and shows the principal ridgelines which form the horizon in views from Reeth.

The village of Reeth has developed around a large central green and market place, which slopes to the south and offers stunning views across Swaledale to Harkerside Moor and Grinton Moor. The village green is surrounded by hotels, shops and cafes. This is the historic core of the settlement; there is an area of more recent development to the east.

Despite the long, open views to Reeth from the surrounding uplands, the village is surprisingly well hidden in local views. The school is the first indication of settlement on the B6270 approach from the west and the first glimpses of Reeth across the floodplain from the south and east do not occur until just north of the historical Grinton Bridge crossing. From the north, views to Reeth are hidden by the ridge of Black Hill.

At a local scale, the gateway to Reeth from the east occurs at Reeth Bridge, which crosses Arkle Beck. The adjacent hamlets of Low Fremington and High Fremington and the village of Grinton, which lies immediately to the south of Grinton Bridge, are also highly visible in views across and along Swaledale and form an important part of the wider landscape setting of Reeth.

Analysis

Figure 14.2 provides a more detailed analysis of Reeth's landscape setting, taking account of views into and out from the village and its principal gateway approaches. The areas which are broadly visible in views from and to the village are shown in a darker, brighter tone.

Box 14 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to Reeth's distinctive character and landscape setting.

Alongside analysis of Reeth's landscape setting, Figure 14.2 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment and which were considered to merit further consideration. With reference to these possible development sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- A brownfield site on the southern edge of the village centre which contributes positively to the frontages along the B6270 and Back Lane and which conserves the existing curving stone wall and gate posts.
- A gently sloping backland site to the north of the Dales Centre, which is sheltered and partially enclosed by a steep part of the fell slope and which would form a logical addition to the existing settlement.

BOX 14

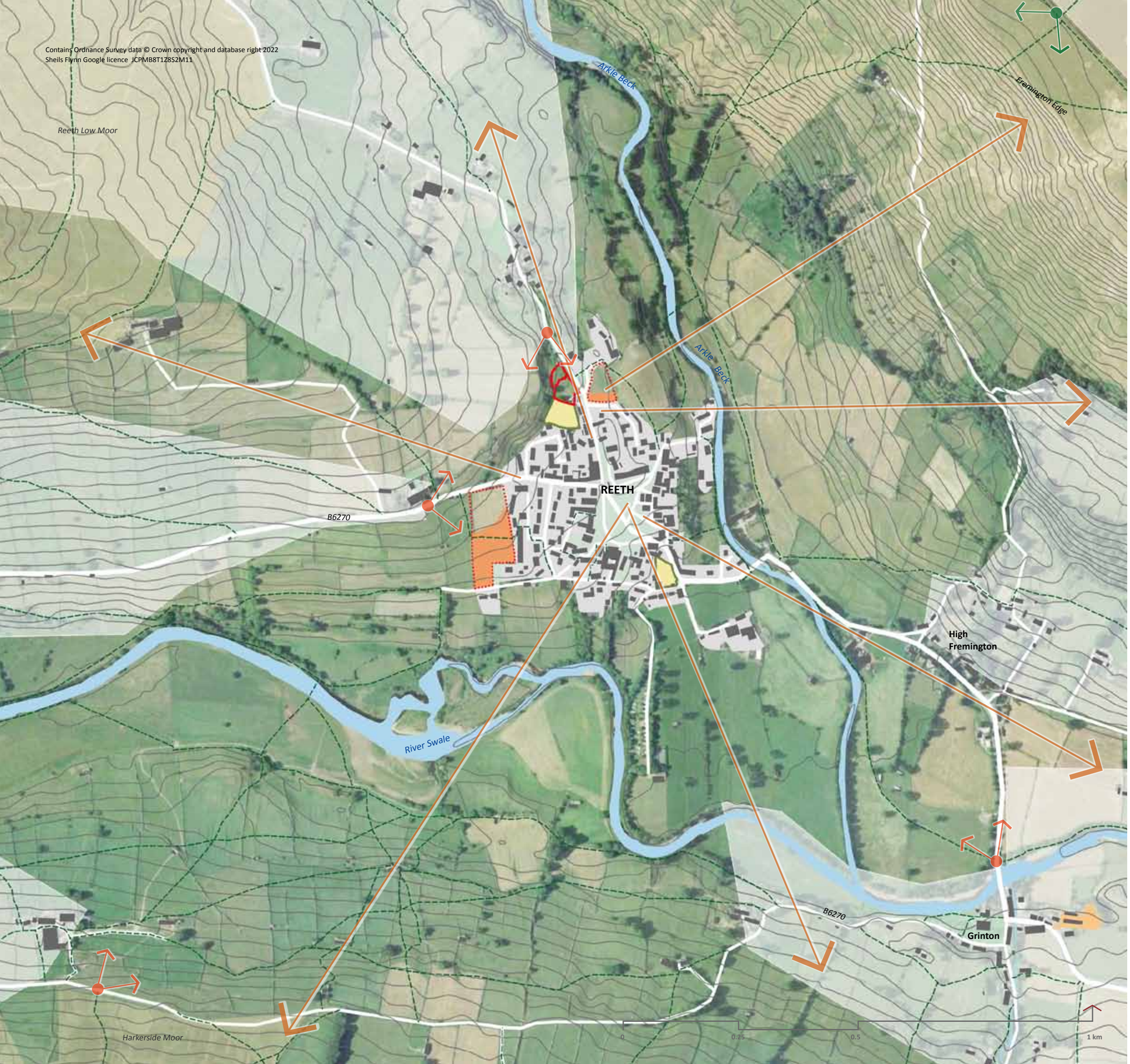
Valued landscape features and elements within Reeth are:

- The green, open character of Reeth's large central village green and the smaller greens on the outer fringes of the village, which contribute to the distinctive sequence of views on the approaches to the village centre.
- The striking contrast between the tightly clustered village and the open walled pastures, woodlands and moorlands that surround Reeth. Linear development along the approaches to Reeth would not be appropriate.
- The remaining narrow areas of open countryside on the slopes of Arkle Beck which separate Reeth from the hamlets of High Fremington and Low Fremington to the east and, further downslope, the fields which lie between these two hamlets and Grinton Bridge. It is important that these areas remain undeveloped to protect the landscape setting of Reeth and the sequence of gateway views on the B6270 approach from the south east.
- The historic pattern of walled fields and field barns that is characteristic of the lower slopes of Calver Hill and which 'anchors' the village within its wider landscape setting in the elevated views from the south.
- The characteristic relationship between village edge and the floodplains of both the Arkle Beck to the east and the River Swale to the south, which is defined by an inter-connecting pattern of mature trees. The straight lines of hedgerow trees that enclose the long rectangular fields between Reeth and the floodplains connect to the sinuous bands of riverside trees.



View southwards across Reeth's central village green

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- Land within broad landscape setting of Reeth
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Key views which describe Reeth's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
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- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Figure 14.2

Reeth - Settlement analysis

- Land on the north eastern fringes of Reeth (alongside Hill Close) where a small development which incorporates native planting to soften and integrate the buildings, could be accommodated without damaging the important and sensitive Arkengarthdale views.
- A walled field on the western edge of Reeth and to the south of Silver Street, where a gateway development that is set well back from the road (to conserve the slope of the slightly ridged landform adjacent to Silver Street and the landscape setting of the traditional barns to the west), with a pattern of open space and tree planting that 'knits' the settlement into the wider fell slope landscape pattern, could potentially be accommodated. This parcel of land has significant heritage value which may preclude development, but the existing settlement edge forms an abrupt interface with surrounding fields and development on the southern (lower) part of this field could provide an opportunity to create a softer, more varied built edge, with trees along an access road forming a backdrop to eastward gateway views.



View to Reeth from the slopes of Fremington Edge, with Carver Hill on the right and the meandering River Swale on the left

View south east to Arkengarthdale from the northern gateway to Reeth



The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Reeth are:

- The dramatic Arkengarthdale landscape setting, with plummeting rocky slopes, irregular historic walled fields and stunning views along the deep wooded valley of Arkle Beck and across (eastwards) to Fremington Edge. The Arkengarthdale views to the north and east of Reeth are particularly distinctive and should be conserved, with minimal new development.
- The principal vehicular approach to Reeth from the south. Development along the B6270 between Reeth and Low Fremington would risk increasing the perceived coalescence of these settlements.
- The water meadows and lower dale slopes to the south of Reeth, which contribute to the (River Swale) riverside setting; the relationship between the village and the meandering river is set out in the long elevated views northwards from Harkerside to the south.
- The narrow, rural Arkengarthdale Road gateway to Reeth, where development would obscure the subtle, evocative landscape transition from pastoral dale to the raw, natural landscape of exposed moorland to the north of Reeth. It would also damage the sensitive time-deph of the Arkengarthdale Road on the northern edge of Reeth and the historic relationship between Reeth and its village pound.

View west upslope towards the village school on Silver Street





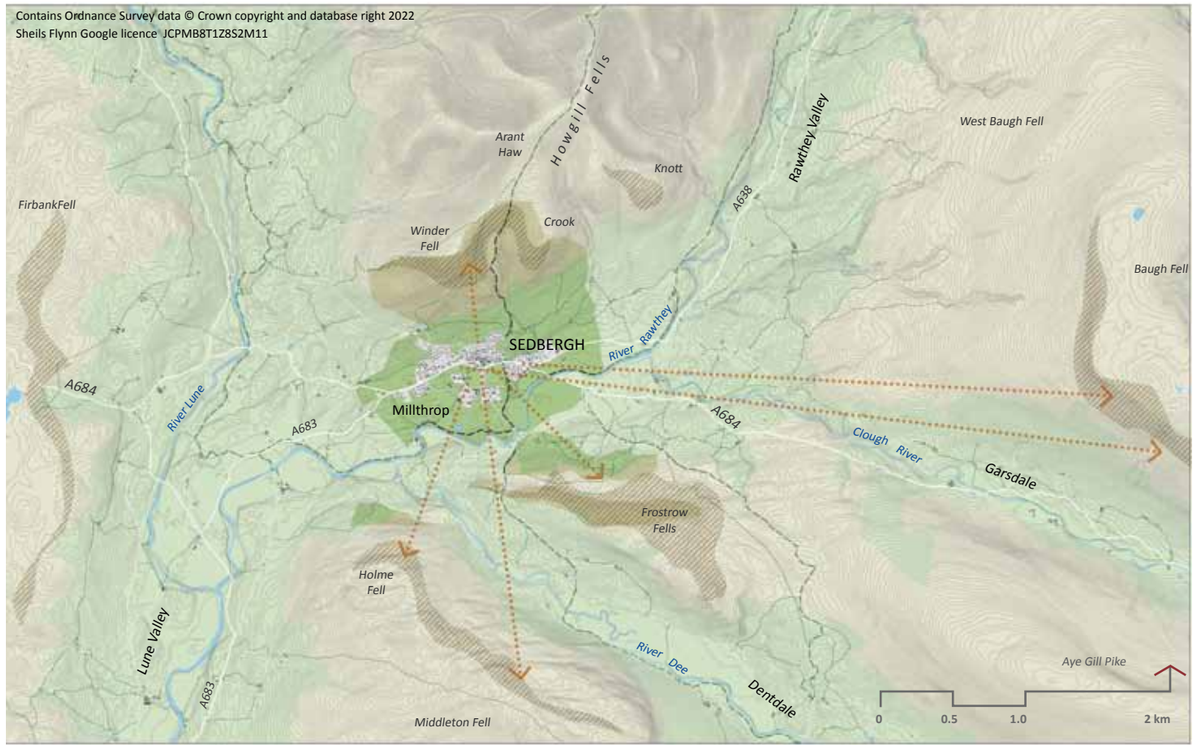
The western gateway to Reeth, looking east to the edge of the settlement

Looking north west to the village school and Silver Street gateway to Reeth from the west



15 Sedbergh/Millthrop

Figure 15.1
Sedbergh - landscape setting context



Landscape setting

The town of Sedbergh is sited on a series of low drumlins alongside the River Rawthey at the gateway to the Cumbrian Dales - Rawthey Valley, Garsdale, Dentdale and Deepdale. Sedbergh has a dramatic landscape setting as the town is on the valley slope at a point where the River Rawthey has cut through the steep ridge of the Howgill Fells to join the larger valley of the River Lune to the west. It is dominated by the vast open slopes of Winder Fell (473m) and Arant Haw (605m) to the north and Holme Knott (350m) on the lower flanks of Middleton Fell to the south.

To the south of Sedbergh, the small village of Millthrop is sited on rising land on the opposite bank of the River Rawthey. There is no visual connection between the two settlements, but a historic bridge over the river provides a physical link

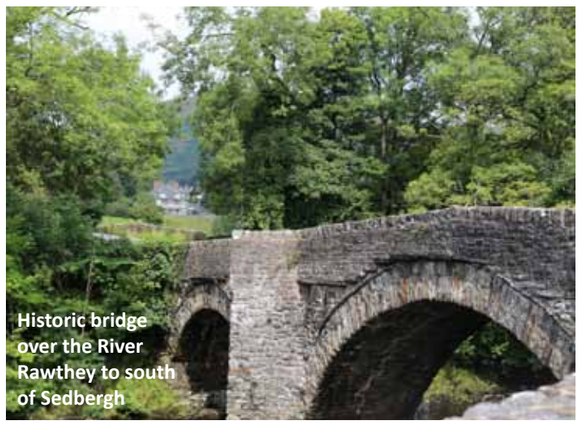
- Valley farmland
- Protected open upland
  Policy L10 - YDNP Local Plan 2015-2030
- Landscape setting of Sedbergh/Millthrop
  (see Figure 15.2 for detail)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- moted long distance footpaths
- lic rights of way
- Locally important ridgelines
- Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Sedbergh and Millthrop



View north to north-east along Loftus Hill. The steep slopes of the Howgills (Winder and Crook Fells) loom over the town



Sedbergh School grounds - drumlin landforms in the centre of town



Historic bridge over the River Rawthey to south of Sedbergh



Small village of Millthrop

Figure 15.1 illustrates this dramatic landscape setting and shows the principal ridgelines which form the horizon in local views from Sedbergh and Millthrop.

Figure 15.2 provides a more detailed analysis of the landscape setting of Sedbergh and Millthrop, taking account of views into and out from the settlements and their principal gateway approaches. The areas which are broadly visible in views from and to Sedbergh and Millthrop are shown in a darker, brighter tone. The Howgill Fells provide a striking backdrop in views to the north; there are also longer views to the summit of Baugh Fell to the east and Middleton Fell to the south.

At a local scale, views are constrained and structured by the steeply undulating rounded drumlin landforms, which are interspersed throughout the landscape setting of the town. Figure 15.2 identifies the drumlins which are most influential in defining Sedergh's landscape setting and show how the areas of development are typically shaped by these landforms. They contribute character and a strong local identity.

Sedbergh's landscape setting is also strongly influenced by the buildings and immaculate playing fields of Sedbergh School, which are clustered to the south-west of the town centre.

The principal gateways to Sedbergh at the outer limits of the town's landscape setting are also shown on Figure 15.2. The vehicular gateways from the west are defined by the curving steep embankment of the disused railway and by a cluster of drumlins on the western fringes of Rawthey Valley. The gateways from the south, which have an enclosed, well treed character, are at the historic bridges over the River Rawthey. From the east, the 'valley gateway' to Sedbergh is less sharply defined; views to the town from the east are partially screened by mature roadside and hedgerow trees along a relatively straight section of the A683.

The small village of Millthrop has a T-form, with lines of houses along narrow lanes to the south of the river floodplain. The historic village comprises a former mill on Clatter Beck, a tributary of the River Rawthey and terraces of small cottages lining the main street. There is a farmstead to the south with a network of tracks (public rights of way) leading up the fell slopes to the south. A line of more recent development extends along the lane to the north east of the historic core.

There are also important recreational gateways from the footpaths which descend the steep slopes of the surrounding fells and which offer panoramic views of Sedbergh within its wider valley setting.

Given the extent of these elevated fell slope views, the majority of the landscape setting of Sedbergh and Millthrop is sensitive to development.

Analysis

Box 15 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the landscape setting and distinctive character of Sedbergh and Millthrop.

Alongside analysis of the settlements' landscape setting, Figure 15.2 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity

BOX 15

Valued landscape features and elements within Sedbergh and Millthrop are:

- The open slopes of Winder Fell immediately to the north of Sedbergh and the built edges of the town on this northern side, which are prominent in views from the footpaths (including the promoted Dales Highway) on the descent from the Howgill Fells.
- The more enclosed and partially wooded lower slopes and banks of the River Rawthey, including the sequence of historic bridges, mills and small settlements of Birks and Millthrop.
- The narrow framed views to the Howgills, between buildings along alleyways and streets; it is important to avoid infill development that would block the middle-ground in these characteristic views.
- The slopes and particularly the ridgetops of the small drumlins which are dispersed throughout the town on the valley slopes, including particularly Castlehaw to the north-east of the town centre, which is the site of a motte and bailey castle and designated as a scheduled monument.
- The playing fields and open parkland landscapes associated with Sedbergh School.
- The characteristic 'loose-knit' mix of built development and green spaces that is typical of Sedbergh; groups and lines of buildings are always interrupted by and viewed across intervening greenspaces.
- Millthrop's narrow linear form, small scale and deeply rural character.

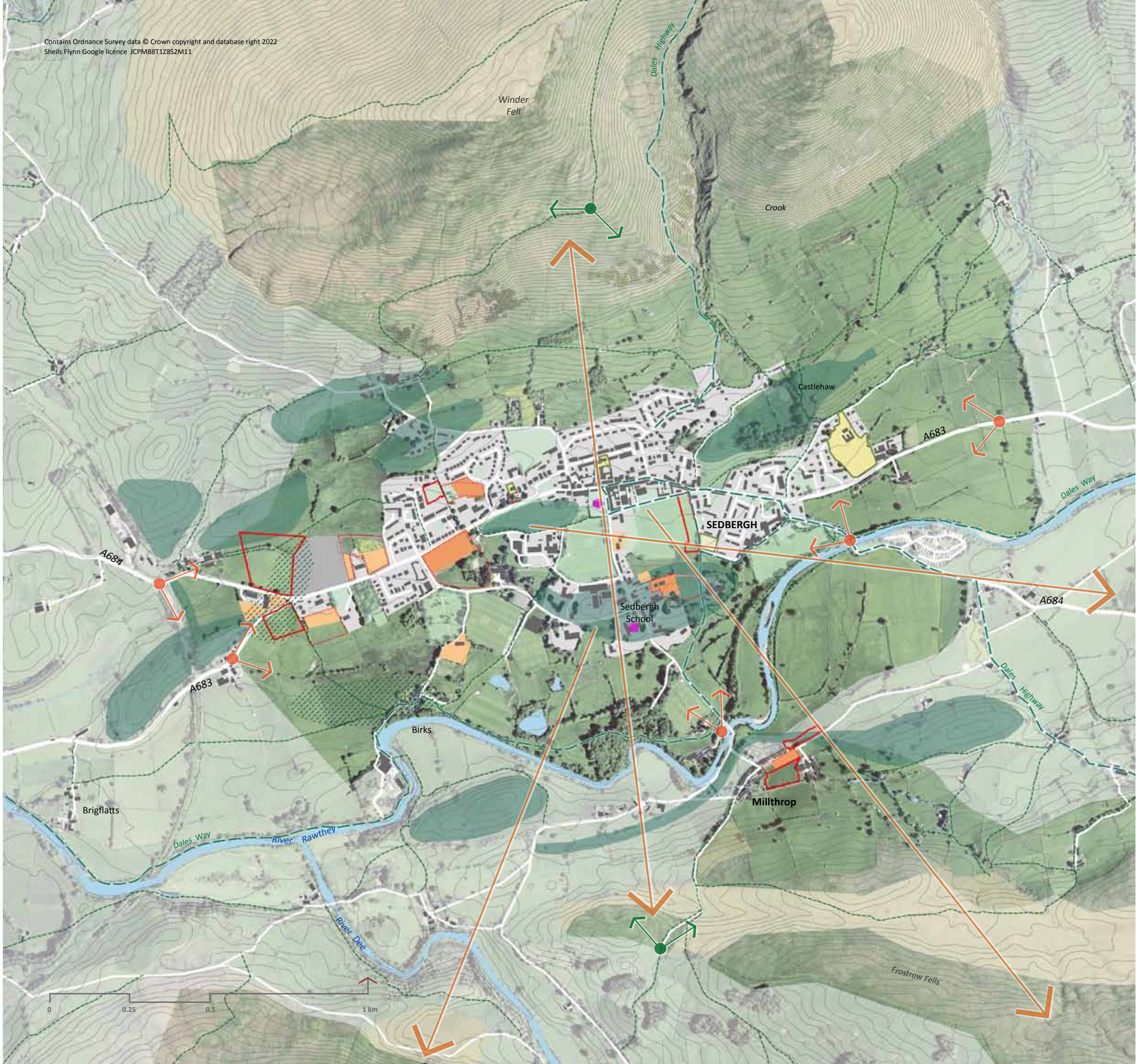
Winder Fell from the meadow south of Station Road (right)



Low drumlin that 'contains' the A684 western gateway to Sedbergh (below)



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- Land within broad landscape setting of Sedbergh/ Millthrop
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Principal structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of the landscape setting of Sedbergh and Millthrop
- Minor influential drumlin landforms
- Church tower (upstanding landmarks)
- Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Sedbergh and Millthrop
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
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- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development
- Sites which have planning approval for development or where development has recently been implemented

Figure 15.2

Sedbergh/Millthrop - Settlement analysis



Narrow lanes and fell views to south of Millthrop (above and below)





View across Lupton Fields to the historic core of Sedbergh and Winder Fell

assessment and which were considered to merit further consideration. With reference to these possible development sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Occasional brownfield sites in Sedbergh, where existing buildings are derelict, demolished or under-used. Given the historic importance of the local townscape, a sensitively designed built form is important.
- Some greenspaces within the grounds of Sedbergh School, where built development could be integrated without compromising Sedbergh's historic character, important views and distinctive settlement form. Examples are land fronting Station Road (a formal sports pitch) and a smaller area adjacent to Robertson House, which is visually well contained. On all such sites, the conservation of existing mature trees is critically important.
- The site of the former Bailiol School, off Cautley Road, which is visually contained and well connected to the town centre. Sensitive development of this site offers an opportunity to enhance the eastern gateway to Sedbergh from the A683.
- A remnant pasture on the edge of a modern housing estate off Vicarage Lane, where development would be a logical extension of the existing settlement form.
- Land along the A684/Station Road western gateway to Sedbergh, where a large new housing development is already changing the character and scale of built form.
- Part of the pasture to the south east of Millthrop, where a single line of houses would continue the characteristic pattern of linear settlement; a visual connection between village centre and the fells to the south should be conserved by leaving the part of the field that is closest to the historic village centre undeveloped.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Sedbergh and Millthrop are:

- Land which forms the foreground to the sweeping, dramatic northward views to Winder Fell and the Howgills. Sedbergh has developed on the lower slopes of Winder Fell, but the existing settlement is contained on one part of the southern fell slope; expansion of built development across a more extensive area risks reducing the perceived huge scale and drama of views to the Howgills, particularly from the A684/A683 western gateway to Sedbergh near Borrett Tollbar.
- The distinctive contrast between Sedbergh's dense terraced townhouses and villas and the parkland character of Sedbergh School, particularly the spacious, verdant views across the school playing fields (e.g. Lupton Fields) and from the crests of local drumlin landforms within and on the fringes of the town.
- The remnant pastures within north Sedbergh (off Guldrey Terrace and Sycamore Avenue) which contribute to the 'layering' of built development and open fell on the edge of the town, helping to integrate buildings as they step up the bare 'sculpted' slopes of Winder Fell. While some development could be accommodated here, retention of open green space and tree cover would help to conserve the distinctive character of Sedbergh's dramatic landscape setting, ensuring a soft built edge and a backdrop of trees and open fields in views to Winder Fell.
- The western gateway to Sedbergh along the A683/Station Road, where there is a risk that development of a series of sites may cumulatively form a nondescript ribbon of roadside development that detracts from Sedbergh's distinctive townscape. Development of one of the sites that front onto this road could therefore preclude development of land alongside. The conservation of local landscape features (e.g. low drumlin landforms, field stone walls, mature hedgerows and stands of trees) will be critically important in mitigating the risk of perceived coalescence of built development along Station Road.
- The small-scale, narrow linear form and rural character of the village of Millthrop, which could easily be overwhelmed by large blocks of residential development.

16 Settle/Giggleswick

Landscape setting

The town of Settle has developed on the east bank of the River Ribble at a gateway to the Upper Ribble Valley that is overlooked by the massive limestone Castleberg Crag to the east and the promontory scored by Giggleswick Scar on the slopes of Feizor Thwaite to the west. The adjacent village of Giggleswick developed to the west of the River Ribble, alongside Tems Beck. A bridge has connected the two settlements since medieval times. This part of Ribblesdale is renowned for its limestone quarries and the twin settlements of Settle and Giggleswick straddle the South Craven Faultline, giving ready access to outcrops of sandstone and limestone. Both rock types are reflected in the local built environment.

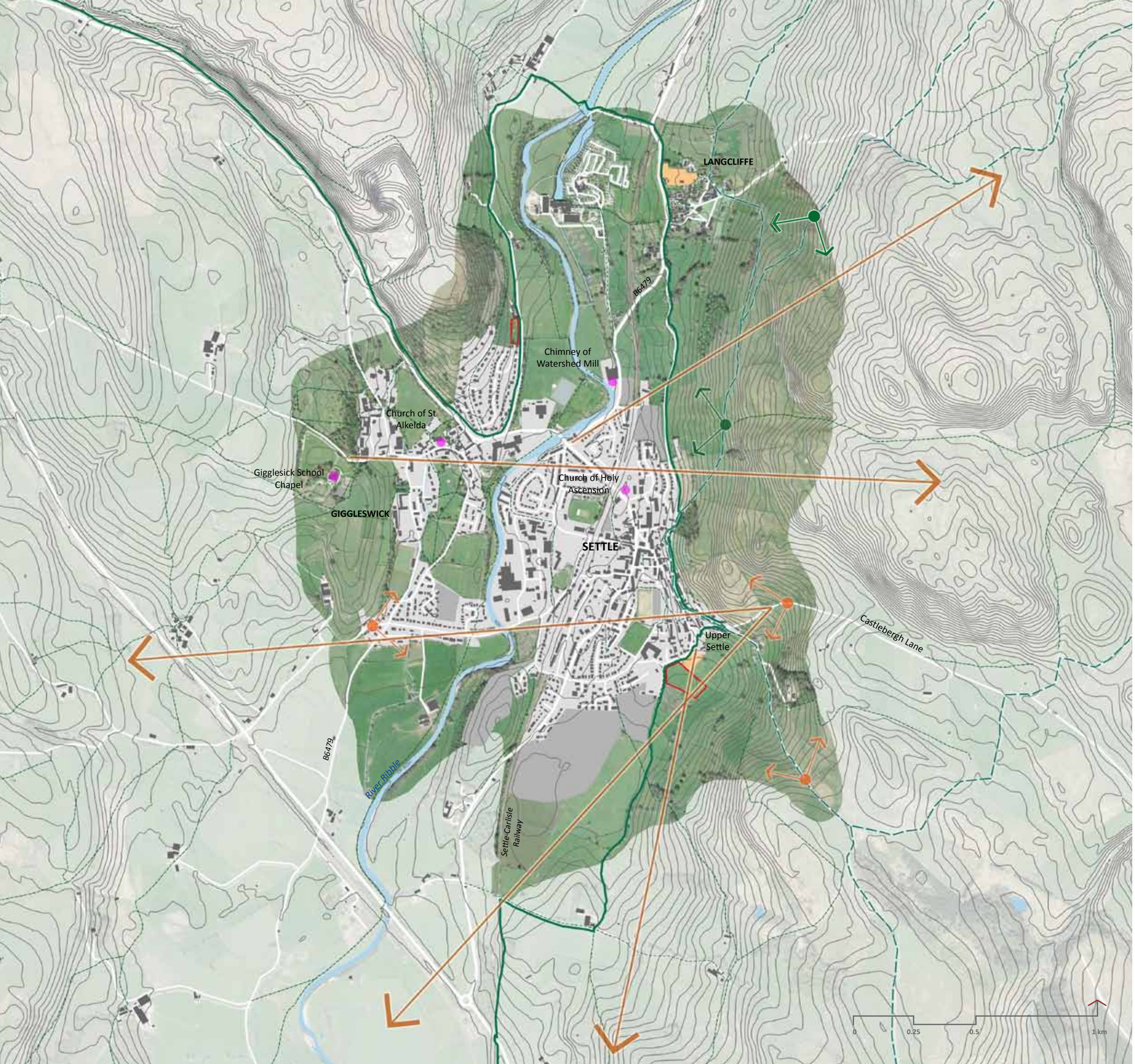
Settle developed around its market place, its economy based on trading, coaching inns, quarrying and textile mills. There was a concentration of mills and also a tannery in Upper Settle, on the steep slopes of Low High Hill to the south east of the town. Giggleswick became a relatively wealthy medieval settlement, with granges, barns and sheep houses supporting the monasteries and abbeys of Fountains, Furness and Sawley. It has long been a centre for education; a grammar school was established in 1553 and today the complex of imposing Victorian buildings associated with Giggleswick School is a dominant influence. The historic settlements, with an irregular, dense townscape, are sited on the fell slopes, with more recent buildings, car parks and playing fields on the flatter valley floor. The Settle-Carlisle Railway is aligned along the lower eastern fell slopes as it passes on embankments through the centre of Settle.

The landscape setting of Settle and Giggleswick is shown on Figure 16.1. The narrow, winding streets, steep slopes and terraced buildings ensure the built environment has a relatively enclosed character, but there are sudden long views eastwards to the surrounding fell slopes from Craven Bank Road, East View, Brackenber Lane and the river bridge and more open westward and southward views across the Lower Ribble Valley from Ingfield Lane and Castleberg Lane to the south east of Upper Settle.

The tall chimney of Watershed Mill is a particularly striking local landmark alongside the river and the B6479 to the north of Settle.



View south east across south Settle and the Ribble Valley from Mitchell Lane



Land within broad landscape setting of Settle and Giggleswick

Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)

Settlement

Contour lines (5m interval)

Water courses

Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Settle and Giggleswick

Promoted long distance routes

Public rights of way

Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary

Principal vehicular route gateway

Principal recreational route gateway

Important open spaces
Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity

Sites scored as moderate sensitivity

Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity

Sites scored as low sensitivity

Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites

Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Sites which have planning approval for development or where development has recently been implemented

Figure 16.1

Settle/Giggleswick - Settlement analysis

Analysis

Box 16 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the landscape setting and distinctive character of Settle and Giggleswick

Alongside analysis of the settlements' landscape setting, Figure 16.1 shows that extensive areas of land on the lower fell slopes and outer margins of the valley floor are allocated for built development in Craven Local Plan. Figure 16.1 also shows the possible development sites within the YDNP which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment and which were considered to merit further consideration. It shows that opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development within the National Park are limited to one site, a small area off Ingfield Lane on the south east edge of Upper Settle, where there is space for a further 'rim' of built development tucked behind existing properties and fitting against the curve of the lane and the curve of the landform. Development on this site would be visible in views from the lower slopes and from Brockhole Lane, but it would be seen in the context (and against the backdrop) of existing buildings in Upper Settle. A high quality development would be required, that is partially screened and integrated with native tree planting.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Settle and Giggleswick are:

- The sensitive and scenic landscape at the break of slope between upper and lower fell, including particularly the land to the south east of Settle where the 'sweep' of the pasture that leads from the edge of Ingfield Lane upslope to the rugged, steep upper fell slopes is prominent in Settle's landscape setting. The ongoing urbanisation of the lower fell slopes makes the landscape of the remaining undeveloped upper slopes increasingly valued and development here would cause significant damage.
- Areas where there are remnant medieval terraced fields (lynchets) and an historic pattern of walled pastures; these valued heritage landscape assets would be lost if such areas are developed.
- Land which would be prominent in the distinctive long views from recreational routes along the upper fell slopes (A Pennine Journey and Pennine Bridleway) and along the River Ribble ((Ribble Way and Dales High Way). For instance, development along Stackhouse Lane in Giggleswick would be prominent in the dramatic long views from the Langcliffe Scar area and would have an urbanising effect, extending the influence of the urban area of Settle/Giggleswick along the rural valley slope landscape and damaging the rural landscape setting of the settlement.

BOX 16

Valued landscape features and elements within Settle and Giggleswick are:

- The sensitive interface between built settlement and natural upper fell slope landscape, particularly the distinctive wooded/rocky limestone scars, that are striking local natural landmarks
- The riverside landscape setting, including former mill infrastructure, bridges, footpaths, meadows, wooded bluffs and the sequence of views along the River Ribble and Tems Beck.
- Diverse, dense historic townscape, with a mix of civic, industrial and domestic buildings along streets which are often aligned at odd angles on the steep fell slopes.
- The linear landscape of the Settle-Carlisle Railway,including the viaducts, embankments and sequence of views from the train.
- The distinctive tightly grained steep townscape of Upper Settle, which is sited around a small triangular green at the interface with the exposed moorland
- The network of historic green lanes and tracks that connect the settlements with the sites of former quarries and mills on the surrounding fell slopes; many are bordered by field stone walls.
- The remnant historic field systems (including medieval lynchets) and pattern of field stone walls on the upper fell slopes which are prominent in local views to the south east, east and north east of Settle.



View north eastwards from Brockhole Lane to Upper Settle, against the backdrop of High Hill and Black Hill

17 Stirton with Thorlby

Landscape setting

The small villages of Thorlby and Stirton are nestled within a gently undulating tributary farmland landscape on the northern fringes of the Aire Valley and towards the lower slopes of Flasby Fell and Embsay Moor. The topography has been shaped by mounds of glacial drift, which form a series of low, rounded hills drained by winding narrow becks.

Despite the proximity of the A65 (to the south) and the town of Skipton (to the south east) the villages have a secluded, rural character. Their landscape setting is shown on Figure 17.1. Local views are contained by the surrounding rounded hills - Langer Hill and Hoober Hill to the south; White Hills to the east; and Cock Hill to the north. The 'egg-shaped' drumlin landforms and open skylines of Langer Hill and Cock Hill have a particularly strong influence on Thorlby and Stirton's landscape setting. There are longer views north westwards to the distant summits of Sharp Haw and Flasby Fell from the roads leading to the village entrances from the A65 and from the lane between the two villages.

The village of Stirton is sited alongside a small tributary beck which flows southwards to the River Aire. A diverse mix of houses and converted barns are strung out along Stirton Lane and the narrow lanes that connect at a cross roads in a slight valley to the north. The historic core of the village is close to a distinct curve in Stirton Lane, which perhaps defines the margins of the former village green. Today there is no strong central focus and views are typically contained by roadside buildings, walls and occasional mature specimen trees and by the rounded slopes and crests of White Hills to the east.



Traditional farm buildings with the centre of Thorlby



Langer Hill pastures and the narrow lane at the western gateway to Thorlby

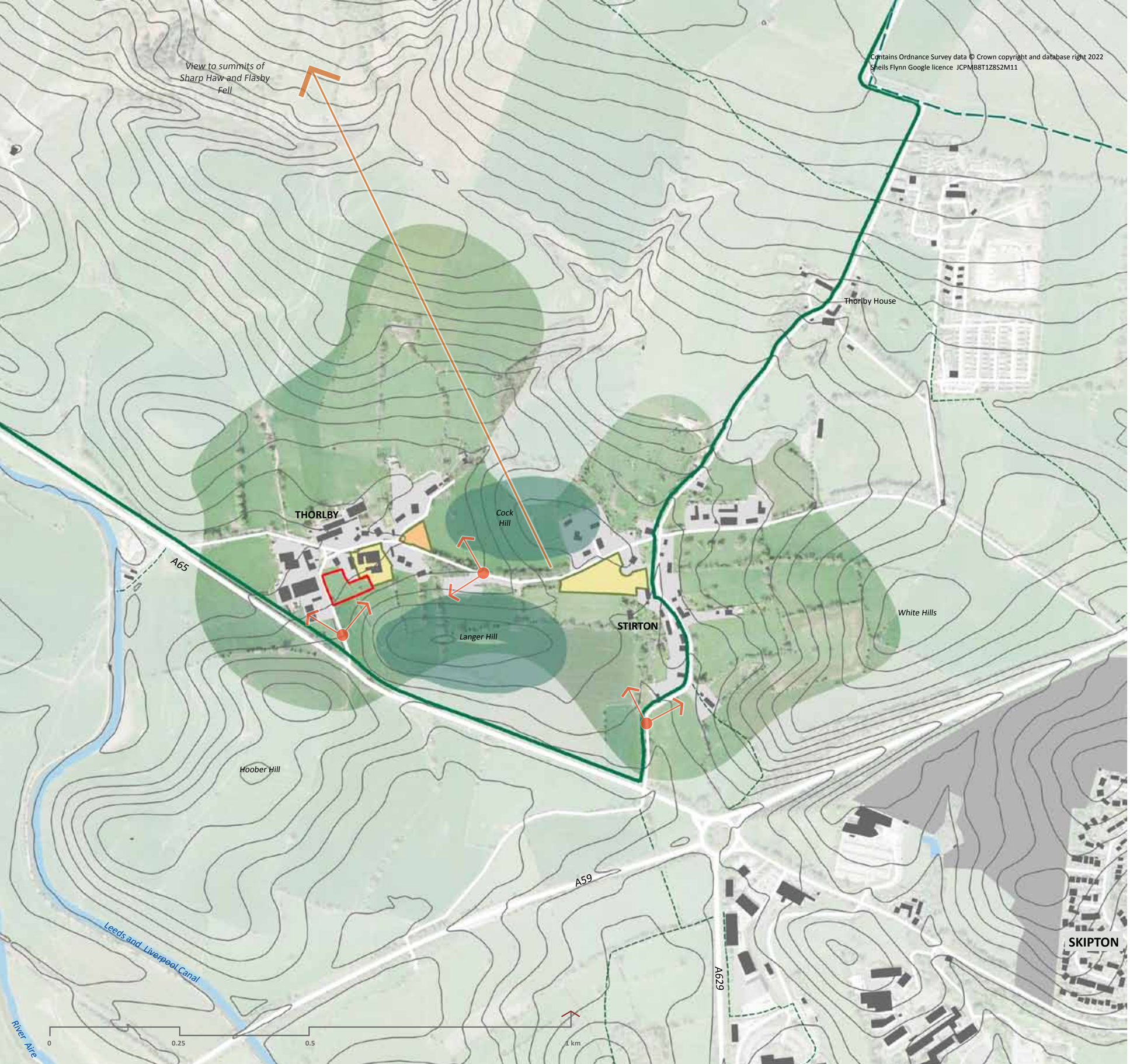
The adjacent small village of Thorlby is also sited alongside a tributary beck and between drumlins. It is dominated by farmsteads, with houses and cottages 'slotted in' between the farm buildings along the main street (Sour Lane) and sheltered by groups of mature trees. The village has an informal layout and a deeply rural, semi-agricultural character; farms, barns and houses line the village street but are often set back from the road or sited along narrow back lanes. At the eastern gateway to Thorlby. A tiny abandoned corrugated iron Wesleyan Chapel is a local landmark originally erected for the use of itinerant workforces. It is unlisted, but is of considerable heritage value.

BOX 17

Valued landscape features and elements within Stirton with Thorlby are:

- The slopes and crests of the drumlins that shelter and 'contain' the settlements, particularly Cock Hill and Langer Hill, which separate the two villages.
- Narrow rural lanes, enclosed by hedges, stone walls and mature trees.
- Informal secluded character, with a mix of agricultural and residential buildings that have varied and irregular set backs from the road.
- Longer views northwards to Flasby Fell and Sharp Haw from the southern gateways to both villages and north westwards from Sour Lane.
- The setting of Thorlby's former Wesleyan chapel, the 'tin church' at the eastern Sour Lane gateway to the village.

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Land within broad landscape setting of Stirton with Thorlby

Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)

Settlement

Contour lines (5m interval)

Water courses

Structuring drumlin landform which contributes to the character and quality of the landscape setting of Stirton with Thorlby

Key views which describe the overall landscape setting of Stirton with Thorlby

Promoted long distance routes

Public rights of way

Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary

Principal vehicular route gateway

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity

Sites scored as moderate sensitivity

Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity

Sites scored as low sensitivity

Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites

Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development

Sites which have planning approval for development or where development has recently been implemented

Figure 17.2

Stirton with Thorlby - Settlement analysis



Converted barn and drumlin landscape setting in Stirton

Analysis

Box 17 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the landscape setting and distinctive character of Stirton with Thorlby.

Alongside analysis of the settlements' landscape setting, Figure 17.1 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment and which were considered to merit further consideration. With reference to these possible development sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Farm land on the north west edge of Stirton, which is relatively secluded in terms of publicly accessible views. There is ample space for a low density layout that incorporates bands of native trees and retained open space to subdivide and integrate groups of houses .
- Brownfield land associated with farmsteads in the villages, where there are opportunities for sensitively designed layouts that incorporate and restore traditional farm buildings alongside new residential development.
- An area of relatively flat land on the eastern fringe of Thorlby, which does not impinge on the slope of the adjacent sheltering drumlin (Cock Hill). Provided heritage value (in the form of remnant ridge and furrow) does not preclude development on this land, a small low density residential development could be integrated with the existing settlement pattern.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in Stirton with Thorlby are:

- The undeveloped rural character of the slopes and crests of the drumlins that form the landscape setting of both villages. Buildings should not extend up onto the slopes of the local drumlins and should not form the skyline in local views from the roads that typically follow the alignment of tributary streams between the drumlins.
- Land which separates both villages from the A65 and Stirton from Skipton, taking account of the large allocated site to the north west of Skipton which will bring development relatively close to Stirton.
- Land between Stirton and Thorlby alongside Sour Lane (and outside both villages) is also particularly sensitive to built development which could increase the risk of perceived coalescence of the two villages.
- The landscape setting of the traditional barns and farmyards within the villages, which could easily be overwhelmed by large scale residential layouts - only small 'village-scaled' layouts would be appropriate in this context.
- Remnant ridge and furrow, which may represent the remains of the medieval open field system associated with the villages.



Wesleyan 'tin' chapel and pastures on the eastern edge of Thorlby



18 West Witton

Landscape setting

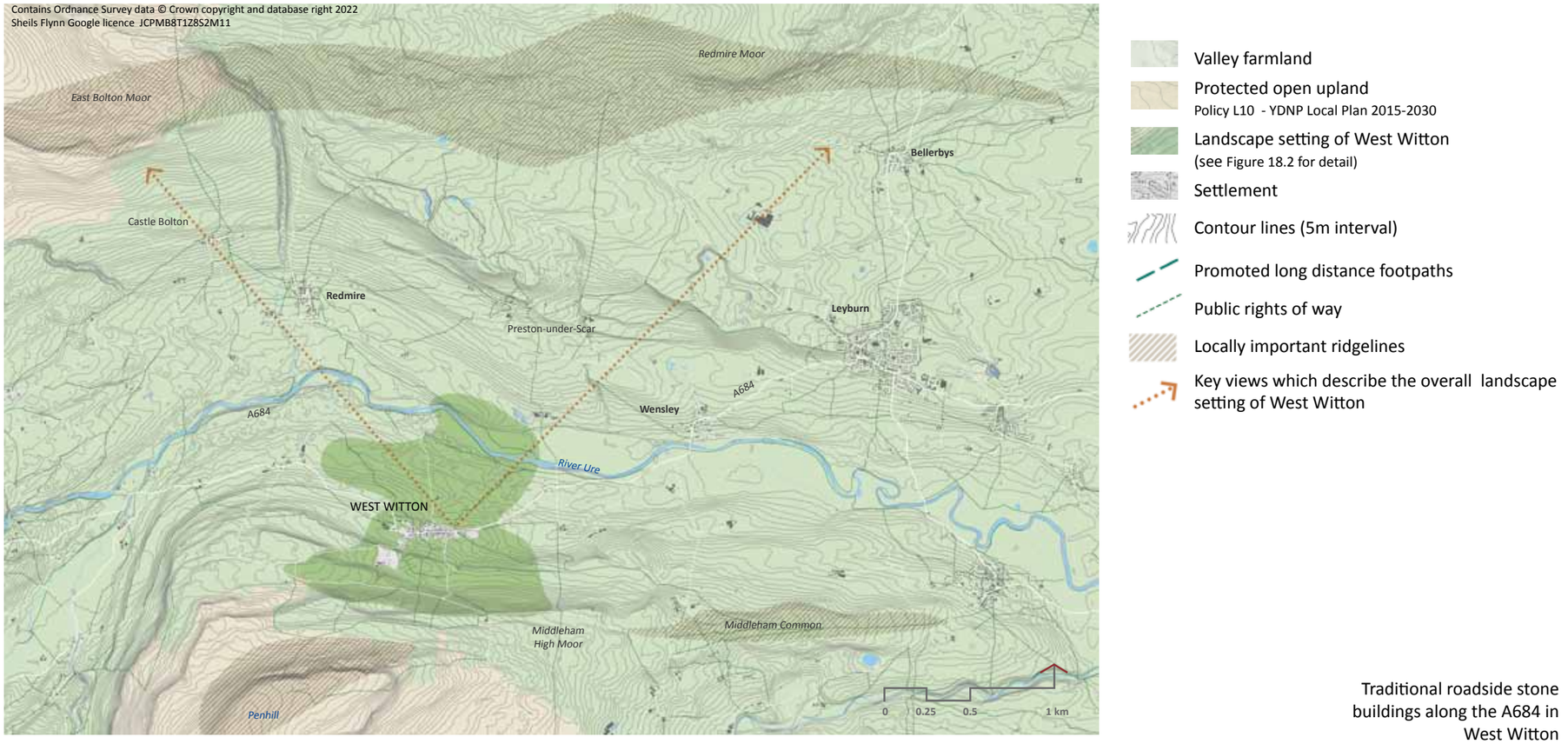
The linear village of West Witton has developed along the A684 at the foot of the steep slopes of Penhill on the south side of Wensleydale. West Witton is sited on a slightly elevated terrace of land, which is characteristic of the stepped Yoredale bedrock landform, and there are panoramic views northwards across Wensleydale from the A684 at the eastern approach to the village.

Development is tightly packed along the A684 and views out from the village centre are typically framed by buildings. Much of the village retains a historic pattern of linear tofts and crofts at right angles to the main road, with narrow back lanes and tracks connecting to a dense network of public rights of way which lead northwards to the River Ure (Flats Lane) and southwards to Penhill and Middlleham High Moor/Middleham Common (High Lane).

Figure 18.1 shows West Witton's landscape setting context at a broad scale. There are exceptionally long views across the entire width of Wensleydale from the southern and eastern edges of the village. The River Ure is hidden by a combination of local topography and woodland, but the rolling patchwork of fields, woodlands and small villages, against a backdrop of open moorland summits, is displayed in a sweeping panorama. Castle Bolton and the village of Preston-under-Scar are visible on the northern slopes of the dale.

Figure 18.1

West Witton - landscape setting context



West Witton is tucked against the steep slopes of Penhill and Middleham High Moor to the south, but the distinctive summit of Penhill looms above the village, particularly in cross-dale views southwards. Figure 18,2 shows the landscape setting of West Witton. The village is sheltered to the south by the rippling slopes of Penhill and the longer views to the north are slightly constrained by glacial drift landforms and riverside woodlands. There are clear gateway views at the A684 entrances to West Witton; the eastern A684 gateway is particularly striking as it is the best viewpoint for the scenic northward cross-dale view. The western gateway has a more secluded character; the road turns southward and the entrance to the village is defined by a second curve in the road, with views to roadside buildings framed by lines of mature trees. A large equestrian centre, set back from the main road, has led to a more diverse range of buildings and land uses on this western side of the village.

The land drops away steeply to the south of the A684; the historic Church of St Bartholomew is sheltered by this steep slope and is barely visible in the local townscape as it is hidden by the landform and the terraced roadside buildings.

The landscape in this part of Wensleydale has a strong parkland influence, with extensive mixed woodland along the River Ure. The gently rolling valley floor farmland to the south of the village is a former medieval deer park known as Wanlass Park and land on the lower slopes of Middleham High Moor is also recorded (in the Historic Environment Record) as a former deer park. The pattern of walled fields, dotted with traditional stone barns, is a distinctive and scenic landscape feature and there is evidence of extensive remnant medieval field systems, including ridge and furrow and lynchets, in the fields surrounding the settlement.

Traditional roadside stone buildings along the A684 in West Witton



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River Ure
Bolton Hall
Flats Lane
Wanlass Park
A684
A684
A684
WEST WITTON
High Lane
Grassgill Lane
Penhill Crags
Middleham High Moor
0
0.25
0.5
1 km

- Land within broad landscape setting of West Witton
- Valley farmland (outside landscape setting)
- Settlement
- Contour lines (5m interval)
- Water courses
- Key views which describe West Witton's overall landscape setting
- Promoted long distance routes
- Public rights of way
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary
- Principal vehicular route gateway
- Principal recreational route gateway
- Important open spaces
  Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015-2030, Adopted 2016

Potential residential development - landscape sensitivity scores

Search for potential housing sites: landscape sensitivity assessment, Sheils Flynn/YDNPA, March 2022

- Sites scored as moderate-high* sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate sensitivity
- Sites scored as moderate-low sensitivity
- Sites scored as low sensitivity
- Sites scored as high or moderate-high sensitivity which have subsequently been excluded from the search for potential housing sites
- Former extent of those housing sites scored as moderate-high* in the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment which have been reduced to reflect their partial suitability for development
- Sites which have planning approval for development or where development has recently been implemented

Figure 18.2

West Witton - Settlement analysis



Panorama southwards across Wensleydale from the eastern A684 gateway to West Witton

Analysis

Box 18 sets out the most important (and sensitive) landscape features and elements which contribute to the landscape setting and distinctive character of West Witton.

Alongside analysis of West Witton's landscape setting, Figure 18.2 shows the possible development sites which were included in the landscape sensitivity assessment and which were considered to merit further consideration. With reference to these possible development sites, there are opportunities to integrate carefully designed residential development in the following areas:

- Land off Grassgill Lane on the south eastern edge of West Witton, where there is scope for a small residential development that conserves the sweep of the views south eastwards to Capple Bank and the landscape setting of the traditional field stone barns within the farmland close by.
- Land adjacent to the equestrian centre and north of the A684, opposite the newly built housing development on the west edge of the village, where there is an opportunity for development that is set back well back from the road, conserving and restoring the existing curved roadside stone wall (and historic 'Nanny Well') and the existing mature trees. Vehicular access should be via the existing ramped field entrance.

The key landscape sensitivity constraints for residential development in West Witton are:

- The linear grain of the landscape, which reflects the stepped slope profile of the underlying Yoredale rocks. Development should be 'contained' within the natural terrace 'shelf of the landform on the lower slope margins of Penhill and should not spill beyond the steep ridge to the south of the A684.
- The landscape setting of Penhill, one of the most dramatic and distinctive of Wensleydale's summits. Development should be set back from the foot of the stepped steep fell slopes, providing a spacious foreground to views southwards from West Witton to Capple Bank and Penhill Crags.
- The abrupt A684 gateways to West Witton and the relatively 'urban' character of the settlement; development should not form a ribbon along one side of the road.
- The landscape settings of the traditional field stone barns in fields which are an attractive focus within West Witton's landscape setting; buildings should be set back well back from these distinctive landscape features and softened with tree planting.

BOX 18

Valued landscape features and elements within West Witton are:

- Dense 'urban street' townscape character along the A684, with buildings on both sides of the road and outward views tightly framed by the terraced buildings.
- Historic pattern of linear tofts and crofts, particularly on the south side of the A684.
- The distinctive and positive road frontages along the A684, which comprise terraced buildings, stone walls and lines of mature trees.
- Panoramic cross-dale views northward from the slightly elevated A684 at the eastern gateway to West Witton
- Traditional stone barns and walled fields, which contribute to the village's distinctive and scenic landscape setting.
- Built form broadly confined within the village's linear daleside 'stepped terrace' landscape setting; abrupt interface between dense settlement and rural farmland at A684 gateways.

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