

## 10. Hinderwell

### 10.1 Location, Landscape Context and Setting

Hinderwell is located near the coast, just inland from the spectacular cliffs of Rosedale Wyke. It is approximately 1 mile south-east of Staithes, on the A174. Hinderwell is set slightly back from the coast to take advantage of a dip in the landform, which provides some shelter. Because the land rises slightly between Hinderwell and the coast, the sea is not visible, despite its proximity.

It is within the Coastal Hinterland Landscape Character Type (LCT 4), close to its boundary with the Coast Landscape Character Type (LCT 10). Hinderwell's setting is therefore more agricultural than coastal, and comprises a patchwork of fields (mainly arable) and the steep wooded valley of Well Bank which drops down to the west of the village.

Land rises fairly steeply to the south-west of the village up to Newton Mulgrave Moor, which forms the southern-western horizon.

### 10.2 Settlement form and character

Hinderwell has its origins as a linear village along the coast road now known as the A174. Although the village is mentioned in Domesday Book, it is likely to have been laid out in its current form in the early medieval period. Houses face each other across the main street, with linear plots (garths) stretching back behind them. Many of the garth boundaries (and their back lanes) are preserved in the current garden and field patterns, although they have been lost in the area of 20<sup>th</sup> century development in the south-east of the village. The street pattern is broadly as shown on the 1857 Ordnance Survey map, including a less regular pattern of houses along Porret Lane to the south-west.

St Hilda's Church and holy well are located at the north-western end of the village where Rosedale Lane leads to Port Mulgrave, a former harbour constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century for the export of ironstone initially quarried at Rosedale Wyke. The harbour was only in service for 40 years before being abandoned. Isolated terraces of miners' cottages sits on the cliff top above Rosedale Cliffs, and ribbon development of Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century bungalows runs between them and the main village along Rosedale Lane.

Along the southern edge of the village are traces of the railway line to Whitby. The former station building is now a private house.

The presence of the nearby mine and port was reflected in the prosperity of the village, and there are a number of substantial late-Victorian houses which give parts of the village a 'towny' feel. The combination of 19<sup>th</sup> Century townhouses and rural cottages and farms creates an interesting and diverse streetscape. There is some tourist accommodation within the village, including caravan parks (well-hidden by property boundaries) and holiday cottages.

### 10.3 Key views, approaches and gateways

Hinderwell can be seen in distant views from the higher land of Newton Mulgrave moor to the south-west, surrounded by fields and with the sea beyond. Other than this, the combination of topography and vegetation mean that the village is not particularly obvious in views from the surrounding area. Nor is there much of a sense of the setting in views from within the village.

The approach from the north-west along the A174 is very well treed, and there are no anticipatory views of the village. On this approach, St Hilda's church and the churchyard walls form a gateway into the village, and there is an immediate sense of arrival into the historic core.

Approaching from the south-east along the A174 there are glimpsed distant views of the village, particularly the more modern houses on the eastern periphery. The approach to the village is well-treed, giving-way to isolated 20<sup>th</sup> Century houses which increase in density and get older towards the core of the village. A similar approach is experienced along Runswick Lane.

The northern-eastern approach along Rosedale Lane from Port Mulgrave is lined with bungalows. There are glimpsed views of rooftops along the High Street, but much of the village is hidden by trees and hedgerows. Newton Mulgrave Moor forms a distinctive horizon beyond the village. The church and churchyard walls create a strong sense of arrival at the historic core of the village.

### 10.4 Settlement edges

Trees around the church provide a strongly-vegetated north-western edge to the village. The surviving garths, back lanes and the former railway line also contribute to the village edges and help to visually contain the settlement. The boundaries of newer properties on the peripheries are often less robust.

### 10.5 Heritage and nature conservation sites

There is a cluster of Listed Buildings at the north-western end of the village, comprising the church, churchyard walls and historic farm buildings. St Hilda's Well is a Scheduled Monument. Other Listed Buildings along the High Street include the pub, Methodist church, houses, and farm buildings.

The area around St Hilda's Church and the land to the north of the village are within the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Heritage Coast.

Tree Protection Orders cover trees in gardens in the south-east of the village.

### 10.6 Summary of key elements and features which may be sensitive to development

- The surviving field patterns of lanes and garths.
- The diversity of the streetscape along High Street.
- Elevated land around the village (particularly to the north) which is visible from the wider countryside.
- The ridgeline to the north of the village visible from the coast.
- Mature vegetation at the north-western end of the village, creating a strong edge.

- Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments and their settings, land designated Heritage Coast, and protected trees.



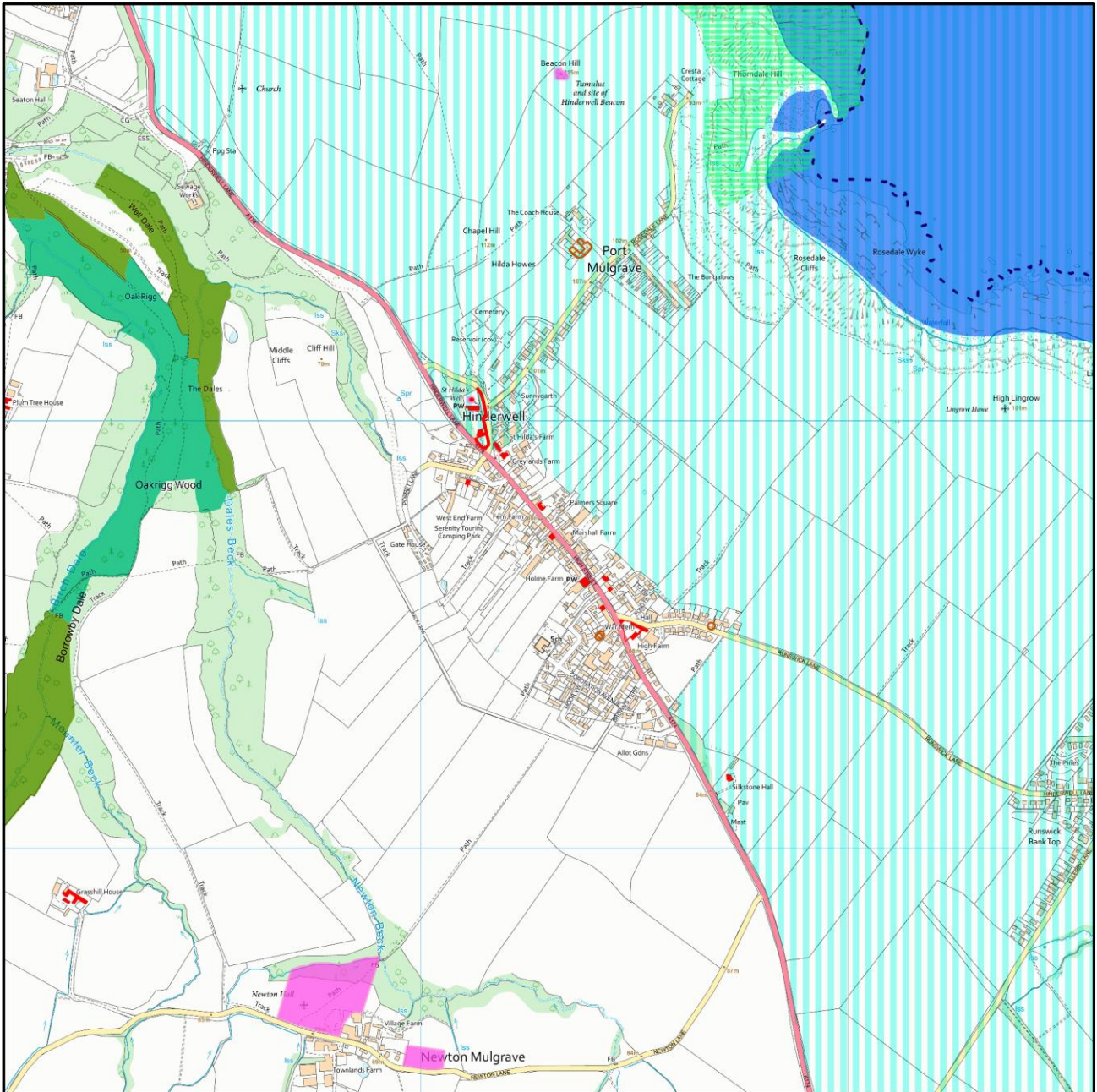
Hinderwell in its coastal and countryside setting, seen looking north-east from Newton Mulgrave Moor



Hinderwell High Street, showing the diversity of buildings



Miners' cottages and bungalows along Rosedale Lane, from above Port Mulgrave



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**North York Moors Landscape  
Character Assessment Update 2021**  
Settlement Sensitivity Study  
Hinderwell



- - National Park Boundary
- ▨ Heritage Coasts
- ▨ Scheduled Monuments
- ▨ Listed Buildings
- ▨ Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- ▨ Ancient Semi-natural Woodlands
- ▨ Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites
- ▨ Marine Conservation Zones
- Tree Preservation Orders
- ▨ Tree Preservation Orders (Parcels)

Map showing designated sites in Hinderwell and its environs